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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

BUDGET SPEECH

2012-2013

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FINANCE MINISTER

19th March 2012

PREFACE

Sir, I rise to present the State's budget for the financial year 2012-13 before this august house.

2. This Government came to power at a time when the economy at national and international level was facing stiff challenges. In my last budget speech, I have described the compulsions of domestic economy and the challenges and concerns being faced by the State in the management of its finances. The White Paper on State Finances presented before the house subsequently highlighted the problems the State financial sector was confronted with. Then the major challenge before the Government was how to advance the State's development amidst the additional financial burden inherited from the previous government.
3. Our State also stood adversely affected on account of the global economic crisis and the consequent slowdown in economic growth in the developed economies. India could manage to counter the economic crisis effectively due to the global recession which started during 2007-08, and attain a growth rate of 8.2% in the first four years of the 11th Plan period which is very close to the growth target of 9% envisaged in the Plan. Still our economy could not be insulated completely from the continuing shocks of the *Double Dip Recession* being faced by the world

economies. As a result of this, country's economic growth rate will be confined to 6.9% as revealed from the Central budget in 2011-12.

4. Being a State having close linkages with global economy, Kerala will be easily impacted by global economic developments, be it recession or boom. The fall in the prices of agricultural produces, stagnation in construction sector, decrease in employment opportunities in service sector, fall in the income and employment opportunities in tourism sector etc are the adverse effects of the recession in the State. This is particularly evident in the service sector including tourism which contributes more than 60% of Gross State Domestic Product and generates around 66% of employment opportunities.
5. Even amidst these setbacks, there are some positive developments leading to the resurgence of growth rate of the country's economy. The rupee has recovered from the shock of depreciation following higher inflow of foreign investment with the result of the exports registering a marginal growth and inflation coming down.
6. I would like to point out some of the special problems being faced by our State's economy in this context. During the current year, the Non-Plan Revenue expenditure of the State has increased by 30 percent over the previous year. The lion's share of the non-plan expenditure comprises of that on account of Salaries, Pension and Interest. The expenditure on account of

salaries and pensions till the end of January 2012, has exceeded the total expenditure incurred under these two items during the entire financial year of 2010-11. The expenditure on salaries and pensions reached the level of ₹ 20539 crore by the end of January 2012 in place of ₹ 16836 crore incurred for these two items in 2010-2011, registering an increase of 22% over that during the entire financial year 2010-2011. The expenditure under these two items, is estimated to reach the level of ₹ 23500 crore this year against the budgeted outlay of ₹ 23300 crore. The claim made by my predecessor on the floor of the House that more than sufficient amount has been budgeted and there would be a balance of about ₹ 2000 crore even after clearing the salary liabilities is thereby proved to be baseless.

7. Against a treasury balance of ₹ 1963 crore, available in May 2011, when this Government assumed office, there were also huge outflows from treasuries on account of additional liabilities of around ₹ 5000 crore and the outstanding bills of public works sanctioned during the previous year and the additional financial commitment consequent on the salary-pension revision. So far, works bills related to PWD alone amounting ₹ 2365 crore have been cleared till 2012 January, which had a budgetary allocation of ₹ 1023 crore only. This has vindicated the observation made by me in the White Paper that the treasury balance of the previous Government was meaningless. I am proud to inform this House that it is only because of the financial discipline and the strict adherence to the fiscal consolidation path during the

current year that we could tide over the adverse financial conditions.

8. The State became eligible to be considered for the financial assistance recommended by 13th Financial Commission, following amendments made to the State's Fiscal Responsibility Act, which was defaulted by the previous Government. Apart from the additional resource mobilization, the Government took steps to secure maximum assistance from the Centre for the development activities. It is worth mentioning that apart from mobilizing adequate resources for development and curtailing wasteful expenditure, we could spend every rupee towards accelerating state's development and accomplishing the welfare of the people.
9. The financial policies adopted by this government at the beginning have started showing positive outcomes. As of January 2012, state's revenue has registered a growth of about 19% compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. The targets of Revenue Receipts envisaged in the budget will be achieved by the end of the year. Fiscal Responsibility Act stipulates the Revenue Deficit be confined to 1.4% and 0.9% of the GSDP in 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively. Also, the Fiscal Deficit has to be brought down to 3.5% of GSDP. This Government is striving hard to achieve these targets. As the Fiscal Responsibility Act was passed after the second half of the financial year, in November, Government got only limited time to accomplish these targets. In addition to this, the financial

burden arising out of the increased expenditure on account of salary - pension revision, arrears of work bills, ration subsidy, social welfare pensions, and market interventions also make it difficult to achieve the Revenue Deficit target of 1.4% fixed by the 13th Finance Commission. However, it is my firm belief that the revenue deficit could be contained within 1.81% as envisaged in the Budget Estimates. In spite of the adverse circumstances described earlier, this achievement is no doubt gratifying.

10. A substantial portion of the revenue expenditure comprises of plan allocation given to local self governments. Though a major portion of this amount is utilized for asset creation at local level, this expenditure is still reckoned as revenue expenditure which bloats Revenue Deficit. Now the Government of India is considering the grants given to the State Governments for asset creation as capital expenditure. Based on this system of reclassification, the Effective Revenue Deficit of the State for the year 2011-12 is expected to come down to 0.89 percent of GSDP, which is less than the target as per the Fiscal Responsibility Act.
11. Sir, with the intensive efforts taken in the last ten months, I believe that this Government could put the economy back on the track of development. Starvation could be eradicated with the introduction of "1 kg rice for 1 rupee" scheme. Savings and investments have improved and an atmosphere conducive to development has emerged. Law and order has been restored and price rise controlled. Manufacturing sector is witnessing a renewed vigour and the service sector is getting strengthened.

This Government is committed to give employment to all job aspirants.

DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE AND PLAN APPROACH

12. The platinum jubilee celebration of the State falls within the 12th Five Year Plan period. It is noteworthy that this Government could mould the aspirations of the people for a comprehensive change. It is a matter of great pleasure for all Keralites that the Government headed by Sri. Oommen Chandy has got nationwide recognition for having implemented 100 days' programmes, mega investment schemes and welfare and relief measures, soon after assuming office. I expect that the State can achieve a higher target of a two digit growth during the next plan period owing to the effective functioning of the UDF Government, though the targeted growth rate in the 12th plan period is 9.5%. Our aim is to lead the State to the 'Highway' of development by integrating the State's economy with global economy. At the same time, this Government gives prime consideration for the upliftment and development of the neglected and downtrodden in the society.
13. The XIIth plan gives thrust to schemes focusing on inclusive development with due care and relief to all strata of society even while targeting a growth rate of 9.5% of GSDP. The State has to adopt a development strategy to achieve higher growth in the productive sector simultaneously with growth in the service sector. For this, special attention needs to be given for infrastructure development to ensure accelerated growth in all

sectors of the economy. A productive and all-encompassing economic structure will be created in the XIIth plan.

14. I propose the following seven point strategy for the comprehensive development of the State.

- 1) Quality improvement of all sectors.
- 2) Infrastructure Development.
- 3) Employment Oriented Skill Development
- 4) Entrepreneurship development
- 5) Adoption of innovative Technologies.
- 6) Increase in capital investment
- 7) Public Private Partnership.

The realization of these strategies is the approach to my budget.

15. Of the total plan outlay of 1,05,000 crore in the 12th Five year Plan, schemes for a total outlay of ₹ 14,010 crore will be implemented in 2012-13, the first year of 12th plan. This is 16.6% higher than the plan outlay of previous year. Higher allocations have been made in this year's Plan giving priority to Agriculture, Hill area Development and Backward- Minority Welfare. In addition, the allocation for sectors such as Health, Higher Education, Urban development, Dairy Development, Sports and Youth Affairs, Tourism and Art & Culture is 70% higher as compared to the allocation for 2011-12. Thus, while the annual plan for 2012-13 satisfies the long term developmental needs of the State, it also gives priority for development of agricultural and rural development and provides succor and welfare to those

who are socially backward. The highest increase in plan allocation is for sectors like Agriculture, Industries, Water Resources, Rural Development and Co-operation. The annual plan allocation of ₹ 3228 crore for Local Bodies for 2012-13 is 25% higher than that for the previous year 2011-12.

16. Sir, a major factor of the dynamism of this Government is the recognition of the fact that infrastructure development is the foundation for development. This government could create a revolution in this sector within a short span. The Kochi Metro Rail project will be started next year. Pre project activities costing ₹158 crore have already been sanctioned. The construction activities of the Metro will achieve crucial progress in 2012-13. I provide ₹ 150 crore for this. A mega project namely High Speed Rail Corridor from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod will be completed in a phased manner. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is allocated for preliminary activities for the first phase of the project from Thiruvananthapuram to Ernakulam, for which an amount of ₹ 45000 crore is estimated.
17. Mono Rail Project will be implemented in Thiruvananthapuram. An amount of ₹ 3000 crore is estimated for the first phase. The task of preparing detailed project report of Kozhikode Mono Rail Project, the estimated cost of which is 1600 crore, has been entrusted with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is earmarked for the initial activities of these two projects.

18. Steps for realizing Deep water International container and Transshipment Terminal at Vizhinjam is progressing. ₹ 224 crore is earmarked for this.
19. An amount of ₹ 25 lakh is set apart for initial activities for *Personal Rapid Transport System* in Thiruvananthapuram and Kottayam districts.
20. Next, I invite the attention of the House to some priority schemes which is a hallmark of this budget.

II PRIORITY PROGRAMMES

NEW AWAKENING TO AGRICULTURE SECTOR

21. The period from 2007 to 2009 was the most regressive in the Agricultural sector since the formation of the Kerala State. The State cannot advance in development, neglecting Agriculture sector. So, rejuvenation of Agriculture sector should be our top priority.
22. This Government intends implement 'high-tech' agriculture to give a new awakening to Agricultural sector deploying modern scientific technologies. The main advantages of high-tech farming are capacity to overcome climate change, increased productivity and improved quality. The main concepts utilized in high-tech farming are micro irrigation, capable of controlled and effective utilization of water, nutrient manuring, green house, usage of

carbon dioxide, farming techniques with minimal dependency on soil and usage of advanced hybrid seeds.

RICE BIO-PARKS

23. The income of paddy farmers in Kerala can be increased considerably through rice bio park system, if paddy production can be increased using suitable modern technologies and marketing of allied products is made possible at higher rates. For these, government intends to establish two rice bio parks at Kuttanad and Palakkad, the granaries of Kerala. The paddy and allied products for these bio-parks will be procured from the clusters of small scale paddy cultivators to be formed in these areas.
24. These rice parks envisage modern equipment such as rice production Units having four to six ton capacity, Expeller units for cattle feed production blending hay and bran, electricity production using husk and mushroom cultivation using hay waste. Technology for this will be made available by Prof. M. S. Swaminathan Foundation. These parks will function through special companies formed under public-private-farmer partnership model. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for this.

COCONUT BIO-PARK

25. Coconut farming, the most extensive crop in Kerala, is diminishing day by day losing its attraction. The most important need of the State is to rejuvenate coconut farming which is the

backbone of the State. The Government has decided to set up coconut bio parks to help the farmers by achieving increased sustained productivity, value addition to all allied products, resulting maximum market value for the products and fostering farmer's co-operatives. The scheme aims to increase the present average production of coconuts twofold or threefold using suitable technology.

26. More remunerative value added products such as coconut oil, coconut powder, coconut chips, coconut milk, milk powder, coir products, geo coir carpets etc. will be produced in these bio parks.
27. Three coconut bio parks will be established, one each in southern, central and northern Kerala. These parks will be set up and managed along the lines of the rice parks. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is set apart for this in the budget.

GREEN HOUSE SCHEME

28. In the budget for 2012-2013, I announce a scheme to extend the latest techniques of greenhouses to all parts of Kerala, which signifies a giant leap forward in the Agriculture sector. This is a comprehensive scheme that would ensure high quality and value added vegetables to the consumers throughout the year. The vegetables would be produced in climate controlled greenhouses and their quality, value addition and marketing will be ensured. The district level expert committee will give training for nurturing the crop from the day of planting seeds of each hybrid

crop and the steps to be taken daily in accordance with the norms of micro farming.

29. The productivity of plants grown in greenhouses is 3 to 10 times more than those grown in open areas. Through micro-farming, even those vegetables in our super market, imported from abroad, can be produced in our greenhouses and marketed for high prices. This would increase the State's vegetable production and help us to attain self-sufficiency in imported high value vegetables.
30. Co-operative banks, Farmer's co-operatives or Farmers in each panchayath can set up green houses at a cost of ₹ 4.5 lakh in 10 cents of open land. Expert committees will be formed in each district under the district level Agricultural Officers for imparting technical training for implementation of this novel scheme. Each unit will be given 75% of the cost as subsidy from the Government of India and the State Government. The beneficiary will contribute the balance 25% as own contribution or as bank loan. In each Panchayat, three greenhouse units will be set up. An amount of ₹ 45 crore is earmarked as Government contribution required for this.

ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY ASSET DEVELOPMENT FUND

31. For developmental activities in their constituencies, MLAs have budgeted works with administrative sanction and an existing MLA fund scheme with a corpus of ₹ 1 crore meant for arranging small works of emergent nature. I believe that in addition to these, it is

necessary to constitute an ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY ASSET DEVELOPMENT FUND for implementing capital investment projects meant for increasing assets in a constituency.

32. The scheme will be formulated in such a way that major works not exceeding ₹ 5 crore found suitable can be taken up in one year and all MLAs will receive 10 works totaling ₹ 25 crore in 5 years I earmark ₹ 705 crore to this constituency asset development fund for activities during 2012-13. Finance department will issue detailed guidelines for this scheme.

EMPLOYMENT SKILL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

33. The State Government is taking intensive measures to find a permanent solution to the unemployment problem in the State, during the tenure of the 12th Five Year Plan. For this, our unemployed youth have to acquire skills in various employment sectors. The Government declares the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme(ASAP) to be undertaken along with School, Higher Secondary and Degree level classes and the Additional Skill Enhancement Programme(ASEP) for those who have finished their studies earlier. Higher Secondary and degree students who opt for the ASAP Schemes can choose any employment oriented course based on their aptitude. The courses will be approved by Associations and institutions in the industrial sector. Degree students can achieve 'dual' degrees when they finish their studies. The scheme will be implemented this year in

Government Schools and Colleges. Gradually, the scheme will be extended to aided sector.

34. ASEP scheme will be implemented through State employment exchanges. Thus, the employment exchanges of the State will transform into employment skill development centers instead of being registration centers for the unemployed. Continuous training schemes will be conducted in at least one centre in each district utilizing available infrastructure facilities in existing ITIs. The schemes will be implemented with the co-operation of the National Skill Development Corporation of the Government of India. I earmark ₹ 30 crore for the implementation of these dream projects, which would be very beneficial for the advancement of Kerala Society.
35. To solve the unemployment problem in Kerala, I have formulated the State Entrepreneurship Development Mission that would initiate 10000 new employment ventures. Activities are going on under the auspices of Kerala Financial Corporation. Since the ASAP and ASEP schemes, meant for providing employment skills are also being implemented along with this, I declare 2012-13 as the Kerala Entrepreneurship Year.

KERALA INNOVATION MISSION

36. Consequent on the development of science and technology techniques, necessary encouragement and training have to be imparted for restructuring all spheres of activities by modernizing our products and production techniques. For this the Kerala

Innovation Mission will be formulated under the State Innovation Council to be formed with its headquarters at Trivandrum. ₹50 lakh is set apart for this.

WASTE PROCESSING AT SOURCE

37. In the budget for 2011-12, I had announced the 'waste free Kerala' scheme for the disposal of solid waste through Local Self Government Institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations. The scheme is in various stages of implementation. In the following paragraphs of this speech, special allocations are made for large scale waste disposal schemes to be implemented through Corporations and Municipalities. The State can be free from waste only if measures for waste disposal at source are taken in addition to such schemes. Towards this, I declare a new project for waste processing at source.
38. The technology for generating biogas and fertilizer compost from household bio-waste is easily available. Government has approved pipe compost, bucket compost and earthen-ware waste disposal schemes. The aim is to process the waste at source and to utilize the resultant compost for kitchen-gardening. It is estimated that a unit each of pipe compost, vermi-compost and biogas plant would cost ₹ 800, ₹ 1,250 and ₹ 11,000 respectively. If a portion of this is given as subsidy, the scheme can be implemented easily in any household.

39. Since waste heaps are located in cities, all families in Corporations and Municipalities will be included in this Scheme.
40. Government will provide 75% subsidy for the compost scheme. 15% of the cost will be borne by local Government institutions and 10% by the beneficiaries. In the case of biogas plants, 50% will be given as Government subsidy, 25% will be met by local Government Institutions and 25% by the beneficiaries. As subsidy to this innovative waste processing scheme at source, I earmark ₹ 100 crore.

KERALA AYURVEDA UNIVERSITY

41. Ayurveda is a medical treatment that has evolved as part of Indian heritage. Numerous tourists visit Kerala every year for Ayurvedic treatments. If we could utilize this effectively, it would be a great boost to Ayurveda and tourism sector.
42. I believe that establishing an Ayurveda University is essential to facilitate international recognition by developing our hereditary knowledge handed over through generations, adopting modern techniques. An Ayurveda University will be established near Kottakkal in Malappuram district for comprehensive growth, development and integration of research activities in our Ayurveda sector. For initial activities, ₹1 crore is set apart.

AIRPORTS IN IDUKKI AND WAYANAD

43. Feasibility studies will be undertaken regarding establishment of airports in Idukki and Wayanad, the hill districts of Kerala. I set apart ₹ 50 lakhs for the pre-project activities of these projects. ₹ 50 crores is allocated for the activities of the Kannur airport. The activities for acquiring the balance 22 acres of land for the development of the Thiruvananthapuram airport will be stepped up. The land acquisition for the development of the Kozhikkode airport will also be completed shortly.

AIRSTRIPS IN ALL DISTRICTS

44. Airstrips will be established in all districts without airports, for landing of small aircrafts and helicopters subject to availability of land. As a first step, the construction of air strips in Kollam and Kottayam districts will be started during this year. I firmly believe that this venture will enrich the tourism industry in the State.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRE FOR BELOW SEA LEVEL FARMING IN KUTTANAD

45. The below sea level paddy fields of Kuttanad, where paddy cultivation and fish farming are carried out, have been declared as Globally Important Agricultural System by the Food and Agricultural Organization.

46. The most important impact of global warming and climate change is the rise of sea level. Consequently, the below sea level cultivation in Kuttanad has been the focus of attention and a lot of debate internationally. Therefore, the Government is desirous of setting up in Kumarakam, an 'International Research Centre for below sea level farming in Kuttanad in association with Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation', including the paddy cultivation areas of Kuttannad. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for this in the budget for 2012-13. Government anticipates international recognition and monetary aid for this venture.

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

47. All modern democratic administrations utilize the assistance of scientific research institutions for formulation and implementation of fault free policies and schemes in various sectors. In the modern times, even corporate institutions adopt this method for better policy formulation.
48. Our activities have to be reorganized and arranged in accordance with global policy fluctuations and changing tendencies to lead Kerala onto a path of speedy prosperity. Therefore, Centre for Public Policy Research, an autonomous body modeled on CDS will be set up at Thiruvananthapuram for study and research in this field. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is provided for this.

NEW GENERATION INDUSTRIES AND KINFRA PARKS

49. In order to attract new generation industries, to provide facilities to them and encourage them, with a view to provide better employment opportunities to the educated youth, an Industrial park will be started by Kinfra in all districts. New enterprises like agro-industries, nano, bio-technology based industries, food processing etc will get priority in these parks.

WELFARE FUND FOR LOCAL JOURNALISTS

50. The local journalists are economically backward sections. No monetary allowances are being enjoyed by these section of around 10,000 persons. I think that it is essential to extend a monetary support to them. With this objective, I declare a setting up of a welfare fund to the local journalists. A certain percentage of this fund will be provided as Government share. An outlay of ₹ 1 crore is proposed for it.

PENSION FOR JOURNALISTS

51. I proposed to enhance the existing pension amount of journalists from ₹ 4000 to ₹ 4500.

INTEREST SUBSIDY ON PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION FOR BPL STUDENTS

52. There is a demand to exempt the students from BPL families, who took loan for professional education from the interest liability. Government of India has announced interest subsidy

on loans taken after 2009. However, this benefit is not available to the students who availed loans during 2004 to 2009. In these circumstances, it is just to allow interest subsidy to them also. Therefore, the interest burden of those unemployed BPL students, during their period of education shall be taken up by the Government. I set apart ₹ 5 crore for the purpose.

SOCIAL WELFARE SCHEMES

53. Widow and destitute pension will be enhanced to ₹ 525, which was increased at ₹ 400 in the previous budget. The marriage allowance of the daughters of the widows is enhanced from ₹ 10,000 to ₹ 20,000.
54. The existing pension amount of ₹ 200, 200, 50 to Cancer, Leprosy and TB patients respectively, will be increased to ₹ 525 per month. A new pension of ₹ 525 per month will be introduced to patients from BPL families, who undergo regular dialysis on account of kidney disease. The monthly grant of the inmates of orphanage, Old age homes, asylum to beggars will be increased to ₹ 525 from ₹ 250.
55. Persons with more than 80% handicap or multiple handicaps will receive increased pension of ₹ 700 from ₹ 400. Other handicapped persons' pension will be increased to ₹ 525 per month.

56. The old age pension given to old age persons above 80 years will be increased from ₹ 400 to ₹ 900 including the amount sanctioned by the Government of India.

HELP FOR WOMEN EMPLOYEES UNDER EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

57. Womenfolk constitute major part of labourers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. I envisage to provide ₹ 1000 each to such women employees who have completed at least 100 days work during 2011-12, for the procurement of uniform, school books etc. for their children during the next academic year. The amount will be disbursed during May 2012.

INCREASED WAGES TO ASHA WORKERS AND PRERAKS

58. I had increased the wages of ASHA workers to ₹ 500 in my previous budget. This year it will be enhanced to ₹ 600. The wages of pre-primary teachers will be enhanced to ₹ 900 from ₹ 600. Similarly the wages of Ayahs will also be increased to ₹ 600 from ₹ 400. The wages of Preraks and Assistant Preraks under Saksharatha Mission will be increased at the rate of ₹ 100 in addition to the existing rate. The daily wages of cooking staff of Schools will be increased by ₹ 50 from the existing rate. The kit allowance of Physical Education Teachers was increased to ₹ 1000 from ₹ 500 in the current year. A further addition of ₹ 100 is proposed. The honorarium

of Promoters under SC/ST Development will be increased to ₹ 4000 from ₹ 2500. Similarly the honorarium of Resident Tutors will be increased to ₹ 4500 from ₹ 3000.

DEVELOPMENT OF SABARIMALA

59. Government have pleasure and pride to announce that maximum possible facilities were arranged for the Sabarimala devotees in the recent Mandala-makaravilakku season. Zero waste Sabarimala scheme, road improvement projects, transport facilities, medical and safety arrangements etc could all be arranged better than in the past.
60. The activities under Sabarimala Master Plan have been initiated. For its implementation, a Master Plan Cell with Additional Chief Secretary as Chairman and a Cabinet Subcommittee with Devaswom Minister as Chairman have been formed.
61. A scheme to construct another storey to the existing covered walk way, construction of two sector queue complexes, construction of covered walkway from Pampa to Marakkuttom, new Prasadam complex, increasing the capacity of Kunnar Dam, construction of Sewage treatment plant at Sannidhanam, augmenting the sewage treatment capacity of the plant at Pampa, construction of Bus Station at Nilakkal etc will be completed before the next Mandala Makaravilakku Season. For these activities ₹ 25 crore is allotted.

62. As announced in the last Budget, preliminary steps have been taken to establish a township at Erumeli. This will be completed rapidly. Additional funds will be given for arranging more facilities. Infrastructural facilities at Chengannore which is a transit station to Sabarimala will be augmented.
63. An amount of ₹ 5 crore was allowed in the previous Budget for waste eradication activities in Sabarimala and the scheme was successfully completed. For continuing the scheme next year also, ₹ 5 crore is allotted.

RETIREMENT OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

64. Consequent on the unification of retirement date, retirement age of Government Employees in effect stands raised to 56. Apart from creating administrative inconveniences, such a system is not in vogue in any other Indian states. A consensus has been emerged in the discussions held at various levels to revoke this decision. Even if unification of date of retirement is revoked, this will not affect the opportunities of candidates substantially as supernumerary posts have been created and appointments made in most of the post arising out of retirement on 31st March. The retirement age in Kerala is the lowest when compared to other states in India. But, in terms of life expectancy Kerala is at par with developed nations. Government has therefor decided to withdraw the unification of retirement date and to fix the retirement age at 56. Remaining vacancies, if any pending to be reported in

anticipation the retirements as on March 31st will be directed to be reported to the PSC immediately.

III. VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

65. Sir, Let me now go on to the schemes to be implemented next year by various departments.

AGRICULTURE

66. Aiming at food security of the State, Government intends to implement an Integrated Agriculture Development Project to increase the production of paddy, vegetables, pulses and cereals. Out of ₹ 100 crore being earmarked for this scheme, ₹ 50 crore is set apart for paddy cultivation.
67. The Government intends to implement a Comprehensive Coconut development scheme in order to ensure reasonable prices to the farmers and make coconut cultivation profitable by strengthening production, value addition and marketing of coconuts. As part of this, tender coconut water is declared as the official drink of the State.
68. Coconut production societies will be formed in order to help the fragmented marginal farmers for increasing productivity and producing value added products. A Coconut Federation will be set up at State level comprising the Coconut production societies.

69. It is proposed to provide 25% subsidy (maximum ₹ 12500) to those who purchase two wheelers availing Bank Loans, who are engaged in the work of coconut climbing on completion of their training being given under the auspices of Coconut Development Board for friendship group of 5000 laborers.
70. 25% of the capital cost (maximum of upto ₹ 25 lakh), over and above the assistance given by Coconut Development Board, will be provided as subsidy to the new units to be started for the production of innovative coconut products (processing of tender coconut water, virgin coconut oil, desiccated coconut milk powder, coconut chips).
71. At present, cut down coconut trees are not being utilized effectively. In the coconut cultivation rejuvenation scheme alone, around 10 lakh coconut trees have been cut down. ₹ 5 crore is provided to Kerafed- FIT venture for primary processing in order to increase the utility of coconut trees and diversification.
72. To encourage organic agriculture, an amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked.
73. As part of the initiative to provide remunerative prices for agricultural produce and to make available quality food products at reasonable prices to consumers, Government will upgrade the wholesale markets under Agriculture Department at Anayara, Maradu and Vengeri to the level of Agri Super Malls. A provision

of ₹ 50 crore is made for various activities of procurement and marketing, including the upgradation.

74. An amount of ₹ 11 crore is earmarked as State share to Kerala Horticulture Mission for the development of fruits, vegetable, tubers, cashews, cocoa and spices under various schemes.
75. In 2009, pineapple produced at Vazhakkulam was confirmed with 'Geo-index' **Vazhakkulam Pineapple**. Considering the enormous export potential and aiming at the comprehensive development of production, processing, marketing and export of Pineapple, a **Pineapple Mission** will be set up. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for this purpose.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

76. Animal Husbandry is a fast developing sector in the rural economy of Kerala. This sector provides substantial contribution to the Gross State Domestic Product of the State. Considering this, an amount of ₹ 211 crore is earmarked for 22 schemes in the next year for Animal Husbandry sector.
77. Taking into account the hardships being faced by farmers, Government proposes to start Multi Specialty Mobile Veterinary Clinic and Emergency Veterinary Care Service, aimed at ensuring the service of veterinary doctors at door steps of farmers at a cost of ₹ 6.5 crore.

78. An amount of ₹ 25 crore is earmarked for the Special Livestock Breeding Programme and the Calf Adoption Scheme to be implemented in association with co-operatives.
79. Government proposes to start various schemes next year to achieve self sufficiency in the dairy sector. An amount of ₹ 35 crore is set apart for this. The cattle feed subsidy scheme will be extended to twelve months in a year, to help the farmers who are facing increase in the cost of cattle feeds. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is earmarked for this scheme.
80. An amount of ₹ 13 crore is earmarked for providing financial assistance for strengthening dairy co-operatives and ₹ 13 crore earmarked for the **milk shed** development scheme which aims at attracting more farmers to the dairy sector by increasing production and productivity. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for providing financial assistance to farmers for the commercial production of fodder.
81. Considering the growing demand for egg and meat in the State, an amount of ₹ 10.42 crore is earmarked for Backyard Poultry Development Scheme which is aimed at promoting poultry development in the rural sector. Besides this, an amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked for the activities of Kerala Poultry Development Corporation.
82. An amount of ₹ 40 crore is earmarked for Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, which has started functioning at Pookkode in Wayanad district. High tech dairy farms will be

started at Kolahalamedu and Kulathupuzha under Kerala Live Stock Development Board for which ₹ 5.22 crore is earmarked.

83. New fodder milling plants will be set up at Meenangadi in Wayanad district and Koippadi in Kasargode district. An amount of ₹ 2.5 crore is earmarked for this. Cattle feed factories will be started this year in Malabar area and in Idukki under the aegis of Kerala Feeds Limited. An amount of ₹ 8 crore is set apart for this purpose.

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES AND WELFARE OF FISHERMEN

84. The security of fishermen and coastal security assumes great importance in the present context. The recent incidents in which two fishermen were killed by firing and the boat accident points to this. An integrated coastal security scheme with the objective of ensuring the security of fishermen will be launched. It includes setting up of control and surveillance system, Vessel tracking system and providing coastal security equipments to fishermen. It will be ensured that either wireless or mobile connectivity is provided to all fishing boats in order to establish contact with coast, round the clock. Facilities will be provided for fishermen to communicate with ships, fisheries stations, police stations, coast guard stations etc. by setting up VHF towers at Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam. Intensive training will also be provided on naval laws and coastal security measures. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for these activities.

85. 100 fish kiosks will be set up under Kerala Coastal Area Development Corporation for the production and marketing of value added fish products under the brand "Fish Maid".
86. It is proposed to start a new scheme by name "Matsya Samridhi" to enhance the production in inland fishing zone from 75,000 tons to 2.5 lakh tons, for which ₹ 13 crore is provided. 50 new modern new fish markets will be started across the State as part of modernizing fish marketing. An amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked for this scheme. Cold chain scheme will be implemented through Coastal Area Development Corporation to ensure the quality and consumption of fish resources.
87. "Theeramythri" scheme will be implemented this year to improve the standard of living and means of livelihood of fisherfolk. An amount of ₹ 8.15crore is earmarked for this scheme. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is also earmarked to provide livelihood assistance to fishermen for the period during which no fishing is possible. An amount of ₹ 2.30 crore is earmarked as the state share for the Group Insurance scheme of fisherman and ₹ 2 crore is provided as outlay for the housing scheme of fishermen.
88. The construction of fishing harbours will be completed this year at Thalaj, Chettuva, Muthalapozhi, and Cheruvathoor. A new fishing harbour at Thanur will be developed this year. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is provided for this purpose.

89. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is earmarked for the newly established Kerala Fisheries and Ocean Science University and ₹ 2 crore towards the share capital for the Coastal Area Development Corporation.

BALANCED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

90. To attain regional balance in development, special schemes need to be devised for those areas which lack in development. Considering this, it is essential to accelerate the development of coastal and hill areas in the State.
91. The amount earmarked in the last budget for the development of roads in the coastal area was ₹ 10 crore. An amount of ₹ 55 crore is earmarked this year.
92. Schemes for drinking water, complete electrification, sanitation, general system for livelihood activities etc. will be implemented in selected fishing villages in a phased manner under the auspices of the Coastal Area Development Corporation. I provide ₹ 50 crore for this scheme. Apart from this, another scheme for the construction and distribution of houses to the families of home-less fishermen in selected ten fishing villages each year will also be implemented through the Coastal Area Development Corporation. Coastal Area Development Authority was formed last year for the development of infrastructure in coastal areas. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for the activities of the Authority this year.

93. An amount of ₹ 54 crore is earmarked for the rapid development of Western Ghats.
94. A total amount of ₹ 10 crore was set apart for the development of Hill Area including ₹ 5 crore for the Hill Area Development Authority and ₹ 5 crore for the Hill Highway. Considering the developmental needs of hill areas, an amount of ₹ 61 crore is earmarked for hill area roads.
95. Wayanad district is the most backward area in the state. Many fundamental issues hinder the development of this district in spite of various ongoing schemes being implemented in this direction. The Government intends to implement a package with the assistance of Central Government to address the problems of farmers in this area. An amount of ₹25 crore is earmarked for the implementation of this scheme. Besides this, an amount of ₹55 crore is available to Wayanad and Palakkad districts to undertake development activities under the Backward Region Grant Fund. Aiming at the upliftment of scheduled tribes in Wayanad, a project costing ₹ 1042 crore has been submitted to government of India for JICA assistance under the auspices of AHADS.
96. Kuttanad Package, as envisaged by Prof. Swaminathan, will be implemented in a time-bound manner in consultation with farmers and experts. Paddy development at Kuttanad and related flood control programme are the main components under this scheme. An amount of ₹ 175 crore, including the

assistance sanctioned by the XIIIth Finance Commission, is earmarked for these activities.

97. Sanction from Central government has been received for an amount of ₹396 crore for the 'Idukki package' costing ₹ 765 crore, which is aimed at the development of spices, plantation crops, animal husbandry, irrigation etc, to be implemented with the co-operation of various agencies. The scheme will be implemented this year itself.
98. A mega project costing ₹400 crore will be implemented with the assistance of NABARD in Thrissur district for the development of kole fields.
99. Under Horticulture Mission, a new project namely 'Akshaya pathram' for the upliftment of people including the tribal community at Attappady in Palakkad district has been prepared and submitted to the Government of India. The estimated cost is calculated as ₹ 153 crore and this project will be implemented in the 12th plan period.

FOREST AND WILD LIFE

100. One of the important activities of the Government is the protection and conservation of forest, an invaluable asset of the State. For the next financial year, ₹ 114 crore is earmarked for the Forest and Wild life conservation activities.

101. An amount of ₹ 18 crore is provided for forest conservation activities and ₹ 7.50 crore is provided for afforestation activities outside the forest zone.
102. ₹ 28 crore is set apart for the upkeep of the 5 National parks, 16 wild life sanctuaries and the Agasthyamala Eco-Project under Forest Department
103. More than 300 species of orchids are available in the Western Ghats of Kerala. ₹ 1 crore is allotted for setting up of an orchid garden at Vagamon in Idukki district for conservation of rare species of orchids and for allied activities.
104. A zoological park of global standards and a Wild Life Protection and Research Centre will be established with central assistance utilizing 136 acres of forest land at Puthur in Thrissur district, with the objective of preserving forest and wild life assets in the protected zone. For its preliminary activities, ₹ 5 crore is provided.
105. A 'Gandhi Smrithi Vanam' project will be set up at Purakkad Panchayat in Alappuzha district, in the land owned by forest department. To implement this project and for various schemes under eco-tourism, a total amount of ₹ 2crore is provided.
106. Towards preliminary expenses of setting up an elephant care centre at Kottoor and Kappukkadu in Thiruvananthapuram district, ₹ 1 crore each is set apart.

107. Instances of wild animals entering human habitations, damaging crops and endangering human lives are now quite common. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is provided for a scheme to be implemented with NABARD assistance for erecting solar fences and digging trenches for protecting those residing in areas threatened by wild animal incursion.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

108. The Rural Development Department is implementing various schemes targeting the economic development of rural population. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked this year, as state share for starting micro enterprises under the auspices of the National Rural Livelihood Mission.
109. Government intends to give assistance for the construction of 28,420 new houses and maintenance of 6400 houses as per the 'Indira Aawas Yojana' scheme. An amount of ₹ 40 crore is set apart for this. As per this scheme, the financial assistance to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes has been increased to ₹ 2 lakh and ₹ 2.5 lakh respectively. The benefit of the scheme will be extended to beneficiaries under general category and ₹ 2 lakh each will be given to them as assistance.

REVENUE

110. This Government after assuming power has issued pattas to 21782 families duly observing land assignment rules. The

annual income limit for getting patta has been enhanced from ₹ 24000 to ₹ 1 lakh. 2009 acres of encroached land has been reclaimed in Munnar and special land protection force formed for protection of this land. A Rehabilitation package acceptable to all Stakeholders has been implemented in Moolampally. Steps have also been taken to end Chengara land struggle.

111. Revenue land information system for giving 23 certificates online under Revenue Department has started functioning in Palakkad district. This facility will be extended to all districts in the State. A Revenue Cell attached to the office of the Revenue Minister shall be established for finding quick solutions to the problems and petitions of the public connected with the department.
112. As the first step for the implementation of the 'Bhoorahitharillatha Keralam' scheme, a census of the landless will be taken in April this year itself. On completion of the survey, steps for identifying land to be given to the landless will be expedited.
113. Government has formulated a **Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy (R & R Policy)** for ensuring transparency in land acquisition for development activities and for ensuring a fair and just compensation to those suffering on account of land acquisition.

114. In order to expedite land acquisition activities, the present system of allocating provision under the budget heads of various departments shall be dispensed with and lump sum provision will be provided under the head of account of Revenue department from the next financial year. An amount of ₹ 300 crore is provided under the head of account under revenue department for this purpose.
115. An international workshop and exhibition named 'Surakshayanam' was conducted in Thiruvananthapuram for imparting awareness on Disaster Management. The institute of land and disaster management in Thiruvananthapuram under revenue department is proposed to be upgraded as an Administrative Training and Management Institute having national/international standards.
116. An Institute with international standards will be started at Kottayam to study changes in climate in Western Ghats area and resulting natural calamities.
117. Considering the difficulty in acquiring land for accommodating Government offices in Thiruvananthapuram city, government intends to construct a multi-storied office complex at Attipra Village. This office complex will be a public friendly and green complex. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for this.

118. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for digitizing land records in tune with the National Land Records Modernization Scheme.

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENTS

119. For the strengthening of Local Self Government Institutions and to render better services to the public, World Bank aided 'Kerala Local Self Government Service Delivery Project' has been started during this year. An amount of ₹ 248 crore is set apart for this project.
120. Kudumbasree Mission is conducting a number of innovative schemes for women's welfare in different sectors. An amount of ₹ 84 crore is provided for the programmes of Kudumbasree this year.
121. 'PURA' project which envisages providing basic urban facilities in rural areas has started at Thalikkulam Panchayath in Thrissur District and Tirurangadi in Malappuram with central assistance. Government intends to extend this scheme to more areas.
122. Government also intends to strengthen the rain harvesting programme to address problem of water scarcity. As part of this, rain water storage system will be made mandatory in all newly constructed buildings. Rain water storage system and solid waste management system will be made mandatory in all newly constructed flats.

123. From next year onwards, all social security pensions including freedom fighters pension will be electronically transferred to the bank account of the beneficiaries. An amount of ₹ 4 crore is set apart for the various activities of Information Kerala Mission.
124. As per the existing guidelines of the State Disaster Management Fund, it is not possible to render assistance to victims of thunder and lightning. Kerala has requested the Government of India to include the above categories also for financial assistance under this scheme by relaxing the existing norms. From next financial year onwards financial assistance will be given to such victims also.
125. "Balimandapams" will be constructed at Papanasam in Varkala, Aruvikkara, Bharatapuzha and Aluva Manalppuram for the pilgrims who assemble for paying rituals during Karkkidavavu. An amount of ₹60 lakh is earmarked for this.

URBAN AFFAIRS

126. Four special companies will be established in the CIAL pattern, as envisaged in the one year action plan of the Government, to provide bus shelters, water supply, public toilets and urban sanitation. Out of the required share capital of ₹ 40 crore for the company, Government will provide ₹ 10 crore towards 26% of the share capital.

127. Waste management is a severe social and ecological problem in urban areas. Government, therefore, proposes to establish major waste processing plants based on modern technology at Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, Kottayam and Kozhikkode under public-private participation (PPP). An amount of ₹ 100 crore is set apart for initial expenses. ₹ 15 crore is provided to Thrissur and Kollam Corporations as special assistance to establish waste processing plants.
128. The disposal of waste from the septic tanks to nearby water sources is a major problem in our state. To address this problem, liquid waste treatment plants will be set up in selected districts. ₹ 15 crore will be given to Suchithwa Mission for this purpose. To operationalise the idea of 'zero waste', a Green Technology Centre will be established with the collaboration of Centre for Earth Science Studies.
129. A major plastic shredding unit will be set up in association with Malabar Cements Limited to mitigate to some extent the health and ecological problems due to plastic waste. It is intended to use shredded plastic in road tarring.
130. Ayyankali Employment Guarantee Programme will be implemented in a more effective manner in association with the urban sanitation scheme. I set apart ₹ 10 crore for this purpose.
131. I set apart an amount of ₹ 150 crores as state share for the implementation of the ADB assisted Kerala State Urban

Development Project (KSUDP), Capital Region Development Project (CRDP), centrally assisted Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission(JNNURM) projects being implemented in the municipal corporations in Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi and for the UIDSSMT scheme.

132. This Government initiated steps to expedite the completion of projects undertaken by KSUDP. The progress of implementation of these schemes has been improved to 60% from the previous level of 20%. All these works have been tendered. Thus Government could save crores of rupees on account of commitment charges.
133. 50,000 houses will be constructed within 5 years under Rajeev Awas Yojana aiming at eradication of slums. An amount of ₹ 62 crore is set apart for this. Domestic water connections will be given to those families who depend entirely on public water taps.
134. An amount of ₹ 5 crore will be sanctioned for the second phase activities of Vyttila Mobility hub. New mobility hubs will be established at Thrissur and Kottayam during this year.
135. The preparation of the blue print for the integrated development of major towns is in progress. For this, the assistance of internationally approved outside agencies will be sought, if required. For the time bound completion of this project, an amount of ₹ 50 lakh is provided.

CO-OPERATION

136. Co-operative sector plays a crucial role in enriching the rural economy of our State by providing all banking services. A provision of ₹ 62 crore is set apart for this sector this year.
137. As part of 'Nanma' scheme, 2000 Co-operative retail outlets, more Thriveni stores and Thriveni Super Markets will be started. New Neethi Medical Stores will be started under Consumerfed and other Co-operative societies.
138. New Engineering Colleges will be started at Muttathara in Thiruvananthapuram and at Athani in Vadakkancheri under the control of Co-operative Academy for Professional Education (CAPE). An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked specially for this.
139. A Retail Management Institute in Idukki district and a Pharmacy College at Thrissur district will be started under Consumerfed. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for this.
140. Government proposes to start **Farmer Service Centres** at block level to encourage farmers and to increase the agricultural production. This service centre will function in each block under selected Co-operative societies. Each centre will be provided with an amount upto ₹ 25 lakh. For this ₹ 10 crore is set apart.

IRRIGATION

141. The precious water source of Kerala will be carefully preserved and various projects will be implemented for proper and judicious water management.
142. Dilapidated Mullaperiyar Dam is a grave threat to the life and property of the people of five districts and it is a burning issue. 'Safety to the people of Kerala and water to Tamil Nadu' is the declared policy of the Government. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is set apart for the initial expense for the construction of new protective dam 1300 ft downstream from the existing dam.
143. The Second phase of the Jananidhi project will be started in 200 Panchayaths in 8 districts. Total outlay for five years ie. 2012-17 is ₹ 1022 crore. An amount of ₹ 110 crore is earmarked for meeting the expenses for this financial year.
144. Kollam - Kottappuram National Waterway will become a reality in 2012-13 and extension works will be started. Initial Study for extension of National Waterway Kottappuram to Neelwswaram and Kollam to Kovalam by NATPAC is in progress.
145. Remaining work of Kollam thodu will be completed for making the portion between Nadayara to Kollam linked with National Waterway (NW-3) conducive for transportation. Construction work of Vadakara - Mahi canal will be started with NABARD assistance. Partial re-construction of EK Canal in Kozhikode with NABARD assistance will be initiated. A total amount of

₹ 90 crore is earmarked for various projects of National Waterway (NW III).

146. State waterway from Poovathinkadavu in Thrissur district to Ponnani in Malappuram district and from Vettam to Korapuzha (approx 75.35 Km) will be renovated for water transport. Work will be started utilizing the XIIIth Finance Commission grant.
147. Government intends to implement a project to construct 'Site specific submerged reef' with geo tube using sophisticated and eco-friendly techniques. An amount of ₹ 40 lakh is set apart for this purpose.
148. It is estimated that there are 14,000 wells, ponds and reservoirs in Kerala under private and public ownership. An amount of ₹ 47 crore is provided for renovation of one well in each Panchayat as a first phase of the project for preservation of water sources.
149. Government intends to implement river bank development project to augment the water sources and their effective utilization. During 2012-13, riverbanks of Bharathapuzha, Chaliyar and Pampa basins will be developed on experimental basis. For this an amount of ₹ 13 crore is set apart.
150. Our Dam sites are attractive on account of natural landscape. Hence it is intended to build gardens adjacent to the dam sites as in Malampuzha. Karapuzha, Kuttiyadi, Mankara and Peppara

dam sites will be developed as attractive tourist destinations. For this ₹ 1 crore is set apart.

151. An expert committee was constituted to suggest further action to be taken in connection with the implementation of Meenachil Valley Irrigation Project. Action will be initiated on receipt of the above report. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is provided for initial activities.

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

152. Most of the pipes in the existing water supply schemes are more than 30 years old. For solving the water supply interruptions due to the frequent bursting of these pipes, they will be replaced in a phased manner. An amount of ₹ 85 crore is provided for the purpose.
153. It is proposed to implement the Japan assisted water supply scheme in Ernakulam district also. In addition to this, for the maintenance of the ongoing drinking water supply schemes in Thiruvananthapuram, Meenadu, Cherthala, Kozhikkode and Pattuvam, an amount of ₹ 300 crore is earmarked.
154. It has been decided to start Desalination projects for providing drinking water in coastal areas and Kuttannad areas, which are badly affected due to scarcity of water. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is provided for the works in this year. Further, an Integrated Water Supply Scheme will be introduced for

providing drinking water in 10 panchayats in Harippad constituency and its nearby villages.

POWER

155. The consumption of electric energy in the State is increasing day-by-day. Only 40% of the consumption is generated within the State. To compensate the deficit, we purchase electricity at a higher rate from outside.
156. It is estimated that the electricity energy consumption in Kerala will be 6000 Megawatt by 2020. Government proposes to launch certain major projects to increase the power generation within five years, viz., 1050 Megawatt using LNG at Cheemeni, 1200 MW as a joint venture of Petronet and KSEB at Puthu Vypin and 1150 MW from Kayamkulan Power Station. In addition to this, it is proposed to start 5 new small hydro electric projects having 53 MW capacity, this year. Moreover, projects are being prepared for the large scale generation of energy form sunlight, wind and other new and renewable energy sources.
157. An amount of ₹ 3024 crore will be provided to the newly formed KSEB Ltd in connection with the settlement of dues, of which, an amount of ₹ 524 will be provided by Government over a period of 10 years after netting of dues from electricity duty.

158. One unit of electricity saved is more valuable than one unit of electricity produced. Based on this principle, energy conservation policy will be formulated and implemented. A programme for creating awareness for energy conservation will be introduced in all schools. Energy audit will be extended to more industrial establishments through energy management centre. L.E.D street lights will be installed in Municipalities and Panchayats.
159. In the Financial Year 2012-13, a scheme of installation of 'Solar House' having a capacity of 1 KW and more on the roofs of 10,000 houses will be implemented and the energy produced by this will be made available to KSEB.

INDUSTRIES

160. Government will adopt a policy for increasing investment in industrial sector by creating an investor-friendly climate in the state.
161. It has been decided to hold a global investment meet titled, 'Emerging Kerala', biennially, to showcase before the world, the diverse possibilities, abilities and assets of the State. In the 'Emerging Kerala' meet, the action plan and programmes for long term economic progress of the State will be presented. At present, numerous private-public partnership ventures have been prepared. ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the global meet scheduled at Kochi in the 1st half of September this year.

162. It is necessary to provide basic infrastructure for the various projects to be presented in the 'Emerging Kerala' meet. Against this backdrop, it is intended to establish large scale industrial and commercial zones in the large cities of the State. Steps have already been taken to identify suitable areas in Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi and Kozhikode cities for this purpose. Selected areas will be notified as commercial Zone and all industrial - commercial and trade activities will be permitted there. In addition to the normal budget provision, KINFRA will be provided ₹100 crore more for acquiring land in Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi and Kozhikkode and for setting up basic infrastructure. Zones based on this model, will be set up in district headquarters, major towns and municipalities.
163. Basic infrastructure development projects of the State cannot be implemented with Government contribution alone. Government has received many Public-Private Partnership Projects for infrastructure development. A PPP Cell will be started in the State Planning Board for expert guidance of PPP projects.
164. Government has recognized that high level professionalism is essential for ensuring profitability and efficiency of public sector undertakings. Therefore, Government intends to conduct a review of the companies and to appoint personnel with qualification and experience in Director Boards and senior posts. Towards this, the Government aims to integrate the

existing Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and Restructuring and Internal Audit Board (RIAB) to form a Public Sector Enterprises Board (PSEB). Government will ensure autonomy and the service of competent professionals, to the board. In addition, to ensure a definite level of efficiency, Government shall sign a Memorandum of Understanding with all PSUs under the industries department, modeled on the Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Government and Central Public Sector Undertakings. For these arrangements, ₹ 2 crore is earmarked.

165. Electronic procurement system shall be introduced in all PSUs under the Industries Department. This system will ensure transparency and responsibility of transactions.
166. In tune with the National manufacturing policy of the Central Government, it is proposed to form Industrial manufacturing Zone in the State. A special purpose vehicle will be constituted for this purpose. This project will be implemented mainly in Kochi-Coimbatore industrial corridor. Apart from this, an electronic manufacturing hub will be established at Amballoor. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is set apart for this project.
167. A major project of ₹ 18,000 crore will be implemented by BPCL over the next 5 years for the capacity enhancement of Kochi Refinery and for establishing Petro Chemical Industrial units. This will be the biggest investment in the industrial sector of Kerala. This will facilitate setting up of a huge network of

auxiliary industrial units and creation of large scale employment opportunities. Government has allowed tax concessions to BPCL for this project. The establishment of a petro chemical industrial zone will result in starting large number of small scale industrial units and thereby creating huge employment opportunities. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is earmarked for land acquisition for the zone and initial activities.

168. It is possible to produce numerous value added products resulting in further generation of employment, if we could discerningly utilize the enriched ore deposits available in various parts of the state. Government intends to provide required modern machinery and equipment to Kerala Mineral Development Corporation to achieve this. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is provided for this purpose.
169. With assistance from KINFRA, a Global Ayurveda Village shall be established to enable the State attain the status of 'Ayurveda Capital of the World'. For its preliminary activities an amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart.
170. 'Edu-Health City' including a Cancer Institute shall be set up in the 240 acres land available with INKEL in Malappuram district. Standard design module, community college (Skill Development Centre) activities etc will be started immediately. INKEL shall establish a container freight station

at Vallarpadam considering the increasing opportunities in cargo transportation.

171. 'Supplementary Gas Infrastructure Project' will be implemented jointly by KSIDC and GAIL, through Kerala GAIL Gas Limited. Through the implementation of the scheme, fuel gas distribution to cities and CNG supply to industrial units will be implemented. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is provided for this purpose.
172. Government intends to form a company for starting 'Sea Plane' service in order to reduce the travel time avoiding increased traffic snarls. ₹ 12 crore is earmarked for this project.
173. The waste management plant of Kochi Corporation at Brahmapuram will be modernized. About 100 acres of land available after implementing this project will be utilized for an industrial park. An industrial park will be started at Irinjalakkuda next year under the aegis of KINFRA. An amount of ₹ 10 lakh is set apart for each park. It is proposed to set up a Bio-Science Park at Thonnakkal Village in Thiruvananthapuram district. KSIDC has already acquired 36 acres of land for this purpose. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for the initial expenses of this project and the total project cost is expected to be around ₹ 300 crore.
174. This Government gives prime consideration for the development of small scale industries to ensure economic

development through investment and creation of jobs. Given the severe space constraints being faced by entrepreneurs to start new enterprises, it is envisaged to start multi-storied industrial estates to facilitate setting up of more industrial units. Such industrial estates will be started this year at Kochu Veli, Manjeri and Kottakkal. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is earmarked for this.

175. An 'Aero Space Centre' will be set up at Thiruvananthapuram as a joint venture of Keltron and VSSC. ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for this.
176. Aiming at the intensive industrial development of the State, the Government intends to start a Sea Port-Airport Area Development Authority, connecting Ports and Airports including four industrial development centres. It is envisaged to include four industrial development centres such as Nedumbassery-Vallarpadam and Kochi, Karippur-Beyepore at Kozhikode/Malappuram, Mattannur, Azheekal at Kannur and Vizhinjam-Sanghumukhom at Thiruvananthapuram.
177. A State Food processing Mission will be set up under KINFRA for the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes under Ministry Food Processing Industries. An amount of ₹ 4.5 crore is set apart for this.
178. For all round progress of the State, development of traditional industries is inevitable. To ensure the profitability of

handloom units and a steady income for those employed in the handloom sector, schemes including modernization shall be implemented. Towards this ₹ 50 crore is provided. The technical skills of employees under Handicraft Development Corporation are of very high standard in the country. ₹ 1 crore is provided as working capital of the Corporation and ₹ 4 crore is provided to settle current liabilities.

179. A total amount of ₹ 100 crore is earmarked for coir sector. Representatives from 32 countries participated and orders to the tune of ₹ 100 crore have been received in the international exhibition, Coir Kerala 2012, organised by the Coir Department. In the circumstances, ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for organizing Coir Kerala 2013.
180. Another mission undertaken by the Department is to make a Model Coir Village linking to tourism sector. As a first step, an amount of ₹ 10 lakh is earmarked for the construction of the Coir Village under PPP mode.
181. A scheme will be formed for the production of multiple products and ornamental articles such as ornaments, bag, files etc. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for the production and marketing of these products.
182. Steps will be taken by this Government to protect the Cashew industry and to ensure job security of labourers Cashew factories will be modernized to develop a brand to enhance

the scope of export of cashew. The production of cashew will be enhanced by way of planting cashew in the available land and by encouraging organic cashew farming. A **Raw Cashew Bank** will be formed to ensure the availability of cashew for the whole year. An amount of ₹ 65 crore is earmarked for this sector.

183. Recognizing that it is the duty of the Government to protect the Handloom sector being a traditional one, this Government intends to implement different schemes. Efforts will be made for the comprehensive development of the handloom sector by earmarking an amount of ₹ 2.90 crore to promote marketing and export of handloom products and ₹ 4.50 crore to make available quality raw material for handloom weavers and ₹ 7 crore to rejuvenate and strengthen handloom societies and ₹ 2.50 crore to handloom villages.
184. 1500 new looms will be established and 2500 'charkas' will be modernized to enhance the production in the Khadi sector. Steps will be taken to construct sheds for the newly set up 1500 looms and distribute ready-made warp for the entire handloom workers Village Industrial Parks will be set up in the lands owned by Khadi and Village Industries Board. ₹ 12 crore is earmarked for the activities of Khadi Board.
185. ₹ 60 crore is earmarked for the comprehensive rejuvenation scheme of the Textile sector as a special package. Edarikkode

textile mill which is celebrating the golden jubilee will be modernized.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- 186.** The IT Policy of Kerala aims to capture 5% of the total IT market of India and to create 6 lakh new employment opportunities. For this, infrastructure facilities with 600 lakh sq ft building will be set up in 1000 acres land. State Government expects an investment of ₹ 20,000 crore on account of this. Policies will be formulated to attract IT Investors in the small towns as well.
- 187.** A convention Complex and Expo Centre of international standard will be set up at Aakkulam under I T Corridor Scheme with the co-operation of Tourism Department. Land for this has already been acquired.
- 188.** Kozhikode Cyber Park, the first IT building in the state with 2.50 lakh sq. ft. area, is expected to be completed within in one year. For this, an amount of ₹ 32 crore is earmarked. Besides, ₹ 43 crore and ₹ 42 crore are earmarked for Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram and Infopark, Kochi, respectively. ₹ 17 crore is earmarked for the IT Parks at Kozhikode, Koratty and Ambalappuzha.
- 189.** IITMK will be developed as a world class institution. IITMK campus will be built up in 10 acres in the Technocity. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided for this. A Technopark will be

set up at Karur Panchayth in Kottayam. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided for this.

190. The e-procurement / e-tendering / e-payment facilities, implemented in the Public Works Department, will be extended to all Government departments and PSUs to make the procurement process transparent and effective.

PORTS

191. There are 17 small and medium ports in the state under the control of the Government. Development of ports is essential for the growth of industries and increased employment opportunities. Government expects that the coastal shipping will facilitate shifting of cargo from the road and rail to water fostering economic development, increase in employment opportunities and reduction in traffic blocks on roads and air pollution. With this in view, an integrated coastal shipping policy will be implemented.
192. It is proposed to develop cargo harbours at Neendakara, Kayamkulam, Vadakara, Thalassery, Kannur, Cheruvathur-Neeleswaram, Kasargod, Manjeswaram -Byepoor, Azhikkal, Vizhinjam and Thangasseri. The ports at Kodungalloor and Munambam will be developed with all necessary infrastructure.
193. Tourist Transport Service will be started from Fort Kochi to Alappuzha and from Valiyathura at Thiruvananthapuram to

Alappuzha. Alappuzha, Thalassery harbours will be developed as Marina to attract tourists.

194. An amount of ₹ 247 crore and ₹ 22 crore are earmarked for the development of Ports and Harbour Engineering respectively.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

195. A comprehensive modernization plan will be formulated for qualitative and durable road transport system through meticulous planning and effective implementation. As part of this, monitoring system and third party audit system for ensuring quality in the construction of roads will be implemented. Moreover, detailed estimate and design will be made compulsory for road works costing more than ₹ 5 crore and funds will be provided for preparing this. Along with modern road construction technologies, construction of roads using concrete, plastic, rubber etc will also be encouraged. The seaport - airport road at Ernakulam is intended to be reconstructed as concrete road on pilot basis.
196. As part of constructing roads with higher quality standards, 367 Km road at a cost of 2712 crores under Kerala State Road Transport project Phase II and 1286 Km. road at a cost of ₹ 5100 crore under Kerala State Road Improvement project will be completed. Besides this, modernization of additional 3000 Km. roads is also under consideration.

197. 8,500 Km village roads coming under local bodies have been taken over by Public Works Department and declared as major district roads. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is earmarked for the renovation of these roads.
198. In order to solve severe traffic congestion in Karamana - Kaliyikkavila road in NH47, this road will be developed into four lane road. The land acquisition for the first phase is progressing. The required amount for land acquisition will be provided under a separate head of revenue department.
199. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the construction of two lane bye-pass in the National highway in Alappuzha with central assistance. Similarly, an amount of ₹ 6 crore is earmarked for starting the construction of the bye-passes at Kanjirappally and Kollam. To build a parallel bypass road to the existing Wayanad Churam road, ₹ 5 crores is provided.
200. Public Works Department will take steps to preserve the selected buildings owned by the State government without loosing their traditional architectural aesthetics. As first step, Government Victoria College, Palakkad, Government Brannan College, Thalassery, Maharajas College, Ernakulam, University College, Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi State Assembly Hall at Government Law College, Ernakulam, Government Arts College, Thiruvananthapuram, K N M Government Womens' College, Kannur, Government Teacher Education College,

Thiruvananthapuram & Thalassery, Swathi Thirunal Music College, Thiruvananthapuram are included under this scheme.

201. In order to encourage eco-friendly constructions, a *Green Construction Policy* will be framed.
202. The improvement of Kottayam - Kumarakam - Cherthala tourist highway is proposed to be entrusted with Kerala Road Fund Board with Public Private Participation. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for the land acquisition and initial activities of this project. Ponnani - Vengalam Coastal Highway will be an asset for tourism promotion in the area. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for the development of this road.
203. As the second stage of KSTP, 367 Km of selected roads will be developed with the help of World Bank. For this an amount of ₹ 25 crore earmarked in this budget as State share.
204. Sabarimala roads will be brought under heavy maintenance scheme. This scheme will be gradually implemented in all state roads in the current year. For this, ₹ 20 crore is earmarked during this year

TRANSPORT

205. Road Safety Authority will chalk out and implement a comprehensive plan to reduce road accidents. Accident Review Committees will be set up at state and district levels to find out reasons and solutions of road accidents. As a part of road safety training, driver testing tracks will be constructed.

Construction has already been started for setting up two tracks in Kozhikode and Kannur. The similar testing tracks will be constructed in three more cities.

206. With central assistance, Motor Vehicles Department will install radar surveillance system in five districts in the current financial year. The scheme will be extended to all districts from next year onwards.
207. Drivers Training Research Centre at Edappal in Malappuram district will be started with central assistance, for improving the training for driving. As a part of making scientific fitness test of vehicles, computer aided vehicle testing centres will be opened in Thiruvananthapuram, Eranakulam and Thrissur districts.
208. Post Graduate course in Road Safety will be started in Sree Chithira thirunal College of Engineering Thiruvananthapuram.
209. KSRTC is playing a significant role in State's public transport system. Government proposes to implement a rejuvenation package to reduce the loss of KSRTC and to improve its efficiency and financial capacity. Computerization will be completed during this financial year. All workshops will be modernized with electronically aided tools gadgets including computer ₹ Global positioning system will be introduced in KSRTC buses, in a phased manner.

210. It is proposed to start services in all district head quarters, towns and cities like the Thiru- Kochi service started in Ernakulam district. 100 town/city services will be started this year in Thrissur, Kozhikkode and Kottayam.
211. An interstate, inter district bus terminal is proposed to be started at Eanjakkal, Thiruvananthapuram. In addition to this, KSRTC will construct own shopping complexes in eight depots. Exclusive rest rooms for women with basic facilities will be provided in bus stations as part of women empowerment.
212. A new KSRTC depot will be started at Konni in Pathanamthitta district and a new bus terminal will be established at Idukki.
213. An amount of ₹ 125 crore is earmarked for the activities of KSRTC during the next year.

WATER TRANSPORT

214. Most modern steel boats will replace the obsolete and damaged steel boats of State Water Transport Department. It is also proposed to procure a tourist boat to operate in the tourism cargo sector and one workshop boat for the repair of damaged boats. The existing workshops will be modernised with new equipments. A new slipway cum workshop will be constructed at Ponjikkara for repair works with dry dock facilities.

TOURISM

215. As per statistics for the year 2010, tourism sector has created around 12 lakh employment opportunities, earned an income of ₹ 17,000 crore, mobilized investments worth ₹ 1,000 crore and earned foreign currency worth ₹ 3,797 crore. A new tourism policy has, therefore, been formulated aimed at comprehensive development of Kerala. Emphasis has been given to infrastructural development of the tourism centres in Kerala in the 12th Plan. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is set apart for setting up a Tourism Promotion Board under public-private partnership which will identify fresh tourism markets and utilize tourism possibilities at national and international level.
216. To make the Muziris as the most important tourism centre in Kerala, an amount of ₹ 7 crore is earmarked for Muziris Heritage Tourism Scheme. I also set apart ₹ 2 crore for Thalassery Heritage Project. An amount of ₹ 53 crore will be provided for the infrastructure development and status improvement of the tourist centres. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is allotted to improve the basic facilities of the tourist centres at Bekal, Wayanad, Kochi, Kumarakam and Kovalam to International Standards.
217. In order to increase investments and employment opportunities in tourism sector, 50 new tourist centres will be started. An amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked for Kerala Waste Free Tourism Centre Scheme.

218. "Hope on hope off" service will be started in selected centres, for tourists to enjoy all picnic spots in each tourist centres. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is set apart for the implementation of 'Responsible tourism initiative' started for making available the benefits of tourism to the local communities.
219. To attract tourism potential of Malabar region, a new project viz. Eastern corridor eco-circuit will be implemented.
220. An amount of ₹ 10 lakh is earmarked for implementing Nila Tourism Scheme. In my last budget, I had announced a tourism project in Wagamon, the meeting point of Kottayam and Idukki districts. An integrated pilgrim tourism circuit project will be implemented in the next year connecting Murukanmala, Thangalpara with Kurisumala pilgrim centers and nearby temples and holy places around this region. An amount of ₹ 25 lakh is set apart for this purpose.
221. Around 10,000 migratory birds are reaching Thanneerthadam in Mundery Panchayath of Kannur District. This area will be developed as a bird sanctuary. Harippad Pilgrim Mega Tourism Project will be implemented this year, tapping the tourist potential of Harippad area. An amount of ₹ 20 lakh is provided for this.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

222. To solve the socio environmental problems of Kerala, a consortium will be constituted of the scientific research institutions under the Central and State Governments.
223. Technology Festival (TEKFEST) will be conducted to identify and encourage science talents from various Engineering Colleges in the State. A special skill development programme will be launched for the socially backward science graduate women to acquire job skills.
224. Coastal area of Kerala is well known for its mineral richness. Realizing this importance, a project will be started to make value added products from out of the mineral sand. A Botanical garden will be established at Parvathymala in Munnar. A scheme to protect river banks by planting cuscus grass (ramacham) will be implemented.

EDUCATION

225. The State School Education System is built on the basis of National Educational Policy, with a view that the value oriented education is the right of children. The important challenge we are facing is to restructure existing primary and secondary level school education system based on Right to Education Act of 2009. On the basis of this, 8th Standard will be put in Upper Primary section and 5th Standard in lower

primary section. This change will be implemented from the next year.

226. During this Plan period, selected Government Schools in the State will be modernised at par with International level. This programme includes increasing the ability of the children in the upgradation of the academic standards, arts and sports, information technology, life skill and increasing the other infrastructure facilities in the school. For this, an amount of ₹ 200 crore is provided.
227. All the class rooms in the State will be changed in to smart class rooms. The target will be achieved in a phased manner and as part of the first phase, in the academic year 2012-13, Government intends to make at least one smart class room in each school.
228. For increasing the basic facilities and for improving multi-faceted educational activities in the vocational higher secondary schools and higher secondary schools ₹ 10 crore and ₹ 66 crore are provided respectively.
229. The existing unaided special schools for the blind, deaf and dumb which are recognized by the education department will be converted as aided schools.
230. A talent test for higher education and employment to all students in 10th standard will be conducted on the auspices of SIET (State Institute of Education and Technology). An amount

of ₹ 25 lakh is set apart for this. An outlay of ₹ 2 lakh and ₹ 5 lakh will be given for the developmental activities of Government schools and Government Colleges celebrating centenary, respectively.

HIGHER EDUCATION

231. The vision of the Government is to raise the Higher Education Sector to world class standard. The Government intends to conduct a 'Global Education Meet' to highlight the scope for higher education in Kerala and to facilitate the students and teachers in the state to exchange ideas with Universities in various parts of the world.
232. Government intends to establish an 'Academic City' to bring various courses being conducted by established universities of the world, under a single umbrella. There are academic cities of similar nature in foreign countries. It is expected that the 'Academic City' would foster exchange programme of teachers and students. An amount of ₹ 25 lakh is set apart for this project.
233. A 'Knowledge City' will be established at Thodupuzha, aimed at enhancement of knowledge by organizing higher education and research facilities, with international standards. ₹ 25 lakh is provided for this.

234. The Technical Education sector of Kerala has to rise to meet the challenges of the times. In order to integrate the study and research activities in this field, it is proposed to establish a technical University in the State at Thiruvananthapuram. ₹ 1.5 crore is earmarked for this purpose.
235. To fulfill the long cherished desire of people of Kerala, Government proposes to establish an IIT at Palakkad with central government approval. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for this in the Budget.
236. The UGC has been implementing a scheme called 'Universities with potential for excellence' to convert the Universities and Colleges of the State into centers of excellence and to ensure quality education. 16 Universities have been selected for this, nationwide. The State Award Fund for Universities (S.A.F.U) will be implemented to enable the Universities in Kerala to achieve this goal. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is provided for this purpose.
237. Government intends to convert 10 colleges of the State to centres of excellence within the next three years. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided towards this. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is provided for starting a VLSI chip design centre in Kerala University in collaboration with Mumbai IIT.

238. The scheme for awarding research scholarship to the bright students of Government-aided Engineering Colleges will be started this year. In order to nourish the talents of under graduate students 'walk with a scholar' scheme will be implemented. ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for this purpose.
239. As recommended by Sachar Committee, it is proposed to start an Integrated Institute of Science and Technology at Tirurangadi in Malappuram district under the aegis of Institute of Human Resources Development. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this purpose.
240. A 'Science City' will be established at Kottayam for which an amount of ₹ 50 lakh is proposed. In order to conduct study and research about Budgets, a Centre for Budget Studies will be established under the Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), and ₹ 5 lakh is provided for this centre.
241. ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for this year's activities of the Malayalam University being established at Tirur, in the name of Thunchathu Ezuthachan, the father of Malayalam language. An Applied Science College will be started at Haripad under the auspicious of the Institute of Human Resources Development. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this.

ART & CULTURE

242. A film city with Public - Private - Partnership will be established at Ottappalam which is a famous shooting location and an amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided for its initial activity.
243. There are very few museums in India depicting India's struggle for freedom. A museum will be set up at Thiruvananthapuram depicting glorious moments of India's historical struggle for freedom and a 'Freedom Memorial' will be erected at Vattiyookavu, where the first meeting of the State Congress was held. ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for this.
244. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is allotted to the Archaeology Department for preserving the walls and fort entrances around Sree Padmanabha Swami Temple. The Government intends that the 'Mathilakam Documents' related to world famous Sree Padmanabha Swami Temple maintained by the State Archives Department be converted scripturally, translated, digitized and preserved scientifically. I provide ₹ 50 lakh towards this.
245. I earmark ₹ 50 lakh for the Archaeology Department to set up basic infrastructure at Edakkal caves in Wayanad to facilitate the declaration of the cave as a World Heritage Centre. For establishing a headquarters for the Tulu Academy at Manjeswar, ₹ 25 lakh is allotted.

246. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh will be given to Kerala Sahithya Academy to conduct Universal Malayalam Festival in 2012 to nourish Malayalam language, literature and even more for upholding the cultural heritage of Malayalees.
247. In order to establish a national 'Natya Museum' at Guru Gopinath Natana Gramam at Vattiyoorkavu, an amount ₹ 10 lakh is earmarked as Government grant. An amount of ₹ 5 lakh is allotted for the development activities of Jawahar Balabhavan at Thiruvananthapuram. ₹ 5 lakh as one time grant will be given to Bharath Bhavan under Cultural Affairs Department for its activities. ₹ 10 lakh is also allotted for constructing a Convention Centre at Santhigiri. ₹ 5 lakh is allotted for constructing a Convention Center attached to Poonkavu church, a pilgrimage centre in Alappuzha.
248. ₹ 5 lakh is set apart for erecting a statue of Sri. K.R. Narayanan, former President of India at Uzhzvoor and an amount of ₹ 5 lakh is sanctioned to R. Sankar Foundation for erecting statue of former Chief Minister, Sri. R. Sankar. An amount of ₹ 5 lakh each is set apart for erecting Muloor Memorial at Elavumthitta in Pathanamthitta and for erecting a memorial for Kavithilakam pandit K.P. Karuppan at Ernakulam. An amount of ₹ 5 lakh each is provided for erecting memorials to Sri K. M. Mathew, doyen of Malayalam

journalism and to Dr Sukumar Azheekode, gifted writer and orator.

249. Annual grant given to Mahakavi Moyinkutty Vaidyar memorial will be enhanced to ₹ 1 lakh. Annual grant of ₹ 1 lakh is allotted for P.N. Panicker Vijyanan Vikas Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram.
250. Government intends to set up a 'Heritage Museum' at Mananthavadi in Wayanad in order to rejuvenate, protect and display the forgotten and extinct folklore, weapons, utensils, handicraft and ornaments of the Adivasis of Wayanad and to re-establish their cultural heritage. ₹ 80 lakh is earmarked for this.

SPORTS, YOUTH AFFAIRS

251. An amount of ₹ 30 crore is provided for the activities of this year for the 35th National Games, hosted by Kerala. Also ₹ 22 crore and ₹ 15 crore are set apart for Kerala Sports Council and Kerala State Youth Affairs Board, respectively.
252. As recommended by the State Sports Commission in 2009, a 'Sports Development Fund' will be set up and Sports policy will be formulated and declared this year itself. ₹ 1 crore is provided for this.
253. An sports stadium of international standards will be set up in Kozhikkode. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided for

its initial activities. A Sports Academy will be established at Pulloorampara in Kozhikode district. ₹ 10 lakh is provided for this. A synthetic track will be laid at the 'High Altitude Training Centre' at Munnar in Idukki with assistance from the Central Government. Training facilities and accommodation of international standard will be provided to those trainers and sports persons visiting the Training Centres. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for this. A stadium and bicycle velodrome would be constructed at Painavu, headquarters of Idukki District. ₹ 1 crore is provided for this. An indoor stadium will be constructed at Peravoor, the native place of the eminent volley ball player Sri. Jimmy George in commemoration of his 25th death anniversary in 2012 for which ₹ 25 lakh is provide.

254. Rajiv Gandhi Academy for Aviation Technology will be upgraded to international level by introducing new courses such as air craft maintenance engineering, flight despatcher, cabin crew, degree in aviation etc. An amount of ₹ 6 crore is provided for acquiring a double-engine air craft for higher level training of trainees in the academy who have already passed out of the Academy.
255. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for constructing a headquarters building to accommodate the State Youth Affairs Department and Youth Affairs Board.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

256. The health of the people is considered as the most valuable wealth of the nation. When compared to other states, the infant - maternal mortality rates are much less in our State. The Government intends to implement specific programmes for the betterment of our health sector by taking innovative steps. For the implementation of extensive activities in health sector, an amount of ₹ 470 crore is set apart for the year 2012-13.
257. Women and Children hospitals will be set up in 8 districts where there are no such hospitals. I set apart ₹ 35 crore for this purpose.
258. Many lives are lost due to road mishaps. As a solution to this issue, Government intends to setup a tertiary Trauma treatment network across the state by introducing '108' ambulance service with trained paramedical staff for the shifting of accident victims to nearest District hospitals immediately. I set apart ₹ 40 crore for this purpose. For the establishment of Trauma Care Units in Medical Colleges, I set apart ₹ 25 crore.
259. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided for the establishment of Neo-natology Division under department of Pediatrics in Medical Colleges. Multi Disciplinary Research Labs will be set up in Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram. I set apart ₹ 8 crore for this purpose.

260. In my previous budget, I had announced new Medical Colleges in four backward districts. In 2012-2013, a Medical College will be set up in Wayanad district, based on a broad approach to establish Medical Colleges in the remaining districts within the next two years. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is set apart for its initial activities. Steps will be taken to start medical colleges in Palakkad and Kollam districts in subsequent years. New Dental Colleges will be set up in Thrissur and Alleppey Districts. I set apart ₹ 5 crore for this.
261. With the joint partnership of non-resident keralites and the public sector, a non Resident-Public sector Medical College will be started at Harippad next year.
262. Government will take up with the Central Government for the establishment of All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Kerala.
263. 50 New Homoeo Dispensaries will be set up next year. For this purpose, I set apart ₹ 3.42crore. 25 bedded Homoeo Hospitals will be set up in all districts where there are no Homoeo Hospitals. In the tribal areas of Kannur District, 10 bedded Homoeo Hospital will be set up. I set apart ₹ 35 lakh for this purpose.
264. Facilities will be enhanced in the Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram for the early detection and treatment of women, paediatric oriented, tobacco related and general cancer. I set apart ₹ 22 crore for this purpose. For the

3rd Phase of construction of 10 storied building in RCC Thiruvananthapuram campus, I set apart ₹ 8 crore.

265. The school health project launched with the aim to protect paediatric health will be extended to the schools in the State as a whole.
266. Facilities will be organized for the medical treatment and continuing treatment of Endosulphan victims. A project to grant financial assistance to them has been submitted to the Government of India. ₹ 25 crores is set apart as the Sate share of this scheme.
267. New drug testing lab will be started at Konni, Thrissur and Kozhikkode. Kanjirapally Taluk Hospital will be upgraded to General Hospital.
268. A new laboratory block will be established in the Malabar Cancer Center, Thalassery where a 4D scanner and digital mammography machine will be installed. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is provided for this. An amount of ₹ 1 crore will be allotted for establishment of an epidemic control centre and virology research centre at the Thalappadi superspeciality hospital under MG University.
269. The service of Karunya pharmacy, opened for supplying drugs at a fair rate to the public will be extended all over the State.
270. The primary health center at Oorngattiri in Malapuram district will be upgraded as community health centre.

271. It is the duty of the society to bring physically or mentally ill people to the mainstream by providing timely relief to them. Government committed to social welfare cannot neglect this. For protecting and treating the mentally ill, arrangements will be made in all districts.
272. 150 bedded new IP ward will be constructed in district hospital, Idukki. For this, ₹ 25 lakh is provided.

HOUSING

273. Since Kerala State Housing Board had defaulted in the repayment of the loans amounting to ₹ 750 crore to HUDCO, HUDCO stopped providing further loan assistance to Board. The Government, on assuming power, formulated a loan restructuring scheme based on the discussions with HUDCO. The first instalment of ₹ 250 crore has been paid to HUDCO and following this, HUDCO has expressed willingness to sanction funds for the new schemes of Kerala State Housing Board. An amount of ₹ 150 crore is set apart for Housing Board for the repayment of principal and interest.
274. Kerala State Housing Board shall implement a scheme namely "Sayoojyam" on self financing basis aimed at allotting plots to the middle income groups in small towns and villages in the State.

275. For expediting innovative technologies in the housing sector, Technology Innovation Fund shall be constituted. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is allotted for this purpose.
276. Scarcity of natural sand and increasing cost of sand are the major obstacles being faced by the construction sector. To solve this, a sand production centre will be started on an experimental basis under Nirmithi Kendra. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this.
277. Flats will be constructed in the land owned by local bodies for low income group people with assistance from financial institutions and beneficiary contributions. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is set apart for building 1000 such units.
278. An amount of ₹ 1.50 crore is earmarked for establishing Working Women's Hostel at Kattappana, Muttom and Kozhikode with capital subsidy of state Government.
279. A labour bank will be set up under the aegis of Nirmithi Kendra to solve the problem of shortage of labourers in the construction sector. The labour bank will have 1500 members in 2012-2013. In addition to this, a Kerala Construction Institute will be established for providing technical skill training to the labourers in the construction sector with joint participation of Nirmithi Kendra and Kerala State Housing Board. ₹ 1 crore is provided for this purpose. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for the activities of the Regulatory Authority to be set up in the real estate sector.

INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATION

280. Steps have been initiated to establish the Regional Centre of Indian Institute of Mass Communication in Kottayam District. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is allocated for this institute intended to be started with central assistance.
281. Tagore Theatre, Vazuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram will be renovated and upgraded to Multi Purpose Cultural Centre with modern facilities. The first phase of construction work has already started. An amount of ₹ 7.50 crore is earmarked for this purpose.
282. An amount of ₹ 2 lakh is set apart for the Museum proposed to be set up under the aegis of Kerala Press Academy for documenting history of Malayalam media activities in the past 150 years. An amount of ₹ 25 lakh will be provided as one time grant for the Consumer Store established by journalist's Co-operative Society, subject to prescribed terms and conditions. An amount of ₹ 5 lakh is set apart for Kottayam Journalist Housing Co-operative Society as one time assistance. The housing subsidy presently available to the Journalist will be extended to the visual media personnel also.
283. Swami Vivekananda was a great personality who made great contributions to Indian culture. Awareness programmes for promoting national integration and communal harmony will be held across the state in connection with 150th birthday celebrations of Swamiji. Along with this, 'Rabeendrothsavam'

is intended to be organized in memory of Rabindranath Tagore. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for these two programmes.

LABOUR AND REHABILITATION

284. This Government gives prime consideration for the welfare of labourers in all sectors. Government intends to introduce new programmes as part of this initiative.
285. Wages of headload workers have been unified in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Thrissur and Ernakulam districts. This will be extended to other districts also. By this, fair wages could be ensured to labourers and the labour problems avoided to a large extent.
286. In order to ensure the minimum wages to labourers, arrangements will be made to release their wages through banks.
287. Steps will be taken to improve the existing housing facilities in the plantation sector, with the co-operation of employe[₹]. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for the preliminary activities.
288. 'Janasree Bima Yojana' scheme will be implemented for the un-organized labourers jointly by the State Welfare Board and the Central Government.

289. Housing facilities will be provided in selected places with the co-operation of private and voluntary organizations for the labourers who are coming from other states. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for this purpose.
290. A Tri-partriate Industrial Relations Committee, comprising the representatives of the employer, employee and Government, will be formed in the private hospital sector. Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulam districts have been declared as 'nokkucoolie-free districts'. Other districts will also be made 'nokkucoolie-free'.
291. 'Kerala Academy for Skills Excellence (KASE) will be established for planning and implementing schemes to impart labour skills in all sectors including traditional and technology sectors.
292. **Industrial Training Institutes (ITI)** for women will be started at Kottayam, Idukki, Malappuram and Kasargode districts with a view to creating more job opportunities for women and making them self-reliant. An amount of ₹ 250 lakh is earmarked for this purpose.
293. For the diagnosis and treatment of occupational diseases, an Occupational Health Centre will be started at Kollam. An amount of ₹ 150 lakh is earmarked for this purpose. The ESI Hospital at Feroke will be upgraded to Model Hospital for providing better treatment facilities for the labourers and ESI

beneficiaries in the northern region. ESI dispensaries with all facilities will be started at Nedumangad and Pala this year.

SCHEDULED CASTE DEVELOPMENT

294. In order to solve the plight of Scheduled Caste colonies, these colonies will be developed to self sufficient habitat centres with infrastructure facilities. A scheme for providing financial assistance up to ₹ 1 lakh will be implemented for the poor and those afflicted with fatal diseases. An amount of ₹ 25,000 each will be provided to 25000 Scheduled Caste families for constructing toilets in their houses. The existing Vocational Training Centres will be developed in to Skill Development Centres to impart vocational training to youths from Scheduled Caste categories so that they become skilled labourers The QRG scheme will be implemented by forming self-help groups of Scheduled Caste women and training will be given for the mixed farming of quail, rabbit and goat. For these activities, an amount of ₹ 115 crore is earmarked.
295. Community Clinic Scheme will be implemented in areas thickly inhabited by Scheduled Caste people to provide free medical treatment. An amount of ₹ 2.50 crore is provided for this purpose.
296. A Community College will be started at Vandoor with the co-operation of Nettur Technical Training Foundation. The financial assistance for the marriage of girls belonging to

economically weaker Scheduled Caste families will be enhanced to ₹ 50,000.

297. An amount of ₹ 170 crore will be provided for giving financial assistance to landless agricultural labourers belonging to Scheduled Castes. An amount of ₹ 100 crore is earmarked towards financial assistance to Scheduled Castes for construction of house and for providing interest-free loans.

SCHEDULED TRIBE DEVELOPMENT

298. Training will be imparted to 500 selected unemployed young women among Schedule Tribes in Auto rickshaw driving. An auto rickshaw each will be provided to those who complete the training programme successfully. It aims at making ST women economically and socially self-reliant.
299. 'Sickle cell anemia' is a common disease among the tribal population of Wayanad. In order to support such patients for subsistence, livelihood and health care, a monthly assistance of ₹ 1000 will be given. ₹ 2 crore is set apart for this purpose.
300. There are many traditional medical practitioners among tribal population. Government will take steps to promote traditional system of tribal medical practice and to provide primary infrastructural facilities to these economically backward people. A 'Tribal Traditional Medical Education Centre' will be set up at Vithura. An amount of ₹ 20 lakh is set apart for these activities.

301. A scheme for providing self-employment in Agriculture to 4250 tribal people will be implemented with special central assistance to enable them to earn regular income. ₹ 6 crore is provided for the implementation of this scheme.
302. A project will be undertaken to enhance infrastructure facilities to the scheduled tribe families living in forest land assigned under the Forest Rights Act and to the tribals living in forests.
303. A residential school will be set up at Kuttichal grama panchayath in Thiruvananthapuram for the students belonging to scheduled tribe communities. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for meeting the initial expenditure thereon.
304. ₹ 25 crore is set apart to ensure house to all ST families. The scheme intends to re-habilitate landless ST families by providing land and house.
305. 'Pattyam' will be issued to all tribes, who are eligible for land under the Forest Rights Act 2006. The construction work of tribal complex of Ernakulam will be completed this year.
306. ₹ 20 lakh is provided for construction of a royal mansion befitting tribal culture to Kovilmala Raja Mannan, the only tribal Raja of South India.
307. An outlay of ₹ 207 crore is earmarked for various schemes for STs.

SOCIAL WELFARE

308. 'Nirbhaya' scheme will be launched to prevent harassment against the women and girls to provide assistance to them in such situation. 'Fast track courts' will be set up to ensure speedy conviction of culprits. ₹ 1.3 crore will be provided for these activities. Government proposed to establish 'Thantedom' gender park at Kozhikkode, which will act as a common platform for various women centric activities as a part of women empowerment. ₹ 6 crore is provided for the project.
309. 'Vayomithram' project implemented through Social Security Mission will be extended to all municipal corporations and municipalities. An amount of ₹ 4 crore is earmarked for the activities of Social Security Mission.
310. A scheme will be implemented in association with local Governments for Cochlear implantation to assist children below three years having hearing impairment. ₹ 6 crore is provided for the purpose. NISH will provide training for conducting speech therapy for which ₹ 2 crore is set apart. The scheme 'Hunger Free City', being implemented in Kozhikode will be extended to Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam.
311. Children free from all kinds of exploitation is vital for any healthy society. It is intended to set up 'Child Right

Commission' in tune with UN declaration for protection of child rights. ₹ 1 crore will be provided for the above purpose.

312. A model Anganvady will be established in each legislative assembly constituency. ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for this purpose. Children's home will be established in Idukki District where no such institution is available.

MINORITY WELFARE

313. Multi Sector Development project currently implemented in Wayanad District will be extended to 50 blocks having increased minority concentration at a total cost of ₹ 100 crore. Allocation for each block under this scheme will be ₹ 2 crore. ₹ 19 crore is set part as state share of the scheme.
314. For the empowerment of women, Self Help Groups of women belonging to minority communities will be set up in Kudumbasree model for providing vocational training and financial assistance. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this purpose.

BACKWARD CLASSES DEVELOPMENT

315. As per the Constitution of India, around eighty communities in our State are included under backward classes. This Government has fulfilled the long cherished ambition of the backward communities in the State recognising the fact that these communities are very much in need of the support of the government for their social and economical uplift since

they had been suffering the evils of caste system for centuries. This Government is bound to provide better educational facilities to the poor students and improved livelihood for the youth among these backward classes. An amount of ₹ 32 crore is set apart for providing scholarships, fee concession, lump sum grants etc. to the eligible students in the backward community.

316. An amount of ₹ 7500 will be allowed to the law graduates belonging to backward class facing financial difficulties for starting practice as advocates. This year, this grant will be allowed to 500 eligible law graduates. An amount of ₹ 37.5 lakh is earmarked for this purpose.
317. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart as financial assistance to the **Backward Development Corporation**.

FORWARD COMMUNITIES' DEVELOPMENT

318. The **Forward Communities Development Corporation** for the upliftment of weaker sections in the forward communities will be established this year. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart as assistance for this corporation.

HOME

319. We have a strong police force, capable of ensuring the protection and safety of the public. Police gives paramount importance to prevent crimes and ensuring public security. In order to prevent crime and to protect women and the

vulnerable people found in danger, a Police help line will be set up for quick police assistance. Police force will be modernized to cater the above needs. **Janamaitthri Police System** will be strengthened. Time bound follow up action will be taken on the complaints received from women, the aged and the SC/ST population. Action taken on the complaints filed by them will be published in every three months. '**Rapid Response Teams**' will be set up at Kozhikkode, Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram cities to prevent atrocities against women.

320. Police Stations will be made women-friendly to prevent atrocities against women and activities to create awareness on legal protection available for women and children will be intensified. Community Police Resource Centres, Tourist Safety Centres, and Elderly Protection Centres will be set up to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Police force. An amount of ₹ 25 crore is set apart for the construction of refreshment rooms for Policemen.
321. Crime Investigation System will be modernized on the lines of guidelines to be prepared by technical experts. Apart from providing better technology and special training, State Investigation Unit will be set up for the investigation of complex cases.

322. New buildings will be constructed for the police stations which are now functioning in rented building, subject to availability of land.
323. Cyber crimes are alarmingly increasing in Kerala, parallel to the widespread use of mobile phone, internet, etc. Social awareness programmes against this social evil will be conducted with the co-operation of IT @ school, IT Mission and C-DIT. An amount of ₹ 46 crore is provided for the above said activities including modernisation of Police force.

PRISONS

324. As part of modernization of jail system, organic gas plant, rain water storage tank and CCTV surveillance system will be set up in prisons. Dairy farms will be established in Viyyur Women's Prison and in District Prison, Kozhikkode. FM Radios and TV will be provided in jails to reduce stress among prisoners.
325. Employment skill development of the prisoners will be taken up in co-operation with IT and Technical Education Departments.
326. Special placement cells will be organized in jails to find out suitable jobs to prisoners after their release from jails. For the life security of the prisoners a Prisoners Benevolent Fund will be set up, for which ₹ 15 lakh is provided.
327. An amount of ₹ 16.85 crore is earmarked for the activities of Jail Department during next year.

FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

328. As part of strengthening of Fire and Rescue services, all vehicles more than 7 years old will be replaced by new ones within three years. With the help of experts a programme for the modernization of Fire and Rescue Department will be prepared. Taking into account of the growing number of multi storied buildings, sophisticated equipments like *sky lift* are necessary for the Department. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is earmarked for this. Besides, a special 'city fire safety scheme' will be implemented with the co-operation of LSGIs, builders and other stake holders.

FINANCE

329. Inter-connectivity among treasuries will be established to facilitate financial transaction from any treasury in the State through core banking. Treasury system will be modernised so as to facilitate quick and convenient transactions relating to payment of tax, service benefit of the employees, social welfare pensions etc. This will improve quality and transparency in Government transactions.
330. Activities of the training centre under Finance Department will be expanded and re-organised as **Centre for Training in Financial Management (CTFM)**.
331. A new sub-treasury will be opened at Muthukulam in Alappuzha district.

332. Kerala Financial Corporation is providing valuable services for the promotion of Industries in Kerala. During 2012-13, 2000 new ventures will be started under Self Entrepreneur Mission. An amount of ₹ 25 crore is earmarked for payment of interest subsidy under the scheme.
333. KFC aims to ensure 25% growth in construction, hospitality and tourism sector in next financial year. Bonds will be issued to mobilize resource for this.
334. The KSFE has emerged as the largest financial institution under Government of Kerala. The demand for new branches of the KSFE has been coming up from various parts of the State. This can be considered as a sign of trust of people in KSFE. The activities of the KSFE will be extended by opening 100 new main branches this year. Besides, 100 Special Gold Loan branches will also be opened targeting an additional business of ₹ 150 crore through Gold Loans.
335. An amount of ₹ 10 crore will be set apart for providing loans to purchase of eco-friendly and energy saving equipments.
336. ₹10 crore will be disbursed as loan to assist those who wish to join the Skill Development courses.
337. The rising expense on education of children is a burning issue for parents. The KSFE will formulate an Educational Savings Scheme through the amount collected through small savings of parents.

LAW

338. Taking a cue from National Litigation Policy, a State litigation Policy will be formulated for the speedy and transparent disposal of cases in which Government is a party so that the financial loss to State exchequer and litigants can be reduced to the maximum extent possible. By the implementation of this scheme, all the cases involving Government as a party can be disposed off within a maximum period of 3 years.
339. 'Grama Nyayalayas' will be started at block level as part of providing justice at the door steps of people. By doing so, trivial cases can be disposed off quickly.
340. Steps will be taken for the publication of the Malayalam versions of Central Acts and Rules.
341. The contribution made out of the legal benefit Fund for providing pension to advocate clerks will be increased from 20% to 30%. The time limit for the payment of dues will be extended for those advocate clerks who defaulted payment.

LOTTERIES

342. Kerala State Lottery provides livelihood to around 1.5 lakh agents and workers
343. The annual sales income from State lotteries has now increased to ₹ 1200 crore against last year's sales of ₹ 557 crore following firm steps taken by Government against lottery mafia

of other States. Lottery monitoring cells have been reconstituted and district level monitoring cells formed under the leadership of District Collectors.

344. By taking stern action against lottery mafia and adopting modern marketing strategies and technologies, Government was able to revalutionalise the lottery sector. By eradicating the lottery mafia and streamlining the activities of the Lotteries Department, Government facilitated around 2 lakh lottery agents and sellers to earn income to the tune of ₹ 400 crore annually by way of commission. By these actions the Government could give a new hope to the poor people in the sector.

DEVASWOM

345. A safety manual was prepared and enforced to avoid recurrence of tragedies like the one happened at Pullumedu in Sabarimala . Road transport facility will be developed through Vandipperiyar - Sathram mount Estate road in view of the ban on road transport through Pullumedu.
346. A good number of pilgrims reach Sabarimala from Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. A meeting of the Devaswom Ministers of these States was held in October at Kottayam to formulate a scheme for ensuring the safety and other amenities to pilgrims from other States. As decided in the

meeting, an inter-state council will be formed to monitor the activities.

347. In the previous budget speech, I have mentioned about the setting up of Temple Arts Institute in association with Malabar Devaswom Board. This institute envisages imparting training on traditional art forms of Malabar region. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for its initial activities of the institute.
348. Taking into account of the economic backwardness and meagre income of Malabar Devaswom Board, the existing grant for the temples of Malabar will be increased by ₹ 2 crore.
349. An amount of ₹ 5 lakh is earmarked for 'Vaikkam Kshethra Kala Peedom'

FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

350. Being a food deficit State, public distribution system in Kerala has an important role in ensuring food security of its people. We have an effective and wide spread public distribution system compared to other States. Civil Supplies Corporation act as a solace to lakhs of public by supplying essential commodities at reasonable rates without compromising on quality.
351. I propose introduction of an integrated public distribution system based on bio-metric identity cards to ensure availability of all ration goods to deserving families and to prevent malpractices by retail and whole sale ration dealers.

352. I propose to distribute essential commodities through ration shops with a view to controlling price rise. New BPL cards will be issued to those who are enlisted in the BPL list of 2009 after excluding those who are ineligible.
353. A global positioning system will be introduced to prevent the black marketing of ration commodities. Besides, a vehicle tracking system will also be introduced to detect the vehicles diverting from the route to the destination. I set apart ₹ 1 crore for this purpose.
354. New hyper markets under aegis of Civil Supplies Corporation will be started at Thalassery, Kollam, Chavara and Thiruvalla. Mobile Maveli Stores will be extended to the rural areas of coastal and hilly areas. Premium retail outlets of Civil Supplies Corporation will start functioning in Kerala houses at New Delhi and Navi Mumbai. The operation and service of Civil Supplies Corporation will be extended to Gulf Countries also. A modern fueling station will start functioning at Vallarpadam Container Terminal.
355. In order to ensure the quality of food products and medicines, a Food Quality Monitoring Laboratory will be set up at a cost of ₹ 9.5 crore. I propose the establishment of a Quality control laboratory during 2012-13 for which ₹ 2.9 crore is set apart.
356. Government proposes to set up a mega food park under CFRD at Konni. With the establishment of the park, I expect about

100 modern food processing units will start functioning and thereby creating around 10000 job opportunities. An amount of ₹ 1.5 crore is earmarked for its activities during the year.

REGISTRATION

357. In order to centralize all registration related details of land, a new scheme will be introduced during 2012-13. The registration details kept in sub-registrar offices will be transferred at State Data Centre, Thiruvananthapuram through network system. E-payment system will be implemented through internet banking which will help the public to remit fees for various services provided by Registration Department. The grievances regarding the fair value of land will be settled jointly by Registration and Revenue Departments. The stamp duties will be revised rationally. 'Single window system' will be introduced in Registration Department to receive application from public and provide services within stipulated time.
358. It is intended to enforce e-stamping for registration of title deeds in Kerala by modifying the existing stamping system. With the introduction of e-stamping, title deed registration would become more transparent, consume less time and curtail the sale of bogus stamp papers. E-stamping facility will be implemented in selected centres without affecting the employment avenues of stamp vendors and ensuring required security.

NORKA

359. 'Pravasi Bharathiya Divas', an international conference of the Non-resident Indians, organised by the Union Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs every year on January 7,8 and 9 will be conducted in Kerala. This conference can contribute to rejuvenation of Kerala's economy and bring in more investments to the State. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for this purpose.
360. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is provided in the budget for setting up a business centre that would provide guidance for investment/industrial entrepreneur ships of the non-resident Indians.
361. 'Santhwanam' is a scheme that provides medical aid, marriage assistance and assistance on death, to non-resident Keralities found in financial difficulties and their families. The maximum assistance under this scheme will be raised to ₹ 20,000/- from ₹ 10,000/-. An amount of ₹ 1.5 crore is provided in the budget for this purpose.
362. The 'Swapna Saphalyam Scheme' envisages to bring those jailed abroad for various reasons by back home. This will be implemented with the co-operation and assistance of Malayali industrialists in Saudi Arabia. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for this scheme. Which will be extended to all gulf countries from 2013 onwards.

EXCISE

363. An awareness campaign aimed at 'Liquor Free Kerala' will be organised in school and college campuses. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for this programme. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh will be provided to Excise Academy, Thrissur to arrange modern training facilities. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for the renovation of office buildings of the Excise Department.

IV. ADDITIONAL RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

REVENUE

364. The rate of land tax in Kerala was fixed seventeen years back and is below one rupee only. It is high time to enhance the rate a little bit as a measure to collect the same. Therefore the rate of existing land tax rate will be doubled.

REGISTRATION

365. Registration fee will be levied at the rate of 2 percentage of the stamp duty for the Power of Attorneys for sale of immovable properties executed in favour of persons other than family members.
366. The disparity in levying stamp duty for Partition, Release, Gift and Settlement deeds among family members will be rectified by amending the relevant provisions in the Kerala Stamp Act and the Registration fee for the above deeds will be unified.

367. The Registration fee and related fee for various services under the Indian Partnership Act will be enhanced.
368. The complaints on fixation of Fair Value of Land in Kerala will be got rectified through collective efforts of the Revenue and Registration Departments in a time-bound manner and steps will be taken for rationalisation of rates of stamp duty.

MOTOR VEHICLES

369. At present, the road tax in respect of motor cars and private service vehicles for personal use are based on the cubic capacity and purchase value of the vehicles. But, in our neighbouring states, the criterion is based only on purchase value of the vehicles, in different slabs. Considering this, with the objective to bringing uniformity with the neighbouring states in levying the road tax, I propose to reform the tax structure for motor cars and private service vehicles for personal use based on the purchase value, in the following manner:

Vehicles having purchase value upto ₹ 5 lakh	6% of purchase value
Vehicles having purchase value of more than ₹ 5 lakh and upto ₹ 10 lakh	8% of purchase value
Vehicles having purchase value of more than ₹ 10 lakh and upto ₹ 15 lakh	10% of purchase value
Vehicles having purchase value of more than ₹ 15 lakh	15% of purchase value

370. An additional revenue of ₹ 115 crore is expected from this measure. There is no change in the road tax rate applicable to motor cycles.

COMMERCIAL TAXES

371. Union Govt. had reduced the rates of Central Sales Tax, from 4% to 3% and later to 2%. The Centre had compensated the states, for the loss of revenue already sustained, on account of reduction of CST. The anticipated shortfall in revenue for the states on account of reduction in CST has been addressed by allowing the states to increase the rate of tax on goods in both the brackets of 4% and 12.5% by 1% as a part of the consensus that has emerged in the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers and the representatives of the Government of India. To facilitate the increase in the rates, the Central Government has increased the tax rates leviable on declared goods from 4% to 5%. Consequently almost all major States and the southern states in particular have increased the VAT Rates.
372. Apart from the above, the States have to be compensated by the Centre for any general loss of revenue, on account of introducing the Goods and Service Tax. The formula to be adopted for this purpose will take in to consideration the tax revenue of the past years in absolute terms and the rate of growth. In the circumstance, not increasing the rate of tax, would, in all probability reduce the compensation to our State in the future. Hence considering these aspects, it is proposed

to increase the general rates of VAT from 4% to 5% and that of 12.5% to 13.5%. I am very particular that this increase should not affect the common man. As such, I propose to reduce the tax on black gram, bengal gram, green gram, lobia, other pulses, chillies, coriander, edible oil, flour, maida and sooji from the existing 4% to 1% to bring it at par with rice and other essential food items. In addition, Social Security Cess of 1% on VAT, imposed at present, will be done away with. It gives me immense satisfaction to announce these substantial relief to common man, which was never there before. The additional revenue expected would be ₹ 1000 crore.

373. Considering the various health hazards posed by different tobacco products and the additional treatment expenses to be borne by the society resulting there from, it is proposed to increase the rate of tax on cigarettes and similar products, excluding beedies, from 12.5% to 15% and of other tobacco products like Panmasala, from 20% to 22.5%. The additional revenue on account of this will be ₹ 76 crores.
374. Disposal of plastic carry bags used in wrapping and packing of consumer goods has emerged as one of the major environmental problems, confronting Kerala. In order to discourage the use of plastic bags, I propose to increase the rate of tax from the existing 12.5% to 20%. At the same time to encourage the use of cloth bags in its place, I propose to exempt them from tax.

375. The present social security cess of 6% imposed on foreign liquor will be increased to 10%. ₹ 90 crore is expected from this measure.
376. The compounded tax on medicines will be amended and aligned with the new schedule rate.
377. In the circumstances of increase in the rate of tax of crusher metal to 13.5% it is proposed make appropriate changes in the compounded tax payable by this sector. Based on the jaw size of the crushers, the tax rates will be increased, as under.

Single crushers below the jaw size 30.48 cm x 22.86 cm	increase from ₹ 25,000 to ₹ 30,000.
Single crushers having jaw size between 30.48 cm x 22.86 cm and 40.46 cm x 25.46 cm	increase from ₹ 1,00,000 to ₹ 1,20,000
General Crushers having jaw size between 30.48 cm x 22.86 cm and 40.46 cm x 25.46 cm	increase from ₹ 1,40,000 to ₹ 1,60,000
Crushers with jaw sizes above the aforesaid dimensions.	increase from ₹ 2,80,000 to ₹ 3,20,000
Cone crushers	increase from ₹ 15 lakhs to ₹ 18 lakhs.

CONCESSIONS

378. Cattle feeds are generally exempted from tax. But tamarind seed powder which is mainly used as cattle feed is subjected to tax of 4% at present. In order to promote milk production, I propose to exempt tamarind seed powder from tax.
379. Presently, food items in airtight containers, sold under registered trade mark are subjected to tax at the rate of 12.5%. Enterprises producing value added ethnic foods of Kerala such as banana chips, tapioca chips, jackfruit chips, chukkucoffee powder etc. have to be promoted. I propose to reduce the rate of tax on such items from the existing 12.5% to 5%.
380. Kerala has immense scope in honey cultivation. Honey, honey bee box and accessories are presently taxed at 4%. It has been a long standing demand of the farmers and other stake holders to exempt these from tax. Hence, honey, honey bee box and accessories will be exempted from tax.
381. All artificial human implants are generally exempt from tax. But implants like intraocular lens, heart valves and cardiac stents etc. are presently liable to tax. To give some relief to the common man from treatment expenses which are already high, I propose to exempt these items from tax.
382. Ayurveda sector has been identified as one of our traditional strong holds and its promotion is one of the priority

development agendas of the State. It is also the main driving force of the growth in our tourism sector. Certain Ayurvedic products manufactured under drug license are taxed at 12.5% classifying them as cosmetics. To encourage the ayurveda sector and to promote tourism, I propose to reduce the tax rate of these items to 5%.

383. Presently, Halls and Auditoriums situated within the premises of place of worship are exempted from payment of luxury tax. As a measure of further relief, provision for registration of these entities under Kerala Luxury Tax Act is dispensed with.
384. There have been demands to exempt hospital pharmacies from registration procedures and purchase of medicines for patients, from VAT. Though there is legal impediment in granting exemption from registration, the fact is that these pharmacies have no tax liability if they had purchased medicines from wholesalers who had remitted tax as per the compounded system. These medicines sales will be exempted from further assessments up to 31-3-2012.
385. Being a healthy drink, consumption and marketing of tender coconut water has to be promoted. The tax rate of packaged tender coconut water will be reduced from 12.5% to 5%.
386. For the promotion of development of innovative methods in waste management, the tax rate of electronic toilet will be reduced to 5%.

387. The tax rate on cradles will be reduced to 5%.
388. Tax concessions granted last year to central police canteen will be extended to the 14 subsidiary institutions in the districts being established by Kerala Police under the aegis of Central Police Canteen. The loss of revenue on this account is expected to be ₹ 100 crore.

SIMPLIFICATION OF PROCEDURES

389. Certain practical difficulties exist in the Act, for the continuance of input tax credit to the inheritors of the business, on the death of the sole proprietor. The present provision requires them to take out fresh registration in order to continue business. Necessary amendment will be made in the Act to facilitate the continuance of input tax credit, in these cases.
390. Amendments would be made in the Act to grant retrospective effect from 1.4.05, regarding the law brought in to grant the benefit of input tax credit to small dealers, who had continued business above the presumptive tax limit.
391. The time limit for completion of all assessments, re-assessments and remanded assessments under KGST and KVAT Acts, pending from 31-3-2011, will be extended up to 31-3-2013.

392. A new provision will be made in the Act to facilitate the assessments done based on the audit objections by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, whereby it will be mandated that such assessments shall be made only after hearing the dealer.
393. Provisions would be made in the KVAT Act and KGST Act to facilitate e-filing of documents and forms through the official website of Commercial Taxes Department and the powers will be delegated to the Commissioner to make necessary changes in the forms and procedures to suit electronic filing.
394. The trade sector has raised complaints that the processing of the refund applications submitted by them are being inordinately delayed. It would be prescribed that the refund application should be disposed off by the authority within two months from the date of submission. It will be mandated that delay in disposing off the application beyond the prescribed period can only be condoned by the Deputy Commissioner for reasons to be stated in writing.
395. In order to ensure the authentication of the data submitted to the Department, dealers will be provided with Digital Signatures at a nominal cost.
396. Necessary amendments will be made in the Kerala Value Added Tax Act 2003 to include the concept of limited liability partnership.

397. Steps will be taken, for detecting and taking action on modern technology aided tax evasion techniques and also to modernize and improve the efficiency of the department. As a part of this, Economic Intelligence Wing will be set up in the Taxes Department.
398. A cyber forensic lab to detect electronic malpractices like parallel billing software, bogus transactions etc. will be setup with an outlay of ₹ 2 crores.
399. Infrastructure facility will be expanded with additional office blocks in Ernakulam, Palakkad and Kottayam and a new office complex at Wayanad. ₹ 3 crore is provided for this purpose.
400. As a first step towards the modernization of check posts by incorporating the functions of various departments, an integrated checkpost started functioning at Amaravila on 1-9-2011. Action will be initiated for model reform and modernization programmes of the checkposts by removing the archaic systems, installing modern infrastructure like weigh bridges, CCTVs and facilities for conducting joint inspections by departments.
401. Sir, ₹ 3 crore will be allotted for establishing an integrated checkpost at Manjeswaram on the land already acquired for the purpose. ₹ 15 crores is allotted for changing the present checkpost and establishing integrated check post in its places with weigh bridges at Muthanga, Vazhikkadavu and Aryankavu. ₹ 1.5 core will be allotted for installing weighing machines and

connected facilities at Perla, Combummettu and Bodimettu. For the purchase of mobile weigh bridge on an experimental basis, ₹ 30 lakhs will be set apart.

402. The act for the protection of the interest of the depositors with a provision for the attachment and sale of properties of the individual/establishments who defraud the public and distribute the proceeds to depositors will be implemented. The special courts will also be established to try such criminal offences. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this purpose.

V. CONCLUSION

403. Sir, as per the budget estimates in the Union Budget presented on 16-3-2012, the state's share of Centre Tax will be less by ₹ 187 crore during the current year and ₹ 21 crore in the next year than that was anticipated. I may inform the house that due to this changed situation, the corresponding changes will be reflected in the estimates presented by me in the house. Consequent on this, the Revenue Deficit and Fiscal Deficit during the current year which are estimated at 1.67% and 3.46% respectively would rise to 1.73% and 3.50% respectively. Upon reclassifying the grants given for creation of assets as Capital Expenditure, the Effective Revenue Deficit would be 0.89% only which is well below the level of 1.4% prescribed by 13th Finance Commission.

404. Sir, frankly speaking, the achievements of my Government in the fields of development, administration and financial management are gratifying.
405. This Government has chosen to implement an Annual Plan which is larger by ₹ 980 crore than the one approved by the LDF Government. I firmly believe that full utilisation of the plan allocation of ₹ 12010 crore will be possible this year.
406. Let me now present the abstracts of the Revised Estimates for 2011-12 and Budget Estimates for 2012-13.

Revised Estimates for 2011-12 (Rupees in crore)

Revenue Receipts	-	39401.23
Revenue Expenditure	-	45059.51
<i>Of which</i>		
Grants for creation of assets	-	2745.08
Revenue Deficit	-	(-) 5658.28
Effective Revenue Deficit	-	(-) 2913.20
Capital Expenditure	-	4929.15
Loans and Advances (Net)	-	(-)899.26
Public Debt (Net)	-	8062.45
Public Account (Net)	-	2760.14
Overall Deficit	-	(-) 664.10
Carry over surplus	-	58.88
Cumulative Deficit	-	(-) 605.22

Budget Estimates for 2012-13 (Rupees in crore)

Revenue Receipts	-	48120.34
Revenue Expenditure	-	51605.36
<i>Of which</i>		
Grants for creation of assets	-	3274.26
Revenue Deficit	-	(-) 3485.02
Effective Revenue Deficit	-	(-) 210.76
Capital Expenditure	-	6534.88
Loans and Advances (Net)	-	(-) 728.14
Public Debt(Net)	-	10815.76
Public Account(Net)	-	176.26
Overall Surplus	-	243.98
Carry over Deficit	-	(-) 605.22
Cumulative Deficit	-	(-) 361.24
Additional Expenditure now Announced	-	1118.66
Concessions Announced	-	321.40
Additional Resources Mobilisation	-	1512.05
overall Surplus or Deficit	-	(-)289.25

407. **Speaker Sir,** The task I had to perform was very difficult. Still I am extremely happy and proud to end up next fiscal year with Revenue Deficit and Fiscal Deficit within the limits prescribed by the 13th Finance Commission even after honouring the additional financial commitments inherited from the previous LDF Government and finding the resources for the mega projects approved in the revised budget. This was done by curtailing non-developmental expenditure and through additional resource mobilization, despite the global economic recession.

408. Sir, I am very optimistic. The background has been set. What is required now is unity and determination. We can join hands for the development of the state irrespective of the political differences.
409. I may now conclude my speech recollecting the noble thoughts of Edassery, the dear poet of Malayalam on development of Kerala.
410. In his poem, "*Vikasikkuka*", the poet urges us to forget the differences and work in unison for the development of Kerala. He reminds us to use our abilities for the formation of a new Kerala, instead of quarreling.

"വീരതയിനി മേൽ സൃഷ്ടിക്കത്രേ
 കൊത്തിനൂറുകൊനല്ല, വിസ്തൃത
 ഭാരതഭൂവിനൊരനുബന്ധം മഴു-
 വാലല്ലിവിടെ മെനഞ്ഞീടുന്നു
 കേരളമേ, വികസിക്കുക നീ പുതു-
 തായൊരു ജീവിതമാധുര്യത്തെ-
 പ്ലാരിനു നൽകാൻ....."

411. Sir, I too reiterate the exhortation of the poet.

Let us move united, untiringly, steadily and with confidence,
 towards comprehensive development of Kerala.

JAI HIND

