



Government of Assam



ASSAM BUDGET 2023-2024

SPEECH OF

SMTI. AJANTA NEOG

FINANCE MINISTER, ASSAM

16th March, 2023

Speaker Sir,

Bowing before this August Assembly, I am now going to present the Budget for the Financial year 2023-24

1. Before tabling this Budget, I would like to re-iterate the aim and objectives of our government through the definition of development by famous economist Mr. Dudley Seers - “*Development is when a country experiences a reduction or elimination of Poverty, Inequality and Unemployment*”. I firmly believe that the Budget being presenting today will reflect our government’s commitment to such inclusive and holistic development.
2. Assuming power on 10th May 2021, our government has been making sincere efforts to bring Assam to the path of resurgence. In our endeavour, Hon’ble Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi ji has been a profound source of inspiration. Hon’ble Prime Minister believes in the holistic development of our State and the region. He has termed Northeast India as the “New Engine of India’s Growth” and the eight states as ‘*Astalakshmi*’ of the country. We share the strong vision of the Hon’ble Prime Minister and solemnly pledge to take his vision further for the growth and development of Assam.
3. I would also like to express my gratitude to our Hon’ble Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah ji for his relentless efforts in working towards making the Northeast peaceful as well as resolving the inter -State border issues amicably. Further, I would like to thank our Hon’ble Union Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman ji for her continued support in the last 22 months in strengthening the overall economy of our state.
4. Sir, we all are well aware that our country has stepped into the *Amrit Kaal* and accordingly our Hon’ble Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma *Dangoriya* has set a vision of transforming Assam into one of the top 5 states of our country by pursuing sacred resolve of our Hon’ble Prime Minister. Speaker Sir, under the able leadership of our dynamic Chief Minister, we all have witnessed a renewed work culture in our

State, which has enthused “Team Assam” with a new zeal to realise the dream of self-reliant Assam. Further, I must take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to our Hon’ble Chief Minister, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma *Dangoriya* who, by honouring the aspirations of the people of the state each and every moment, is leading from the front for bringing about the all-round development of the state and to strengthen and make the administrative system more dynamic.

5. I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to the people of Assam for having faith in our government and in our efforts in taking forward Assam on the path of progress. I am hopeful that the people of Assam would continue to shower their love and blessings on us in the future as well.
6. As I rise to present my third budget, I take the privilege to apprise the members of this August House of many important developments that have taken place. I will start with the latest:
 - We take great pride in sharing that we recently celebrated 400th birth anniversary of our hero - *Lachit Barphukan*. Speaker Sir, the celebrations – from our villages to the national capital New Delhi – has been grand and spectacular. The celebrations culminated in an event in New Delhi where the Hon’ble Prime Minister, Hon’ble Union Home Minister, and Hon’ble Union Finance Minister of India graced the occasion and paid their rich tributes.
 - It is also a matter of pride that Assam gets Guinness World Records feat for Largest Online Photo Album of Handwritten Notes category for having received over 42.94 lakhs write ups on Lachit Barphukan. In this connection, Certificate of Record has been handed to our Government by the Guinness World Records Limited, UK on 9th March 2023.
 - Our government has made a successful attempt of taking Charaideo *Maidams* to the coveted UNESCO World Heritage Site status. It is a matter of pride and jubilation that the Charaideo *maidams*, which was India’s sole nomination this year, have met all technical requirements

of the UNESCO Secretariat. I express my gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji for the nomination of Charaideo *maidams* to UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.

- *Bihu* is the most important festival of Assam, which revolves round the seasons of the year. The songs, music and dance associated with Bihu are indeed rich cultural elements evolved since antiquity. For taking Assam's pride *Bihu* to the global landscape and register it in the Guinness World Records, a mega *Bihu* dance performance by more than 10,000 performers will be held on April 14 this at Sarusajai Sports Complex. Hon'ble Prime Minister has already given consent to witness this magnificent event.

Building a strong foundation for a Resurgent Assam

7. Speaker Sir, the Budget I am going to present today, is about consolidation. This budget is also about expansion. While these two words may sound contradictory, there remains an inherent philosophy though. By consolidation, we mean consolidating the gains of important schemes so that they are strongly firmed up on ground. At the same time, we are also expanding the salient features of some of the schemes to ensure larger benefits.
8. I propose to highlight some of the schemes which have been consolidated laying a strong foundation for Resurgent Assam.

Fiscal consolidation

9. Speaker Sir, with sustained efforts of our Government, the financial position of the state has improved considerably. Our Government is confident of scripting new history this year with GSDP touching around Rs 5.50 lakh cr in 2023-24, as against Rs 3.93 lakh cr in 2021-22. The per capita income of the State has also grown commensurately.

Financial consolidation

10. Speaker Sir, the rising GDP has been a reflection of our economic and financial growth. One of the major contributors of

this rising trend is the budgetary outlays and enhanced expenditures in recent years. Last year, we crossed Rs 1 lakh cr mark. This year in 2022-23, we hope to go even higher and achieve a figure of Rs 1.20 lakh cr. Speaker Sir, such governmental spending in critical sectors has revolutionized the economic outlook of the State.

11. Credit Deposit ratio, indicating extension of credit to different sectors has also increased from 50.7 per cent in March, 2020 to 57.5 per cent as on December, 2022.

Consolidation of the farm sector

12. The state government rolled out paddy procurement drive in 2021-22, which has benefited 43,978 farmers in the State and they earned around Rs 1097 cr. With increased MSP of Rs 2040 per quintal, we have a target to procure 10 lakh MT of paddy by the end of the current Kharif Marketing season this year. In comparison to total procurement of 98,335 MT as on 15th March 2022, Sir, more than 3.43 lakh MT of paddy has been procured till yesterday in this year.

Digital transformation in the Government

13. Speaker Sir, with an aim to ensure quality, time bound and transparent citizen centric schemes, the state government has launched many initiatives.
14. Mission *Sadbhavana* was launched by my Government in Assam Secretariat to dispose of old files submitted before 10th May 2021 where decisions were pending for years. In addition, an era of paperless governance was launched by completion of e-office in Secretariat.
15. Transport Department has taken up initiatives like contactless services (some in auto-approval mode), empowering automobile dealers to register vehicles and issue Registration Certificates. Through use of e-GRAS 98% of the total government receipts are being collected through online mode. EODB portal has been assisting users / investors in issuing online NOC / permission, by having key departments onboarded. Under Mission *Bhumiputra*, all the caste certificates are being issued online

without applicants having to visit any office physically. The list goes on.

16. Speaker Sir, performance in Ease of Doing Business has improved with the state placed in Aspirers Category.

Consolidation of infrastructure-led growth

17. From May 2021 onwards, Assam's ambitious reform agenda has generated a renewed thrust in the Externally Aided Project sector resulting in 15 EAPs under execution with a total involvement of Rs 31,126 cr. There are projects in critical sectors like Finance, Transport, Public Service delivery, Road & Bridge Infrastructure, Agriculture, Environment & Forest, Water Supply & Sewerage, Power, Skill development etc. In addition, there are 11 pipeline EAPs with an estimated amount of Rs 31,212 cr approved for implementation by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Government of India, reflecting the continuous effort by the Government to pursue developmental projects and the support received from the Government of India for the State's welfare.
18. Some of the key EAPs are listed below:
 - Assam Intrastate Transmission enhancement project of Rs 4510 Cr
 - Assam Disaster Resilient Hill Area Road Development Project of Rs 3875 Cr in Dima Hasao district. This project was undertaken after massive floods in the district.
 - Assam Inland water transport project of about Rs 770 Cr, for construction of terminals at Guwahati gateway ghat and 4 others at North Guwahati to Umananda sector and Nemati in Jorhat to Aphlamukh sector in Majuli and many other major activities
 - Assam Integrated River Basin Management Project of about Rs 1123 Cr, for Beki and Buridehing Riverbank Protection works
 - 120 MW Lower Kopili hydroelectric project at a project cost of Rs 2197 Cr
 - Assam Distribution System enhancement and loss reduction project of Rs 3284 Cr

Tourism potential: our true opportunity and its gradual consolidation

19. Tourism sector in the State has witnessed significant growth and attention during 2022-23. The sector recorded significant growth in respect of domestic and foreign tourists inflow in 2022-23. New Tourism Policy, 2022 has been prepared to promote the sector further. To promote private investments in the tourism sector in places like Kaziranga, Manas etc., government has given nod to sign agreement for mega hospitality projects with major hospitality groups. Assam is one of the few states in India to grant industry status to tourism.

Government jobs and our promises

20. The state government came into power with a promise to providing 1 lakh jobs to youth in government sector. The government since 10th May 2021 has given appointment to 41,920 candidates in government sector. Moreover, process is underway for another round of appointments for 40,000 in different posts of the State Government. The remaining ones will also get completed soon.

***Orunodoi*: A real dawn**

21. *Orunodoi* scheme launched by the state government has been a great help for millions in the state to fight against poverty. Under this scheme, the monthly benefits have been increased from Rs 1000 to Rs 1250 from October 2022 benefitting more than 17 lakh households. The state Government rolled out "*Orunodoi* 2.0" on 14th December, 2022 with a very inclusive set of guidelines. *Orunodoi* has fast become one of the most popular DBT schemes in the country providing the necessary support to the beneficiaries.

Catering to the basic needs

22. The state has sanctioned PMAY-G house to 17,09,626 beneficiaries, out of which 7,15,618 houses have already been completed. Moreover, the state Government is providing additional facilities of drinking water connection under *Jal Jeevan* Mission, electricity connection under *Saubhagya* scheme, gas connection under *Ujjwala* scheme etc. to the beneficiaries.

Health for All

23. The state Government has given a big impetus in the Health sector with major emphasis on setting up new medical infrastructure with a goal to make the State a Medical Hub for North Eastern region by 2026. Tinsukia Medical College is at advance stages of construction. Construction of two new ones at Charaideo and Biswanath have already started and construction of Pragyotishpur Medical College at Guwahati and MMCH Hospital have already made good progress, so far. Further, foundation stone for five new Medical Colleges at Dhemaji, Tamulpur, Goalghat, Bongaigaon and Morigaon have been laid recently. Establishment of Super speciality wing at existing 6 Medical Colleges and infrastructure improvement of 6 District Hospitals and Swasthya Bhawan at Guwahati have been taken up.

Transformation through Transportation

24. The road network in Assam is getting strengthened and upgraded with the initiative of our Government under the "*Asom Mala*" programme. 18 works of length 343 km were taken up under its SOPD component for upgradation. The Extradosed PSC Bridge over River Brahmaputra connecting Guwahati and North Guwahati has achieved 66% Physical progress till date. Another major bridge over river Brahmaputra connecting Palashbari with Sualkuchi has also been sanctioned for an amount of Rs 3197.20 cr and work is going to start very soon. The elevated road project on R.G. Barua Road and AT Road at Maligaon have progressed 40% and 58% respectively. This will, to a great extent, realize our Prime Minister's dream of Transformation through Transportation.

Education for All

25. Keeping in tune with the National Education Policy,2020 the state Government had upgraded 214 High Schools to Higher Secondary Schools with a target to upgrade another 716 Schools to Secondary Schools. The Government has also approved the integration of three years in *Anganwadi* with two years in Lower primary Schools named as five class *Buniyaadi Siksha*. The state Government, for the first time after 75 years of India's

Independence, took steps for setting up of 119 Model High Schools. Out of this, 97 Schools are functioning from the academic session 2022-23. Hon'ble President of India had laid the foundation stone of another 100 Tea garden Model Schools in the State. We also conducted *Gunotsav* in 3-phases from 18th January – 18th February 2023, wherein 44,531 schools and 41,28,091 students participated

26. During the financial year 2021-22, under *Pragyan Bharati* Scheme, the state Government has released an amount of Rs 8171.47 lakh for fee waiver to 3,57,903 nos. of BPL students. An amount of Rs 3542.41 lakh has been released for free Text Books to UG level students benefitting 3,54,241 nos. of students.
27. Providing much needed impetus to technical education, construction of 6 Engineering Colleges at Bongaigaon, Behali, Sualkuchi, Nalbari, Nagaon and Udalguri are making rapid strides. Construction work of another 8 new Polytechnics is also making quick progress

Skilled Assam

28. In order to create industry-ready skilled personnel and entrepreneurs, the state government in collaboration with Tata Technologies Private Limited is working to transform the Industrial Training Institute (ITIS) and Polytechnics in the State as *Centres of Excellence*. 77 nos of ITIs and Polytechnics to be upgraded at a total cost of Rs 367 cr for skilling the youth of Assam. North East Skill Centre is established in collaboration with ITE Education Services (ITEES), Singapore. Further, setting up of the Skill University at Mangaldai with project cost of Rs 1016 cr is under progress. Skilling of youth will boost our efforts to build a self-reliant Assam.

Ushering an Era of Peace

29. Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 which was in force for the last 3 decades was withdrawn from 24 districts and 1 subdivision of Assam w.e.f. 1st April 2022, indicating the return of an era of growth and development in the state.
30. Our government waged a full-scale war on the drug menace, which was stealing our young people's future. As on 2nd March, 2023, 5191 cases have been registered under NDPS Act and 8632 drug traffickers have been arrested. 221 kg of Heroin, 67,864 kg of *Ganja* and 3317 Kg of Poppy straw, etc. have been seized during tenure of this Government. Moreover, till 31st December, 2022, 203 cases of human trafficking have been registered, 173 human traffickers have been arrested and 358 victims have been rescued.
31. Further, Assam has for the first time in recent history recorded Zero poaching of the Rhinos in the Year 2022.
32. Before we get into our flagship schemes, let us look into a brief analysis of the Economic Outlook of the State.

Economic Outlook:

33. Speaker Sir, Global growth is projected to fall from an estimated 3.4 percent in 2022 to 2.9 percent in 2023, then rise to 3.1 percent in 2024¹. The rise in central bank rates to fight inflation and Russia's war in Ukraine continue to weigh on economic activity. The rapid spread of COVID-19 in China dampened growth in 2022, but the recent reopening has paved the way for a faster-than-expected recovery. Global inflation is expected to fall from 8.8 percent in 2022 to 6.6 percent in 2023 and 4.3 percent in 2024.

Resilient India amidst multiple challenges

34. Speaker Sir, despite strong global headwinds and tighter domestic monetary policy, India in its 75th year of Independence, has become the world's fifth largest economy at

¹ World Economic Outlook (WEO) Update ,January 2023

current prices and exchanges rates. This has been possible due to policies pursued carefully and consciously which have ensured that the post pandemic recovery is robust and sustainable. As per the World Economic Outlook (October 2022, IMF) estimates, the Indian economy continues to be one of the fastest-growing major economies in FY 2022-23, which is a reflection of India's underlying economic resilience. As per the First Advance Estimates (FAE) of National Income, 2022-23, India's Real GDP is projected to grow by 7 per cent in FY 2022-23.

Resurgent Assam:

35. During the period of FY 2017-18 to FY 2021-22, Assam achieved an annual average growth rate of 10.25 per cent in terms of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at current prices. This is one of the fastest growth amongst states of India, despite the state facing COVID-19 pandemic along with the rest of country and the world.
36. Speaker Sir, it is praiseworthy to note that capital expenditure has seen a major boost under our Government. In FY 2015-16, the capital expenditure was Rs 2951 cr only, which has increased to Rs 20,299 cr in FY 2021-22. This is almost a seven-fold increase in the capital expenditure in last six years.
37. Our Government has implemented a number of reform initiatives in finance sector for ensuring transparency and accountability which has played a key role in significant growth of revenue collection. Today our own revenue has increased to about Rs 3,500 cr per month, which is sufficient to pay salary to government employees from its own source.
38. Sir, as you know we started the concept of *Ashtadash Mukutar Unnoyonee Mala* in the year 2017-18. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma *Dangoriya* as the then Hon'ble Finance Minister had started the concept of 18 schemes inspired by the 18 chapters of the *Bhagvad Gita*. These 18 Flagship Schemes indicate priorities of our Government for a particular year. While some of the schemes continue from previous years with renewed vigour, many are new ones.

39. This year, we have initiated the process of consolidation by setting vision for each department by identifying few focus areas. After in-depth analysis of our schemes and deliberations, learnings from Chief Minister's conclave, Conference of Chief Secretaries, *Chintan Shibir* at the state-level and central-level; by proactively collecting feedback from people and other stakeholders over social-media and through many interactions at grass-root level, this year, I would like to announce the following schemes under *Ashtadash Mukutar Unnoyonee Maala* :

I. Mukhya Mantri Sva-Niyojan Mission

40. Speaker Sir, with an intent to create self-employment in the private sector, which has a catalytic effect in creation of many more indirect jobs, our Government proposes to implement a scheme *to promote micro-entrepreneurs for creating self-employment opportunities among the un-employed youths belonging to BPL families and low-income households.*
41. Income generating activities such as Trading, Manufacturing, Service, Food processing, Handloom, Handicraft, Agriculture and allied- Animal Husbandry, Fishery and Dairy will be supported under this scheme.
42. We propose to cover one lakh eligible beneficiaries, who will be provided with a one-time Seed Capital of Rs 2 lakh in tranches for starting micro-enterprise units in the next three years. This amount may be suitably increased with bank linkage wherever feasible. The entrepreneurs who have already availed credit linkage under SVAYEM and are continuing their activities successfully, will be given preference in this scheme
43. Sir, besides this, our government proposes to cover another one lakh entrepreneur-youths who will be provided project-based subsidy in defined projects, targeting the MSME and other segments.

44. The total investment under this initiative, thus will be Rs 5000 cr over the next three years with a potential to transform over two lakh unemployed youths into job creators.
45. I am allocating Rs 1000 cr in this budget.

II. One lakh jobs

46. With great satisfaction, I would like to inform this August House that our government already provided employment to about 42,000 youths across various departments. Further, with the completion of two years of our Government, the recruitment of another 40,000 candidates will be completed by 10th May, 2023. Remaining, about 18,000 are at various stages of recruitment and this will also be completed very soon.
47. Our Government will bring legislation this year to ensure mobility of Government personnel from one department to another to ensure optimum utilization of available man power and bring in many efficiencies in the governmental system. Though the employee will continue to be on pay roll of his department, his services can be effectively utilized by other.

III. Assam Micro-Finance Incentive and Relief Scheme (AMFIRS):

48. Speaker Sir, the present Government under the able leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma *Dangoriya*, formulated the Assam Microfinance Incentive and Relief Scheme (AFMIRS), 2021.
49. It gives me immense pleasure to apprise this House that fulfilling our promise, under Category I and II of the Scheme, around 10 lakh borrowers have been provided assistance worth Rs 1,789 cr. This has also helped them in improving their creditworthiness.
50. Sir, in this budget we want to support the stressed and destitute women borrowers, whose accounts have become Non Performing Assets, as on 31st March 2021. Our Government will

prioritize this year, those who have borrowed up to Rs 25,000 only. This will benefit lakhs of debt ridden women borrowers who will be able to access credit again from formal sources. Eventually, the borrowers under the loan bracket from Rs 25,000 upwards will be extended the benefits, depending upon the resource position of the State.

51. I am earmarking a sum of Rs 500 Cr accordingly for this initiative.

IV. *Daridrata Nivaran*

Speaker sir, the functioning of our government always reflects Mahatma Gandhiji's Talisman, "*Whenever you are in doubt, recall the face of the poorest and the weakest person, and ask yourself, will it restore him/her to control over his/her own life and destiny*". We have four pronged strategy for poverty alleviation.

a. *Orunodoi*

52. I have already delved into success of Orunodoi in above para and how it has emerged as one of our prime women centric flagship programs, with a committed transfer of Rs 1,250 to more than 17 lakh beneficiaries.
53. Sir, our Government is also fulfilling its promise to widen the base of *Orunodoi* and hence, new beneficiaries are already under the DLMC scrutiny process under *Orunodoi 2.0*. DCs will collect the affidavits from all the new beneficiaries regarding their eligibility under the defined criterion. Once the entire process is completed, addition of more than 10 lakh new beneficiaries will take the total coverage to 27.5 lakh under the scheme.
54. We are subsuming '*Indira Miri Universal Widow Pension Scheme*' and '*Deen Dayal Dibyangjan Pension Achoni*' into *Orunodoi*, following principle of 'one family – one scheme' to benefit the *Antyodaya* of the state. With this, beneficiaries of these two schemes, presently receiving 300 Rs and 1000 Rs respectively, will get Rs 1250 From 2023-24 onwards.

55. Sir, the effort of our Government is to further enhance *Orunodoi* entitlement by Rs 150, making it Rs 1400 per beneficiary per month by the end of this financial year.

56. I hereby earmark Rs 3420 Cr for this scheme.

b. Mukhya Mantri Ayushman Asom Yojana :

57. The health insurance scheme is a significant step towards achieving our long-term goal of ensuring that every citizen has access to affordable and quality healthcare. To fulfil this vision of our government, based on SECC- 2011 data, *Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana* is being implemented in Assam, under which 30 lakh families are entitled.

58. However, following the advice of the Central government, we have migrated to the National Food Security Act (NFSA) database. I am pleased to announce that, in order to give 100% coverage to these NFSA beneficiaries, our government is launching *Mukhya Mantri Ayushman Asom Yojana*. It will enable 27 lakh additional families of the state to avail Rs 5 lakh worth of cashless treatment, making it the biggest health insurance scheme in the country.

59. Whereas Atal Amrit Abhiyan was giving health assurance to individual beneficiaries, *Mukhya Mantri Ayushman Asom* will cover the entire family. To avoid duplicity, *Atal Amrit Abhiyan* will be discontinued.

60. A cashless card will be given to each eligible family to avail free treatment. Till these cards are made available to all the beneficiaries, ration cards will be accepted in the empanelled hospitals to avail the benefits.

61. I am allocating Rs 135 Cr for this scheme.

c. Ensuring Food security

62. Assam has onboarded in One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme since June, 2022.

63. The Government of Assam in its Cabinet meeting held on 7th Dec, 2022 has taken a decision to select 40 lakh new beneficiaries under NFSA and new Ration Cards will be issued accordingly. Necessary communication has already been made by the Government to the respective districts in this regard and the process of selection has already started.

64. I am earmarking Rs 404.94 Cr in the budget.

d. Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana: Housing for All

65. *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)* is an ambitious scheme aimed at providing affordable housing to the economically weaker sections of society and the lower-income groups.

66. More than 20 lakh houses have already been geo-tagged under PMAY, out of which 15.5 lakh households are eligible. We have received the sanction for 3.3 lakh houses till now from Government of India and we are expecting this number to increase in future.

67. “Housing for all” is a dream of our Hon’ble PM, Narendra Modi ji and to supplement his efforts, our government is launching *Mukhya Mantri Awaas Yojana*, with assistance of similar amount as of PMAY.

68. In the year 2023-24, 1 lakh beneficiaries will be covered under this scheme, and I am allocating Rs 800 Cr towards this.

V. Pragyan Bharati

69. In our state, over several decades, many high schools have come into existence through provincialization. Most of these schools lack requisite infrastructure. We have taken several initiatives to improve their conditions and today, we have attained certain standard therein. In the *Resurgent Assam*, education sector occupies a prime position and accordingly, there is a need to revamp school infrastructure and modernize it.

70. We plan to upgrade building infrastructure of around 500 High schools with Rs 5 cr per school. Rs 1 cr will be provided to 500 High Schools for furniture, smart classrooms, teaching learning

materials and sports infrastructure. Out of the target of 500 schools, 400 existing schools will be renovated and another 100 new schools will be built with state-of-the-art infrastructure as Model schools. I am earmarking Rs 2500 cr for this in the Budget.

71. Sir, with focus on improving the education infrastructure in our tea garden areas, another 100 new Tea garden High schools will be taken up this year.
72. To fund this, we will pool resources from various schemes; such as PM-DeVINE, RIDF, NESIDS and State Budget.
73. *Aarohan* scheme was launched to motivate students of Class IX and to generate awareness about career through mentorship. Students from Charaideo and Sibsagar had visited several premier academic institutions in Guwahati and had the privilege of interacting with Hon'ble Chief Minister. In continuation of this, students securing 1st rank in class IX will be provided with the tablets which will be connected with a central agency providing educational material and mentorship.
74. Our initiatives under *Pragyan Bharati* in the previous year will continue with more vigour. I am listing few of them below:
 - i. Providing Free Bicycle to all the students studying in Class-IX in Government and Provincialized Secondary Schools,
 - ii. Providing free text-books and
 - iii. Textbook assistance to students upto graduation,
 - iv. Hostel mess dues waiver of maximum Rs 2000 per month for under-graduate and post-graduate courses in degree and polytechnic colleges,
 - v. Scooty to all meritorious boys and girls who secure first division in higher secondary examination,
 - vi. Mobility grant of Rs10,000/- per year to post-graduate students- excluding medical students,
 - vii. Admission fee waiver to all BPL students,
 - viii. Anundoram Barooah Award to eligible students passing HSLC,

- ix. Scholarship to students belonging to SC, ST, minority and tea-garden community,
 - x. *Abhinandan* Scheme – We will continue to provide interest subvention on educational loans to our students.
75. We will upgrade Sibsagar college, Kokrajhar Government college, Bongaigaon college, Jagannath Barooah College in Jorhat, North Lakhimpur College, Handique Girl's college, Nagaon College and Gurucharan college in Silchar into universities by introducing enabling legislations.
76. At the same time, a new University by the name- *Shahid* Kanaklata Barua State University will be established at Gohpur, as a tribute to great freedom fighter of Assam and to further improve the standards of higher education in the North Bank.
77. A satellite campus of Bodoland University will be established in Udalguri.
78. Over and above allocation for building infrastructure, there will be a total provision of around Rs 1200 cr under respective heads for *Pragyan Bharati* schemes.

VI. Assam Urban Health Mission (AUHM)

79. Speaker Sir, over years, we have focused on three tier healthcare system for our communities with strong presence of primary health care across the state, with an emphasis on the rural areas. We feel that primary healthcare requires to be strengthened in the urban areas as well, to cater to the health care needs of the urban populace. With this aim to provide affordable, accessible and quality healthcare for the urban population, I propose to launch Assam Urban Health Mission (AUHM).
80. The major components of the mission will include identification of existing gaps, area specific and need-based interventions, extending primary healthcare services with a strong linkage to secondary and tertiary care services.

81. Mapping of all urban healthcare facilities will be done to identify the gaps. It is also proposed to add around 1000 ASHAs and set up 20 First Referral Units (FRUs) in the urban areas. Special Newborn Care Unit (SNCU) or New born Stabilization Unit (NBSU) will be established in each such FRUs to take special care of sick newborn and low birth weight babies.
82. Focus will be also given on upgrading obstetric facilities at the secondary level. Immunization and free diagnostic facilities will be strengthened. Services related to non-communicable diseases will be strengthened with focus on screening and Continuum of Care (CoC).
83. The proposed mission will ensure easier access to health care services and early detection, effectively reducing out of pocket expenditure for urban population and preventing the urban poor from entering into debt traps due to unforeseen healthcare expenditures.

VII. 200 years of Assam Tea

84. For nearly two centuries, tea sector has been a backbone of our economy. Needless to add Tea Industry is also extremely important from the employment generation perspective. A substantial part of our populace depends on tea. Even today, tea constitutes close to 90 percent of our exports.
85. Our Government wishes to celebrate 200 years of Assam tea, which coincides with year 2023, in a grand manner. We propose to organize road shows in major cities across the country as well as abroad to promote Assam Tea as a brand and showcase the rich socio-cultural heritage of tea garden communities.
86. The potential of tea garden land has been unlocked and shall be used for agriculture and allied activities.
87. Assam Tea Industries Special Incentives Scheme (ATISIS), 2020 will be further strengthened to incentivize the production of orthodox tea and specialty tea in Assam. As promised, increase in the production subsidy for orthodox and speciality

tea from Rs 7 to Rs 10 per kg is already under process. However, celebrating the 200 years of Assam Tea, I am pleased to announce that for the current year of 2023-24 only, an enhanced production subsidy of Rs 12 per kg will be extended. Rs 100 cr has been earmarked for this scheme.

88. Further, I propose extension of tax holiday on Agricultural Income Tax for a period of next three years.
89. The emphasis will be given on the infrastructure development of tea garden labour lines, especially the development of roads.
90. This year, as a special relief, all the arrear electricity dues of tea garden worker families living in the lines will be waived off as a one-time measure by the Government. I will earmark Rs 150 cr for the same.
91. Under “Wage Compensation Scheme for Pregnant Women of Tea Garden Areas of Assam”, the compensation amount will be enhanced to Rs 15,000 from the existing Rs 12,000.
92. For construction of 500 *Mahaprabhu Jagannath* Community Hall cum Skill Centres in the prominent localities of tea gardens, our government has already made a provision for Rs 200 cr in this year budget.
93. Under *Mukhya Mantri Awaas Yojana*, 10,000 houses will be constructed in Tea Garden labour lines only.
94. Our Government will continue supporting Assam Tea Corporation Limited (ATCL) against the payment of outstanding liabilities of interest on Provident Fund in a phased manner, keeping in mind greater interest of ATCL workers. I am allocating sum of Rs 100 cr this year.
95. Tea garden and *Adivasi* community will be recognised as a separate sub-category within OBC. Around 3% reservation into Government jobs, within the OBC quota, will be considered for them, subject to fulfilling legal stipulations in this regard.

VIII. Quest for Cultural Identity

96. Sir, we are committed to preserve our cultural heritage and legacy. We had taken many initiatives in our previous budgets. We have taken up a project for preservation and maintenance of Batadrava Than and birthplace of Madhabdev at Narayanapur. The construction activities in these places will be completed this year, and both these places will become centres of art, culture and spirituality.
97. In this financial year, under Assam Darshan scheme, we propose to cover 8000 new Namghars. We also propose to cover within it, religious institutions having higher tourist footfalls and where common festivals are celebrated. Rs 2.5 lakh of fund per institution will be provided.
98. Further, under the revamped *Assam Darshan* scheme an amount of Rs 15 lakh each will be provided for ancient religious institutions- Namghar, Mandir, Mosque, Church, Gurudwara which are more than 100 years old. Rs 180 cr has been allocated for this scheme. Earlier, we provided Rs 10 lakh each to 130 such institutions.
99. Speaker Sir, the ancient Kamakhya Temple at Guwahati is one of the most sacred temples in India with an average footfall of 15,000 persons per day. During Ambubachi Mela, the number of visitors goes up to 2 lakh persons per day. Drawing inspiration from Kashi-Vishwanath Corridor, our Government seeks to develop Kamakhya Corridor. This would ease movement of devotees and enhance the ambience by connecting it with the Brahmaputra river.
100. With a view to relive the historical glory of *Rang Ghar*, we are taking up development of tourist amenities in an area of 83 Bigha in the vicinity of *Rang Ghar*. The activity areas will be constructed without jeopardising the norms of Archaeological Survey of India. Already around 32 cr has been released towards payment for land acquisition. The work will be started from April, 2023 at a cost of Rs 107 cr.

101. To promote the research and documentation related to the ideals of Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankardev, we will establish a Chair in Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
102. In an effort to preserve and conserve the Matiabag palace of Goalporia Lokgeet Samragee Late Pratima Barua Pandey, our government has acquired the property and taken over the possession. Efforts are on to renovate and convert it into a museum. While there are certain legal constraints, we are confident that we will overcome and deliver the promise made.
103. In a bid to take the saga of Bir Lachit Barphukan to the nook and corner of India, we propose to create a Mega Drama on the great Assamese warrior, with more than 500 well known artists, in line with the *Janata Raaja* drama created for Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. This will be showcased across the country in a big way as a tribute to his heroism.
104. We will modify the guidelines for implementation of MLALAD and Untied schemes to include them in the category of eligible schemes.
105. We propose to include all *Udasin Bhakat*, staying in our Satras institutes, under the *Orunodoi* scheme.

IX. Mission for Prevention of Child Marriage

106. Speaker Sir, high maternal and infant mortality rates are major health care issues in this part of the country. We have been sincerely addressing these concerns and could reduce our maternal mortality from 237 in the year 2014-16 to 195 in the year 2018-20 and infant mortality rate from 49 in the year 2014 to 36 in the year 2020. Child marriage has been one of the prominent reasons for our high IMR and MMR.
107. Sir, here I would like to point out that curbing child marriages in the State has not only become necessity but an urgency. Our government has launched a mass drive against the violators of “Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA) 2006” earlier this year. To sustain the efforts, our government is committed to

launch this State mission with a target of making Assam free of incident of child marriage by the end of year 2026.

108. All Gram Panchayat Secretaries in Assam are being designated as The Child Marriage Prevention Officers. They will ensure prohibition of child marriages, the protection of the victims as well as prosecution of the offenders by lodging FIRs
109. Our District Police Forces will continue to conduct intensive drives every 6 months to take necessary action against offenders.
110. The Mission will work in a time-bound manner and will link all programs and services that are working for women and children, for effective implementation of special legislations such as Prevention of Child Marriage Act 2006, POCSO Act 2012, Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection) Act, 2015 and Right to Education Act, 2009 in collaboration with relevant line departments, stakeholders like NGOs and Samaritan volunteers. This Mission will specifically focus on surveillance, strengthening institutions, introduction of helpline, and rehabilitation of victims. There will be a call centre to monitor the complaints.
111. Being a woman and a mother, I call everyone to act sternly against this injustice meted out to our daughters.
112. This new Mission is being set up in the Women and Child Development Department, with allocation of Rs 200 Cr.

X. *Amar Gaon Amar Gaurav*

113. Our soul lives in its villages. This observation made by Mahatma Gandhi is true even today. 86% of the population of Assam lives in rural areas. Assam has around 26,000 villages. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister dreams of a village where elders act as guiding light, while younger generation brings innovative ideas for transforming rural landscape.
114. To ignite the spirit of every village and to create a sense of belongingness, every village shall celebrate Village foundation

day. This occasion will give an opportunity to share a common vision and plan for the village as per local developmental needs. To celebrate such foundation day, every village will be given a token amount of Rs 5000.

115. Through paddy procurement, Government has been able to enhance the income of the farmers of the state. In line with this initiative, I am happy to announce that we will come out with a Policy for *Atma Nirbhar Krishi* wherein procurement of millets and mustard from State farmers at remunerative price is proposed through Agriculture Marketing Board and Assam Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd, funded by CMSGUY.
116. Procurement of handloom textiles under Swanirbhar Nari will continue. We want to enhance procurement from villages for Government supplies.

XI. Khel Maharan and Sanskritik Mahasangram

117. Speaker Sir, Assam today epitomizes hope and optimism: there is positivity all around. Developmental activities in every nook and corner coupled with social sector programmes have enthused the citizens. Youths of Assam today symbolize positivity and energy who shun all negativity. This is experienced in many facets. The incidence of *bandhs* and *dharnas* have reduced significantly.
118. The initiative to provide one lakh jobs, investment towards improvement of education infrastructure and the push for self-employment initiatives have reenergised youth. On the similar lines, we propose to engage them through sports and cultural activities as well.
119. We plan to organize “*Khel Maharan*” in line with “*Khel Mahakumbh*” of Gujarat. This mega sports event is a step towards mobilizing people at grassroots level, creating an inclusive environment for identifying talent. Competitions will be conducted starting from the revenue village level to Block, further to District and finally at the State level. Five sports disciplines have been identified for the event. Towards this, every revenue village will be given Rs 10,000 this year.

120. Speaker Sir, similarly, we desire to identify and encourage rural cultural talent under “Sanskritik Mahasangram”. Under this scheme, every revenue village will organize competitions in six categories namely, Jyoti Sangeet, Rabha Sangeet, Bhupendra Sangeet, Rabindra Sangeet, one tribal Dance and Bihu. Subsequently, the winners of these competitions in the villages, will compete amongst themselves at block and district level, which will culminate in a competition at the state level. Towards this, every revenue village will be given Rs 10,000 this year.

121. I am allocating Rs 60 Cr for both of these novel initiatives.

XII. Reviving the movement around women empowerment

122. Sir, in our efforts towards women empowerment through self-help groups under ASRLMS, more than 36.35 lakh households in Assam have been mobilized to form 3.27 lakh SHGs.

123. Our Government further wants to emphasize on women entrepreneurship by targeting the existing potential of SHG women. Every woman associated with SHG will be encouraged to transform herself into a home based entrepreneur. To kick start this process, we will ensure that individual SHG member has her own bank account.

124. We will disburse Rs 1000 into all such bank accounts of SHG members to incentivise her to maintain an active bank account and to develop business project proposal. If the project is approved, the woman will get Rs 10,000 in subsequent year to develop her business into a successful home-based enterprise. All these payments would be done through DBT. Through this initiative, we plan to develop 30 lakh women entrepreneurs in the State.

125. Sir, care for mother and children is provided through Anganwadi centres. Recognising its importance, our government will be completing almost 5000 Anganwadi centres this year.

126. There are around 1,13,820 widows who receive National Widow Pension with entitlement of Rs 300 per month. We will verify

these beneficiaries and if already not covered under *Orunodoi*, all such beneficiaries will be provided a top-up of Rs 950 per month to provide them total amount of Rs 1250 per month.

XIII. Creating Growth Corridors

127. Road and bridge building projects are crucial for creating growth corridors. Work on Guwahati- North Guwahati bridge is progressing fast and Preparations for Palashbari Sualkuchi bridge, Majuli bridge, Pagladiya bridge, Lakhimpur- Ghunasuti bridge are on track.

128. I had announced 4 new flagship connectivity schemes in my last year Budget. Under the *Mukhya Mantrir Unnoto Pakipath Nirman Achoni*, 1260 km roads are under upgradation. Under *Mukhya Mantrir Mathauri Pokikarn Achoni*, 90 km of work is in progress and 1849 km roads are being developed in *Mukhya Mantrir Path Nabikaran Achoni*. Under *Mukhya Mantrir Pakipath Nirman Achoni*, Government will provide connectivity to eligible unconnected habitations or habitations connected with totally dilapidated existing roads through 2000 new roads of 3000 Km.

129. In the recently held urban local body elections, people blessed us with an unprecedented mandate. To fulfil the promise of better urban connectivity, our Government is announcing a new flagship scheme named *Mukhya Mantri Nagariya Path Pokikaran Achoni*.

130. Under the above mentioned 4 Flagship connectivity schemes announced last year, additional 3000 km roads will be built this year.

XIV. Right to Public Service Commission

131. It gives me immense pleasure to inform the members of this August House that so far we have disposed of around 48 lakh applications under Assam Right to Public Service Act.

132. Moreover, against our promise of on-boarding 95 services in the RTPS Portal, we are going to include 300 services by March, 2023. This shows our commitment towards transparency and

increasing use of Technology for efficient public service delivery. Online services of Mission *Basundhara* also have been extended through RTPS.

133. The Right to Public Services (RTPS) Portal has been upgraded as a single entry point for all government services and is renamed as *Sewa Setu*.
134. To ensure abidance to the timelines stipulated for the delivery of public services mandated under the Assam Right to Public Services Act and accountability on the part of Government servants, our Government will set up Assam State Commission for Right to Public Services. The Commission will have powers to penalise designated Public Servants who fail to provide the notified services within the stipulated time.

XV. Standing with Our Employees – *APUN GHOR* , *APUN BAHAN*

135. Speaker Sir, every salaried employee dreams of their own house and car. Recognising this need, we had introduced *Apun Ghar* scheme. So far, 36,159 employees have been benefitted, covering a total loan portfolio of Rs 4,984 cr. We have incurred an expenditure of Rs 384 cr towards interest subvention on housing loan. We will continue with the Scheme next year as well. I propose Rs 108 Cr for this in the Budget.
136. Taking a step further, I am introducing “*Apun Bahan*” scheme where government employees can avail 2% interest subvention to avail a motor vehicle loan. This will be enhanced to 3% for women and *divyangjan* employees. I propose an amount of Rs 12 cr for this scheme.

Speaker Sir, for simplifying the process of medical reimbursement, *Mukhya Mantri Lok Seva Arogya Yojana (MMLSA)* is being launched. Government employees, Pensioners and their dependents will be able to avail medical reimbursement within a definite time line through a dedicated IT portal.

XVI. New Infrastructure Push

137. I have already highlighted many important capital nature projects, like EAP which are setting benchmark in infrastructure creation. Projects worth 10,000 Cr under NIDA strengthening infrastructure in transport, tourism, education and other social sectors are also being taken up. Sir, I would like to mention some other key infrastructure projects to be completed during 2023-24.
138. The Asom Mala program has different implementation legs which includes SOPD, externally aided projects and NIDA (NABARD Infrastructure Development Assistance).
139. 14 roads of length of about 343 km, packaged into 18 contracts, have been taken up under SOPD leg. 5 no. of works of length 110 km are completed. The rest of the packages are in different stages of progress and would mostly be completed by 2024.
140. An amount of Rs. 1,861.20 crore has been released for Asom Mala (SOPD) works till date and an amount of Rs. 1,465.23 crore has been incurred till 15.03.2023.
141. 8 no. of works of 247 km have been taken up under Assam Secondary Road Network Improvement Project (ASRIP) aided by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) with an outlay of Rs. 3,519.27 crore. The roads include the historic Dhodor Ali.
142. 11 no. of works of 312.5 km have been taken up under ASCCIP with an outlay of Rs. 3,994 cr. It includes one arterial road each in Dima Hasao, Karbi Anglong & West Karbi Anglong hill districts, BTR and Barak Valley region.
143. 5 roads packages of length 135 km, have been taken up under NIDA with an outlay of Rs. 1,252.14 cr. The works includes upgradation of famous Pandit Hem Chandra Goswami path in Golaghat district. All works have commenced.
144. We are working hard to ensure that the Guwahati Ring Road becomes a reality, with a span of about 91 Km, from Khanapara to Narengi via Baihata Chariali, Dumunichowki, Kurua which

includes 6-lane bridge over river Brahmaputra connecting Narengi in South Bank with Kurua in North Bank. Apart from Dhubri Fulbari Bridge, Bridge over river Brahmaputra connecting Palashbari with Sualkuchi has also been sanctioned for an amount of Rs 3197.20 cr and work is going to start very soon.

145. Kaziranga elevated corridor is in its final stage of sanctioning and in process for wild life clearances.
146. Construction of Bridge over river Brahamaputra Connecting Majuli with Jorhat with cost of Rs 925 cr, Improvement and Upgradation of Road from Balichapori, Majuli to Bangalmara, Lakhimpur, including Construction of Two Major Bridges over Luit and Subansiri river with cost- Rs 969.15 cr on EPC mode under ASRIP are other important projects. Construction of work on major Bridge with cost of Rs 248 cr over river Pagladia with road Connecting Kumarikata and Nayabasti is in full swing.
147. Some of the important flyovers proposed for construction are:
 - i. Four lane elevated road on Gopinath Bordoloi road
 - ii. Flyover at cycle factory junction on Guwahati Garbhanga road
 - iii. Flyover at Fatasil Chariali on RK Chowdhury road
 - iv. Flyover near Downtown hospital and near Rajiv Bhawan at GS road
 - v. Alternative elevated road to Kamakhya temple
 - vi. Elephant underpasses for elephant corridor locations near Deepor beel
 - vii. Elevated road across Deepor beel between Swahid Smarak approach road and Koinadhara road at Guwahati
 - viii. Flyover from Baruah Chariali to Bhogdoi Bridge at Jorhat
 - ix. Flyover at Amolapatty Railway Crossing
 - x. Flyover at Mancotta Railway Crossing
 - xi. Flyover at Lahowal Railway Crossing in Dibrugarh
 - xii. Flyover from Diphu stadium to Diphu Head post office at Diphu
 - xiii. Elevated road on Silchar Kalain road
 - xiv. We are going to take up 4 new Road corridors under Assam Mala

148. District jails located at the center of Dibrugarh, Cachar, Tezpur and Jorhat cities will be relocated so that urban open spaces in the form of parks can be created for public. Many new District libraries, circuit houses will be built.
149. Existing Nehru Stadium will be strengthened alongwith conversion of Khanikar integrated Sports Complex from 5,000 to 15,000 seating capacity. Rabindra Bhawan at Guwahati will be reconstructed; state of the art DGP office, 5000 capacity auditorium at Sankardev Kalashetra and ITA Machkhowa will be major highlights of new infrastructure in Guwahati City. Construction of 2 new medical colleges will be started at Karimganj and Sibsagar.
150. Construction of New Assam House, Dwarka, New Delhi for an amount of Rs. 2165.57 Lacs , construction of Assam Bhavan at New Delhi for an amount of Rs. 6610.28 Lacs and construction of Assam House at Kolkata at an amount of Rs. 9991.23 lakh have started. The construction of Assam House at Bangaluru will be completed this year and construction of Assam Bhavan at Vellore has been completed. The construction of Swahid Smarak Khetra , Guwahati will be completed this year.
151. Sir, Our Assembly building will be completed this year. Renovation of Tai Ahom museum in Sivasagar will start this year.
152. Our Government is committed to establish Institute of Wildlife Health & Research at Dinjan with a project outlay of Rs 250 cr to provide an State of the Art wildlife health and rehabilitation facility with three satellite centres at Kaziranga, Manas & Tezpur.
153. I propose Rs 15,102 cr. in total, under various heads for development of Infrastructure in form of Roads and Buildings under Public Works Departments.

XVII. Support to MSME sector

154. We recognize the importance of the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector in promoting entrepreneurship and creating jobs.
155. One new scheme for providing Capital Incentive in form of Credit Linked Subsidy directly to the lending bank for MSME Sector is being taken up under the title of "*Mukhya Mantrir Laghu Udyog Udaogoni Aachoni*". Under this scheme, a capital subsidy at the rate of 10% of the Fixed Capital Investment by the entrepreneur with a ceiling of Rs 50 lakh per entrepreneur is being proposed. It is anticipated that, this will result in creation of more than three thousand new MSMEs with a direct employment potential of approximately 25,000 jobs.
156. Another new scheme to provide relief for the MSME sector through Term/working capital interest subsidy is being taken up under the title of "Chief Minister's MSME Interest Subvention Scheme". Under this scheme, 3% interest subvention will be provided to the beneficiary through credit linked subsidy. With this budgetary allocation, it is anticipated that a credit outflow to the tune of Rs 1700 cr from the banks to MSME sector will be made and more than 6000 MSMEs will be benefitted directly.
157. As we all know that the credit availability in our state is improving gradually due to structural reforms taken up by our Government. In order to enhance credit outflow, and State Government has taken up Assam Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro & Small Enterprises (CGTMSE)Scheme in coordination with SIDBI to provide assurance to the banks that in case of failure of the beneficiary to pay the loan back in unfortunate circumstances, the state government will provide additional assistance to the CGTMSE Scheme for 100% payback to the banks.
158. The State Government recognizes the ever-increasing need for power to the industrial units and therefore has been continuously promoting production and usage of renewable energy, especially by industrial units. The State Government proposes Subsidy for Captive Power Generation, Renewable Energy Utilization and Energy Saving Measures for MSME Units (both new and existing) under New MSME Promotion Scheme.

XVIII. Mission Basundhara

159. As a concrete step towards introduction of conclusive titles of landholding, Government of Assam embarked upon an exercise on purification of land records through Mission *Basundhara*, launched on October 2, 2021 whereby around 8,13,981 applications received for nine services were disposed of in a time bound manner within May 10, 2022, besides undertaking other complementary tasks of Survey and Resurvey. In the second iteration of the Mission titled Mission *Basundhara 2.0*, next generation services such as settlement of government land, land rights to the occupancy tenants, settlement of hereditary tribal lands etc have been launched on November 14, 2022 with stellar response from the people across length and breadth of Assam. We have received 7,43,690 applicants in *Basundhara 2.0* as on 15th March, 2023.
160. Mission *Basundhara* has not only ushered the time bound delivery of long pending land related issues, but also led to the unlocking of land which is evidenced by significant increase in land sale permission applications - 18972 applications in 2019-2020, 82840 applications in 2020-21, 101050 applications in 2021-22 and 113525 applications in 2022-23 so far. The “Composite Land Transfer Service” with auto-mutation has gained popularity slowly yet steadily since its launch on November 14, 2022.
161. Under SVAMITVA scheme, the detailed survey of non-cadastral villages is underway to issue property cards to land owners and create digitalised land records.
162. Next year, our focus will be the quality disposal of all applications received under Mission *Basundhara 2.0*, completion of survey and settlement of NC villages under SVAMITVA, making significant progress in completing a resurvey of villages and government lands across the state, full roll out of e-khazana facilitating land holders to pay land revenue from the comfort of their offices and homes and full roll out of digital stamping across the state.

Major Announcements

I. Most Outstanding District Initiative: Swacch Zila Puruskar

163. Echoing spirit of Swacchta Abhiyan launched by our Prime Minister Shri Modi ji, we propose to rank the districts on the cleanliness indicators such as 100% door to door collection, segregation of waste, setting up and functioning of solid waste processing plant, clearing of legacy waste, setting up on Sewage treatment Plant (STP) and used water management.
164. *Most Outstanding District Initiative* will be awarded with Rs 100 cr towards its infrastructure development and the fund will be placed at the disposal of Deputy Commissioner.

II. Implementation of Peace Accord

165. Due to committed efforts of the Central Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji and Honble Home Minister Shri Amit Shah ji, for bringing lasting peace in Assam and the Northeast, today all major insurgent groups have either laid down arms or joined the peace process by abjuring violence and showing allegiance to Constitution of India. Peace accords were signed with insurgent groups, which include the Bodo Peace Accord, Karbi Peace Accord, and the Adivasi Peace Accord. All the 4 factions of NDFB, KLNLF, KPLT, PDCK and UPLA signed MoS with Government of India and Government of Assam since year 2020. The cadres of these outfits were rehabilitated under the Surrender cum Rehabilitation Policy of GOI by granting Rs 4 lakh in the form of Fixed Deposits to each cadre. To rehabilitate the surrendered cadres of Adivasi groups who signed MoS with Government of India and Government of Assam on 15/09/2022 and those who are in SoO (Suspension of Operation) and in ceasefire, the proposals worth Rs 94.01 cr have been received. Our Government will consider them positively this year.
166. Further, as reflected in para 3.1 of the Adivasi Accord, an Adivasi Welfare & Development Council will be constituted with adequate financial allocation.

III. Assam Police Emergency Management System (APEMS) - Dial 112

167. Assam Police under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma *Dangoriya*, has resolved to enhance its availability by revamping the Dial-112 project and creating world class Assam Police Emergency Management System (APEMS).

Any citizen in distress situation like kidnapping, robbery, sexual assault, vehicle theft, domestic violence, conflict situation can reach out to police via telephonic call, SMS, web portal, mobile app, etc. The modern and well-equipped Centralized Police Emergency Response Centre in Guwahati operated by well trained all women personnel will receive the calls round the clock. The actionable incidents will be passed on by the trained Police Dispatch Officers in real time to the specially trained Police staff in the field in Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs). They will reach the caller via GPS tracked ERVs in the shortest possible time and shall attend to the emergency as first responder. This will revolutionise police response to the different grievances and make it effective.

168. I hereby allocate Rs 25 Cr in this year's budget.

IV. Strengthening of Infrastructure for Police

169. Speaker Sir, our government has given thrust for police modernization and improvement of infrastructure. I would like to name few initiatives here:

| Scheme name | Amount (Rs in cr) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Construction of 5 Commando Battalion | 839.94 |
| Construction of 119 Police Station | 338.40 |
| 83 Outpost Building | 79.88 |
| 18 SDPO Office cum Residence | 20.28 |

| | |
|---|--------|
| 17 SP Office | 62.72 |
| 12 SP Residence | 17.62 |
| Construction of 1000 Quarters | 413.26 |
| Construction of 19 Police Reserve | 769.86 |
| Construction of 162 Police Station (In EPC Mode) | 523.69 |
| Redevelopment of Assam Police Reserve campus at Guwahati Metro | 544.54 |
| Guwahati Police Commissionerate Building | 95.00 |
| Integrated Assam Police Headquarter | 129.90 |

170. I allocate sufficient sum this year to ensure early completion of these works.

V. SU-SWASTHYARE SAMRIDDHI

171. Sir, in order to provide affordable and accessible healthcare service for all, in addition to various initiatives we started in the previous years, I would like to announce the following interventions this year-

172. 1000 new ambulances will be provided to the hospitals in the State.

173. 9 new B.Sc. Nursing Colleges will be set up in the Medical Colleges in Diphu, Jorhat, Tezpur, Lakhimpur, Nagaon, Nalbari, Barpeta, Kokrajhar and Dhubri.

174. Despite the increase in graduate medical seats to 1500 in Assam, it is seen that the NRI and Assamese diaspora is not able to take advantage of the state quota due to certain restrictions. It is,

therefore proposed that reservation of some seats for them in the state quota will be introduced, on payment of reasonable fees. This will also add to the revenue of the college society and make them financially more sustainable.

VI. Cabinet Outreach Program

175. Sir, we are taking steps to take government closer to the people. 10 cabinet meetings have been taken place outside Guwahati. Further, since May, 2021 in 79 cabinet meetings, 1047 decisions were taken. Out of which, 84% of the decisions have been implemented. In order to fulfil its commitment made in different Cabinet meetings. I propose allocation of Rs 500 cr for Cabinet outreach programme this year.

VII. Viability Gap Funding for non-UDAN routes

176. By fulfilling our commitment towards connecting various vital routes in the state through accessible and affordable air connectivity, our government has given approval for operation of low cost air services between non- *Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik* (UDAN) routes. In the first phase, such flights are going to be operated between Dibrugarh-Guwahati and Guwahati-Silchar routes on pilot basis. Budgetary provisions are being made to provide Viability Gap Funding (VGF) for operation of such flight services.

VIII. Commercial Tree Plantation:

177. To bring innovative reforms in the management of Trees Outside Forest, our Government has notified Assam Trees Outside Forest (Sustainable Management) Rules 2022. These rules were framed to encourage farmers to grow trees on non-forest lands by simplifying the processes of registration of plantations, grant of felling permission and issuance of Certificate of Origin through contactless public delivery mode. This will strengthen the green economy by weaning away industrial supplies from reserve forest resources.
178. As per the new rules, over 57 species of commercially important and locally abundant trees shall be promoted for plantation by any citizen including farmers in the state with no restriction on

felling for their own bonafide or commercial purposes. I believe that the simplified procedures and a single window clearance mechanism will bring back all the primary, secondary and composite wood-based industries that had shifted from Assam to other States in the last three decades.

179. This year, I announce the scheme for planting trees having commercial value in all the schools, colleges and Government offices. Towards this purpose, I earmark Rs 10 cr to Assam Agroforestry Development Board in the next five years.

IX. Exemption from Electricity Duty on Green Energy:

180. To promote and incentivize the generation and consumption of green and clean energy by trade and industries, I propose to give exemption from payment of electricity duty on generation of power from renewable sources for captive consumption for one year. I appeal to all to come forward and take advantage of this exemption and contribute to the cause of renewable energy.

X. Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy:

181. In order to further promote use of electric vehicles, I announce motor vehicle tax subvention of 2 per cent along with registration fee exemption to citizens buying EVs this year. Transport Department will issue operational guidelines for the same.

XI. Climate Action

182. Speaker Sir, we recognize Climate Change as an imminent global threat and through the State Action Plan on Climate Change, we have been attempting to mainstream adaptation strategies into development process.
183. This year, I am proposing to introduce Chief Minister's Green Initiative Incentive Scheme as part of Assam's agenda in implementing India's "*Panchamrit*" strategy for combating climate change. We plan to incentivize private-led carbon sequestration initiatives and promote climate resilience through community participation. Methods to quantify carbon emissions

of a village and strategies to make the villages net-zero within a finite period will be identified.

184. This year, for the first time we are introducing Green Budget.
185. Further, a Green Innovation Fund will be set up with a corpus of Rs 25 cr for promoting Research & Development Grants for Green Solutions and Alternatives Incubation Program in collaboration with state agencies (like Guwahati Biotech Park, Startup Assam).

XII. Assam Mental Health & Social Care Scheme

186. There is a growing need to introduce a comprehensive mental health policy in Assam as it would help the state manage the inevitable crisis that may arise due to increasing numbers of reported cases of suicide and other mental health-related issues especially post-pandemic. The pandemic has adversely impacted the mental health of individuals and in 2020 the increase in suicide rates was the highest in the country. The scheme should work to implement the GoI Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 and should have special provision for various marginalised groups including persons with disability, transgender and adolescents. The scheme will also bring into effect the guidelines released under National Suicide Prevention Strategy 2022.

XIII. Mobile Veterinary Units (MVUs) in Assam:

187. Our Government will ensure to bring animal health care facilities to the doorstep of the farmers. 181 mobile Veterinary Units will be made fully functional in the state

XIV. Pension Fund for AAU

188. I propose to create a corpus fund of Rs 200 cr for pension of retired AAU employees which will be managed professionally by engaging Pension Fund Managers who will be responsible for proper fund management as per guidelines. This model will be replicated in other universities and autonomous bodies as well.

XV. Maximum Governance, Minimum Government

189. Our Government will initiate steps for rationalization of state autonomous bodies, corporations, boards to ensure optimum utilization of resources, bring in more efficiencies and better service delivery to citizens. We will initiate steps towards this by merging Khadi Board and making it a Khadi division within Handloom and Textile Department.

XVI. *Mukhya Mantri Sohoj Griha Nirman Aahoni* (MMSGNA)

190. To improve efficiency of service delivery in urban areas, several initiatives are being taken up by our Government. An online system will be rolled out for providing building permission instantly through a portal for upto G+2 houses with an area below 670 sq. metres. Similarly, a faceless online building permission system (OBPS) with online payment facility will be notified this year for issuing building permits and permissions.

XVII. Drink from Tap (DFT) in Tezpur

191. An emerging concept in the country today is Drink from Tap (DFT) for 24x7. These DFT projects ensure safe and continuous water supply at the consumer tap that can be used for drinking and cooking purposes without any need for further treatment. Assam's first DFT project shall be planned in Tezpur Town. For this, 24x7 water supply scheme for Rs 32.57 cr will be implemented.

XVIII. Financial Institutional Reforms

192. Speaker Sir, as you are aware that fiscal transparency is one of major focus of the Government and Assam Budget related transparency has been lauded in various national fora. Taking the legacy forward, we are one of few states today to publish our Budget execution in a near real time manner.
193. Similarly, in Public Procurement, Assam is one of the leading state to launch State Public Procurement Portal in the country which acts as a single point access to all information related to procurement in Government of Assam. We are also developing a

Massive Open Online Courses Portal in Public Procurement which will act as a major tool for capacity building across the state. This will help to expedite the budget execution through prudent public procurement methodologies.

194. More thrust on procuring through Government e-Marketplace (GeM) will be given. In comparison to Rs 172 cr worth procurement through GeM in FY 2021-22, we have gone to Rs 751 cr till 13th March, 2023.
195. Further, we are actively working with the Accountant General to streamline financial reporting and timely action on the parameters which are of importance to the State. This will also help in doing away with lot of redundant processes which have been in vogue for decades by leveraging technologies.
196. We have launched Digital Infrastructure for DBT Schemes (DIDS) platform to implement our welfare programmes. Under DIDS, any department may directly launch and implement DBT schemes in the shortest possible time with minimal administrative cost. Technology provides a mechanism to do de-duplication checks and therefore enables to have a wider coverage of such programmes. This year we will set up rule framework to enable departments to launch their schemes on DIDS platform.

XIX. CCTV in Public Places

197. Our Government will take all necessary steps to install CCTVs at public and other sensitive places.
198. The project will be executed through Guwahati Smart City Limited for an amount of Rs 200 Cr. This will act as a bulwark against crime and help in creating a safe environment for the public.

- XX.** We will rename this year Directorate of Tea Tribes Welfare into Directorate of Tea Tribes and Adivasi Welfare.

Administrative Departments

Act East Policy Affairs Department- “*Growing together with our neighbours*”

199. Speaker Sir, to commemorate 30 years of “India-ASEAN friendship” an ‘Act East through North East: Connectivity Conclave’ was organized last year. Similarly, NADI 3.0 initiative was also organised successfully.
200. Going ahead, we plan to resume the cross border bus service from Guwahati to Dhaka via Shillong and Sylhet. Further, direct flights between Guwahati and Dhaka and other ASEAN cities are expected to be resumed. In addition, in order to strengthen the economic ties of our State, we plan to set up Border *Haats* at Latu (Karimganj) and Satrasal (Dhubri) on the Indo-Bangladesh border.

Administrative Reforms, Training, Pension and Public Grievances Department- “*Minimum Government, Maximum Governance*”

201. Speaker Sir, after successful implementation of Mission *Sadbhavana* at Janata Bhawan, now we are extending it to the offices of the Deputy Commissioner as well as Directorates and Commissionerates of the Government of Assam. This has reduced the turnaround time and led to efficient public service delivery.
202. In line with our government’s commitment to improve the Ease of Living for its citizens, the Government of Assam has launched “*Kritagyata*” portal. So far, 9684 PPOs have been issued through 8911 DDOs to retiring employees of 8853 offices through this portal. So far, 27 Pension Seva Kendras have been set up across the state.
203. Sir, to strengthen the implementation of the RTI Act, the Assam Information Commission (AIC) was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Chief Minister.
204. To enhance capacity building facilities for Grade-III and Grade IV staff in the state, four new training institutes are being set up in Majuli, Bongaigaon, Silchar and Guwahati.

205. Sir, to keep with the changing times in the era of digital governance, we are revising the Assam Rules of Executive Business and Manual of Office Procedures to do away with archaic procedures.

206. I hereby propose to allocate Rs 14,164.79 cr to this department.

Agriculture Department- “An ode to the farmers of Assam”

207. Speaker Sir, we are committed to the overall development of the agricultural sector which is the backbone of our state’s economy. Agriculture exports increased by 250% in the last three years from Rs 40 cr to 140 cr.

208. Our government will take up massive area expansion on rice fallow area, apart from existing area, of around 10 lakh hectare, particularly for mustard (4 lakh hectare), pulses (1.68 lakh hectare), maize (1.1 lakh hectare) and potato (25,000 hectare) in the next four years.

209. Our government is moving beyond the traditional oil seeds. We are now planning to cover an area of around 2 lakh hectare under oil palm in the next five years. Around 2084 ha area has already been brought under cultivation. The State has been divided into six zones and four zones have already been allotted to processing companies.

210. In addition, we launched Assam Millets Mission (AMM), Assam Fodder Mission (AFM) and State Floriculture Mission (SFM).

211. State Government will set up a Storage Mission to create one million metric tonnes capacity for agriculture and horticultural crops. Furthermore, to minimize post harvest losses, a scheme for setting up of more dry and cold storage units shall be launched by providing top up subsidies over and above existing provisions in the Gol Scheme.

212. A seed vertical has also been set up under Assam Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project (APART) to provide quality

seeds and planting material to address the issue of low productivity.

213. Syllabus being taught at various institutes under Agriculture University will be revamped in a structured and time-bound manner.
214. We are promoting the use of nano-urea by increasing its availability.
215. I hereby propose to allocate Rs 2161.74 cr.

Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department- *“Leveraging the State’s Animal Wealth”*

- Speaker Sir, next to agriculture, Animal Husbandry is another sector which provides employment as a result helps in doubling the farmers income.
- For the FY 2022-23, 9900 women beneficiaries in the goatery sector, 1670 farmers in the piggery sector, 218 commercial poultry units have been benefited. To cater to the health of pet animals, three multi specialty critical care centers have been established at Guwahati, Bokakhat and Dibrugarh. To augment the service delivery capacity in the remote areas, the department has newly recruited 161 Block Veterinary Officers and Veterinary Officers in FY 2022-23. Further our government has established two new milk processing plants of 5000 liters per day processing capacity each at Bongaigaon and Dhemaji.
- A scheme in collaboration with National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) with a target to achieve 50,000 production of female calves for the next five years is being implemented. As part of endeavour Rs 1.16 lakh doses of sex sorted semen has been procured to ensure production of female calves in the state.
- Further, in the piggery sector at a cost Rs 7.88 cr, 1670 farmers are being supported to establish pig farms which will make our state self-sufficient in pork production.
- Department will work out strategies for making Assam self-sufficient in milk, meat and egg.

- For this department I propose to earmark an amount of Rs 621.25 cr in this financial year.

Border Protection and Development Department- *“Protecting our land, our borders, our tomorrow”*

- Speaker Sir, our government is committed to resolve the long pending border dispute to usher peace and development for our citizens living in border areas and has taken steps to restore normalcy in the Assam -Meghalaya Border (MoU has been signed), Assam-Nagaland Border (Agreement to withdraw armed police forces from disputed locations), Assam Mizoram Border (initiated negotiated settlement), Assam - Arunachal border (forming 12 Regional Committees to address the issue).
- Further, our government has completed construction of BOPs at Khatkhasla (Assam-Meghalaya Inter-state Border), Bhalukpung Moinajuli(Assam-Arunachal Pradesh inter-state Border), Upper Namchai(Assam-Nagaland Inter-state Border) and at Leiri, Tattep hai (Assam-Manipur Inter-state Border) and has taken steps for constitution of Border Out-Post (BOP) Management Committees for providing Grants-in-Aid for infrastructure development and maintenance of the BOPs along the Inter-state Boundary.
- Our government would be taking steps for construction of 50 new BoPs at strategic locations in a phased manner.
- To promote peaceful co-existence amongst the people of bordering states- Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram, we would be organizing a border festival at Byrnihat, Dudhnoi and Silchar during FY 2023-24.

I hereby allocate Rs 46.85 cr to this department in this budget.

Co-operation Department- *“Together we stand”*

- Speaker Sir, the cooperative movement of Assam has immensely contributed to the economy of the state.
- A Jute Mill will be established in Lower Assam area that will address most of the issues regarding shortage of gunny bags

and procurement of jute. Similarly, we will encourage cooperatives for establishing Mustard Oil Mill in the areas of high mustard production.

- With a vision to make Assam self-reliant, a Joint Venture company named North East Dairy and Foods Limited, between Govt. of Assam and National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) has been formed with an aim of producing 10 lakh litres of milk per day.
- I am happy to inform you that we are going to establish two all women cooperative markets at Kumarapara at Guwahati and Senchowra at Nagaon.
- In a bid to ensure seamless connectivity of Gaon Panchayat Samabai Samitis (GPSS) till headquarters, we are working on computerizing all functioning of the GPSS of the state.
- I hereby allocate Rs 218.91 cr to this department.

Cultural Affairs Department- “Preserving Heritage”

- Speaker Sir, culture and heritage reflect and shape our values, beliefs, and aspirations, and define our national identity. It is important to preserve our cultural heritage, because it binds us together as a people. Assam, in all its diversity, reflects a proud and confident culture of myriad communities, yet one soul! Apart from the initiative mentioned under flagship schemes, we have delivered on most of the promises made.
- Our government has provided one-time financial assistance to 6124 nos of *Namgharias* and 2438 nos of Priests who have faced hardship due to Covid-19 Pandemic last year.
- We have taken initiative to preserve and conserve the house of Goalporia Lokgeet Samragee Late Pratima Barua Pandey thereby acquiring the palace for an amount of Rs 1,520.82 lakh.
- The department has undertaken development of Alaboi, Dadara and Charaideo Archaeological Site in the previous year.

- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 213.38 cr for this department.

Environment & Forest Department- “Building a Greener Society for Future Generation”

- Speaker Sir, we are committed to enhance the green cover of the state and to achieve this we will raise 6 cr seedlings across the state and carry plantation in 10,000 ha in FY 2023-24 We have prepared a three year master plan for Greening Greater Guwahati.
- Our government is fully committed to reduce man-animal conflict in the state and in this direction wildlife depredation cases have already been declared as cases of natural disaster for providing expeditious relief to the families of victims.
- Further, our government has disbursed ex-gratia and compensation amounting to Rs 20.62 cr to 9459 victims of man-animal conflict.
- Speaker Sir, the third battalion of the Assam Forest Protection Force is being established at Lakhimpur for which land of 300 bighas has already been allotted.
- To showcase the rich biodiversity of Assam and Kaziranga in particular for research and public outreach, a state-of-the-art Natural History Museum shall be established at Panbari, Golaghat district.
- In an effort to ramp up the anti-poaching initiatives, all frontline staff posted in wildlife areas shall be equipped with modern assault rifles.
- Our government plans to establish the Assam Forest Development Corporation Ltd in FY 2023-24 for optimal utilisation of forest resources.
- Encroachment activities will be monitored through use of satellite imagery and drone photography.

- A modern zoological rescue and rehabilitation facility will be set up in Kaziranga National Park.
- I hereby allocate Rs 1056.70 cr to this department.

Excise Department- “*Enforcement and Engagement*”

- As per the provisions of the Excise Act and Rules, the Department is vested with the twin responsibilities of revenue collection and law enforcement and our government has been able to register an impressive growth of revenue collection (approximately 31% over the corresponding period in the previous year) amounting to Rs 2200 cr as in February, 2023
- In the previous year, the department was able to rationalize ad-valorem levies on IMFL and restructure brands with introduction of new brands. We have also introduced an online transit pass mechanism to curb illegal transportation and smuggling of liquor meant for sale in other states.
- The department has been able to promote the marketing of heritage alcoholic beverages by permitting the existing IMFL / Country spirit wholesale and retail licensees to sell heritage alcoholic beverages without paying any additional licence fee.
- Sir, our government desires to continue with the reforms being undertaken so far and proposes to introduce some new reforms -Establish a Command Control Centre to address the monitoring of the Track and Trace system, various dashboards of the Excise e-Governance solution and to create alerts for timely intervention by various Excise officials
- Sir, we are working on setting up a Data Analytics Unit at Commissionerate of Excise to address the revenue leakages, help understand patterns of revenue over a period of time and to aid in the decision making process.
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 99.57 cr to this department.

Fishery Department- “A path towards Blue Revolution”

- Speaker Sir, fish plays a very important role in nutritional security, as it forms an integral part of the staple diet of the state. Our government aims to take Assam to become one of the top five states in the production of fish within the next five years. We are proposing a project called the Assam Fisheries and Rural Livelihood Project (AFDLP) for funding under Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
- With a view to conserve the indigenous germplasm, propagation and restoration of endangered fish species, the department has taken up a 5-year project on Gene Bank for Indigenous Fish (GBIF) which is being implemented through the College of Fisheries, Raha.
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 175.02 cr to this department.

**Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department-
“Accessibility, Affordability and Availability”**

- Speaker Sir, our government will maintain the overall stability of price levels and to ensure adequate supply and quality of commodities to our population. There are 55,71,913 families under NFSA; out of which 6,67,687 are Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households and 49,04,226 are Priority Households (PHH).
- Under the Samabai Sabalakaran Scheme, Rs 5,434.60 lakh has been proposed for the Financial Year 2023-24 to support the Gaon Panchayat Samabai Samities (GPSS). Under this scheme about 840 nos of GPSS, Wholesale Consumer Cooperative Societies (WCCS), Large Sized Adivasi Multipurpose Societies (LAMPS) will be benefited.
- Assam has been onboarded in One Nation One Card scheme since June, 2022. Under this scheme, ePoS devices are being installed in Fair Price shops and 33,377 ePos devices have already been made operational.

- Our government shall apply for participating in Decentralised Procurement (DCP) of paddy in 2023 and shall start DCP from year 2024.
- I hereby propose to allocate Rs 609.79 cr to this department.

General Administration Department- “*Hub of Administration*”

Speaker Sir, the General Administration Department is working tirelessly to strengthen the administration of our field offices through continuous improvements aimed at organizational restructuring, and manpower planning along with systems and process reengineering.

- Our government has been providing the people of Assam traveling to different parts of the country an affordable, safe and homely environment and in lines the Assam Bhawan at Vellore is ready for inauguration while the Assam Bhawan at Bengaluru is expected to be ready by October 2023.
- Further, in order to facilitate and provide a better work environment, our Government has decided to renovate and refurbish the existing blocks of Janata Bhawan.
- To ensure easy governance, our government has decided to build a Chief Minister’s secretariat in Dibrugarh and a Raj Bhavan in Tezpur.
- In keeping with the United Nations International Year of Millets 2023, one Millet Café has been opened in Janata Bhawan, Dispur on 1st February, 2023. It is proposed to open Millet Cafes in all DC offices in the districts.
- There is a plan for reconstruction of the Staff quarters at Super Market Area in the Capital Complex at Dispur.

For this department, I propose to allocate Rs 718.61 cr in this year’s budget.

Handloom, Textile & Sericulture Department- “Weaving the Future”

- Speaker Sir, in Assam, Handloom weaving is inexorably linked with Assamese culture and heritage. It is a matter of extreme pride for us that the Asomiya Gamusa has received the GI Tag in the month of December 2022.
- The Swanirbhar Naari Scheme provides a single platform solution to the poor weavers by providing not only Minimum Support Prices (MSP) on their handloom products but also gives a stable and profitable market. A total of 4,80,080 weavers are registered under this scheme and more than 1,00,000 hand-woven items have been sold by the weavers to the government so far.
- We propose to provide support to 4,299 numbers of Weavers of Sualkuchi by providing yarn at 30% subsidised rates.
- Sericulture Model Villages will be set up in 5 districts / sub-divisions under Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project.
- For the establishment of Sericulture Model Village, Rs 733 lakh has been proposed and it will cover 1250 beneficiaries of 5 districts/sub-divisions.
- Our government is setting up an Integrated Handloom Park with an estimated project cost of Rs 55 cr. A total of 25 bighas of land has already been allocated for this purpose near the Kaziranga National Park.
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 377.75 cr to this department.

Health and Family Welfare Department- “An endeavour towards a healthy Assam”

- Speaker Sir, this department is committed to provide preventive, promotive, curative, and quality health care at an affordable price to the people of Assam.

- Since launching of the programme in 2010-11 close to 10,000 patients have been benefited by the scheme Free Operation for Children having Congenital Heart Disease (CHD).
- Under the “Wage Compensation Scheme for Pregnant Women of Tea Garden Areas of Assam”, a total of 77,527 pregnant women were benefited. An amount of Rs 6914.53 lakh was transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.
- Under Chief Minister’s Free Diagnostic Services, 10,20,069 patients availed free CT Scan Services; 26,09,910 patients availed free X-Ray Services and 58,27,685 patients availed free Laboratory Services.
- Under Ayushman Bharat Scheme, a total of 4007 Health & Wellness Centres (HWC) have been made operational out of which 2988 Sub Centre (SC-HWC), 919 Primary Health Centre (PHC-HWC) and 53 Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHC-HWC), 45 AYUSH-HWC and 2 UHWC-HWC are functional
- Our government proposes to conduct Swasthya Sewa Utsav on the lines of “Gunotsav” from 6th to 12th April, 2023. Hon’ble Ministers, Hon’ble MLAs and other administrative officers along with doctors will take part in the Utsav.
- Further, our government proposes the following in FY 23-24
 - Develop a State of the Art Health & Wellness Centre in the premises of Assam Homeopathic Medical College Hospital (AHMCH)
 - State of the Art AYUSH Health Care centre in the premises of Jiba Kanta Saikia Homeopathic Medical College Hospital (JKSHMCH)

I hereby propose to allocate Rs 7130.19 cr for Grant no. 29- Medical and Public Health.

Higher Education Department- “Sky is the limit”

- Speaker Sir, the Higher Education Department in Government of Assam has been playing an important role for expansion and quality development of Higher Education sector through the Universities and Colleges.
- For construction of 5 Government Law Colleges at Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Tihu, Lakhimpur and Tezpur an amount of Rs 12.79 lakh has been sanctioned and work is under progress.
- Rs 5.20 cr has been sanctioned for Srimanta Sankardev University, Nagaon for corpus fund, Rs 1.50 cr to Madhabdev University, Rs 57.54 lakh has been sanctioned to Majuli University of culture as infrastructure Development, Rs 80.00 lakh has been sanctioned for infrastructure development of cotton university and Rs 42.98 lakh sanctioned to Rabindra nath Tagore University for infrastructure development.
- Besides, we have taken a step for sanction of Rs 8171.47 lakh as Fee Waiver Scheme to 344 nos. colleges and Universities for 3,57,903 BPL students and Rs 3543.41 lakh as text book grant Scheme to 3,54,341 nos. UG level students and for sanction of Rs 2050.00 lakh for infrastructure Development of 80 nos. Colleges.
- Also, for providing scooters to girls and boys students under Dr. Banikanta Kakati Award, an amount of Rs 25,368.24 lakh has been released for procurement of 35,800 scooters.
- Our government has also sanctioned an amount of Rs 4954.11 lakh for free textbooks grants to UG level students.
- Speaker Sir, the construction work of 6 more Engineering Colleges at Bongaigaon, Behali and Sualkuchi under NIDA and Nalbari, Nagaon, Udalguri under RUSA are under process and the construction work of another 8 (eight) new polytechnics at Hajo, Majuli and Tingkhong under SOPD and at Darrang, Karbi Anglong, Nagaon, Dhubri and Dima Hasao under CSS are also under process.

- Also, the recruitment process to fill up the vacant posts of faculty and other technical staff in the Government Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics through Assam Engineering Service Recruitment Board (AESRB) is under progress.
- Our government proposes to provide financial assistance for upgradation of infrastructure & equipment of 10 old polytechnics and additional infrastructure & equipment of 16 new polytechnics.
- I therefore allocate an amount of Rs 3372.74 cr to this department.

Hill Areas Department- “God’s gift”

- Speaker Sir, administrative functions of both Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) and N.C. Hills Autonomous Council (NCHAC) is administered by the Hill Areas Department and our government is fully committed to maintain peace and harmony with sustainable development of the Hill Areas of Assam.
- The Assam Hills Medical College and Research Institute at Diphu has been functioning and the development of tourist lodge at Bagori entry point has been successfully completed.
- I hereby allocate Rs 2967.67 cr to this department.

Home and Political Department- “Striving towards a peaceful society”

- Speaker Sir, as emphasized by our Hon’ble Prime Minister, our government under the dynamic leadership of our Hon’ble Chief Minister has been striving to transform the Assam Police into a professional, smart, and people-friendly force.
- Our government has taken up various infrastructure projects to facilitate infrastructure development viz modernisation and improvement of Police Stations under MOITRI scheme, construction of 46 new Fire & Emergency Services Stations, new Regional Forensic Science Laboratories (RFSs) to

strengthen the forensic capabilities of the state, transit camp for around 1400 personnel, construction of 100 PEB Barracks, construction of State Emergency Response Centre, construction of 5 nos of new Commando Battalions in different locations, modernization of the Police Reserve of Guwahati City (as a pilot project) etc. Further, steps have been taken to upgrade the existing Assam police training College into a World Class Police Academy which would not only cater to the North Eastern region but also neighboring countries and the ASEAN Nations.

- Initiatives have been taken with active support from Government of India for strengthening and setting up of new Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in all districts of Assam under the Nirbhaya Fund to effectively combat crimes related to trafficking of persons especially women and children.
- Adequate measures have been taken to rehabilitate the former cadres of different extremist organizations in the State of Assam. Till date, 7,229 cadres of different extremist outfits have been rehabilitated in the last two years.
- Recognizing the sacrifice of our martyrs, our government is in the process of the next of kins of the martyrs on compassionate grounds.
- Through IT intervention, initiative to automate the end to end system of Foreigners Tribunals and Border Police Organisation has started
- Duty allowance of Home Guard Volunteers have been enhanced
- Sir, our government has taken steps to improve the conditions of jails across the State and have been focusing on prison reforms and rehabilitation of the inmates.
- I hereby allocate Rs 8624.93 cr to this department.

Housing and Urban Affairs Department- “Towards Sustainable Cities”

216. In addition to the initiatives taken up under flagship and major schemes this year, mitigation of floods in Guwahati, our government is taking up a multi pronged approach using Sponge city concept.

- Under Prime Minister’s Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), 46,707 houses are targeted for completion and 15,000 new beneficiaries are targeted to be included under PMAY HFA – Urban.
- Under the centrally sponsored Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Mission, the ongoing projects will be completed at Nagaon, Dibrugarh and Silchar within this financial year.
- We propose to complete the process of notifying master plans for 54 new towns during FY 2023-24
- I propose to allocate Rs 3991.55 cr to this department in this year’s budget.

Implementation of Assam Accord Department- “ A homage to our martyrs”

- Speaker Sir, the Government of Assam is committed to the effective implementation of the Assam Accord in letter and spirit.
- As per the decision of the cabinet, Implementation of Assam Accord Department will provide ex-gratia to bullet injured, seriously injured and victimized women of Assam Agitation.
- A Trust has been constituted in the name of “Assam Agitation Victims Welfare Trust” which aims to provide financial assistance for better education, scholarship, stipend, rewards etc. to help the family members of Victims of Assam Agitation.
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 9.41 cr to this department.

Indigenous Tribal Faith and Culture Department- “Preserving customs and traditions”

- Speaker Sir, the Indigenous Tribal Faith and Culture Department has been created for promotion, formulation and implementation of policies and programmes for welfare and all-round development of the indigenous tribal people of the state.
- An amount of Rs 1568.59 lakh has been sanctioned for the development of archaeological sites and monuments in Assam and presently archaeological excavation with restoration works at Charaideo archaeological site are going on along with 11 other different parts of Assam.
- In the FY 2023-24, the department has proposed to construct the district museum at Barpeta at Sonkuchi.
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 45.25 cr to this department.

Industries, Commerce and Public Enterprises Department- “Creating an Ecosystem for self-employment and private investment”

- Our government proposes to establish five industrial zones across the state- from Sonapur to Kaliabor, Baihata to Tezpur (Biswanath), Moran to Makum, Silchar to Badarpur and from Naharkatia to Namrup.
- Further, the Logistics and Warehousing Policy, 2022 has already been notified to facilitate establishment of modern, integrated and efficient logistics infrastructure in the State.
- Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce that the government has allocated a budget of Rs 20 cr for a Start-Up Venture Fund for Assam in association with SIDBI. In addition, we have allocated Rs 5 cr for strengthening Assam Startup Hub and to mobilize nano incubation centres at Silchar, Bongaigaon, Tezpur and Dibrugarh.
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 813.47 cr to this department.

Information, Public Relations Department and Printing & Stationery “*Communication is the key*”

- Our Government has taken the schemes for the welfare of Journalists in Assam and extended support under Journalists’ Medical Welfare Scheme and Pension Scheme for Journalists.
- We are setting up branches of Assam Govt. Press at Lakhimpur and Titabor.
- I thereby allocate an amount of Rs 168.76 cr to this department.

Information Technology Department- “*Leveraging the Digital Technologies for efficient public service delivery*”

- An initiative has been taken up to digitize all the historical documents and manuscripts of Assam, in different historical places.
- Further, our Government has set up the First Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Authorized Drone Pilot Training School in the Tech City at Bongora, Kamrup, Assam
- Our Government intends to build a high-speed network in the line of National Knowledge Network (NKN) for empowering State Institutions with high-speed internet/ intranet. It aims to create a state owned Gigabit Network and to develop Assam as an innovation and R&D hub.
- We are setting up Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Cyber Security and Augmented/Virtual Reality.
- Setting up of World’s first LEED Platinum certified v4 O&M Data Center and initial work is in progress.
- I hereby allocate Rs 119.05 cr to this department in the budget 2023-24.

Irrigation Department- “Water to every field”

- Speaker Sir, we have completed the balance works of Dhansiri I/P (Major) under Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) of NABARD thereby creating an overall irrigation potential of 38,615 ha.
- Our government has introduced “Irrigation Project Monitoring System (IPMS)” to achieve better coordination with the agriculture department.
- Speaker Sir, under the minor Irrigation sector, we have completed setting up of 4883 tube well points by October, 2022, thereby creating an irrigation potential of 19,532 ha.
- In a bid to create an irrigation potential of 30,788 ha, we have proposed an amount of Rs 1159.65 Cr for 34 new surface minor irrigation schemes.
- New medium/ major irrigation projects have been taken under consideration by the department, which shall create an irrigation potential of 38,860 Ha.
- I hereby propose to allocate Rs 1032.87 cr to this department.

Judicial Department-

- It is said “*Justice delayed is justice denied*” and to ensure that no citizen of our state is denied access to the rule of law, the Judicial Department facilitates administration of Justice that ensures easy access and timely delivery of Justice to the litigants in Assam.
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 853.67 cr to this department.

Labour Welfare Department

- Speaker Sir, for the welfare of the labourers, our Government has undertaken a slew of IT enabled Services like e-registrations, online DBT, online cess collection which has resulted in increase of registration of construction workers to

6,48,496 in the State and is facilitating and expediting the smooth flow of funds to the beneficiaries.

- Further, our government plans to take up different priority schemes like the Small Tea Garden Workers' Social Security Scheme to provide financial assistance to small tea garden workers undergoing medical treatment, Assam Transport Workers Social Security Scheme, 2022 to provide financial assistance to registered workers etc
- Speaker Sir, therefore I propose to earmark an amount of Rs 115.31 cr in this year's Budget.

Legislative Department- *"Rule of Law"*

- Speaker Sir, in consonance with the present scenario, we have enacted 12 new laws, made 37 amendments and repealed 24 number of laws which have already been published in the Assam Gazette.
- Further, we have organized 3,372 Camps/ Programmes under the guidance of Assam State Legal Authority to create legal awareness and have provided legal services to 43,908 persons belonging to SC, ST, women, children, persons with disability, industrial workmen and others whose annual income is less.
- Focusing on delivery of efficient and faster justice, the construction of 7 additional Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres are in progress in Barpeta, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Golaghat, Jorhat and Dibrugarh.
- Speaker Sir, therefore I propose to allocate Rs 21.63 cr in this year budget.

Medical Education and Research Department- *"Thriving for Excellence in Healthcare"*

- Speaker Sir, the health sector received a major boost during the last couple of years. In order to boost the cancer care facility in the State, the Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated seven cancer hospitals in our State.

- In order to boost health care facilities along with medical education our government has decided to start functioning of three more new Medical Colleges at Kokrajhar, Nalbari and Nagaon from the next academic session 2023. Another four new Medical Colleges are coming up at Tinsukia, Charaideo, Bishanath and one at Kamrup(M) district and construction of the same is going on at a rapid pace. In addition to these, construction of another eight new Medical Colleges at Karimganj, Goalpara, Tamulpur, Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Morigaon, Golaghat and Sibsagar have been taken up by the government.
- Apart from that, MBBS and PG (MD/MS) seats have been increased considerably (1500 seats for MBBS, 722 seats for PG course and 46 seats for DM/M.Ch in various super specialty disciplines).
- Sir, our government has undertaken to upgrade the tertiary and secondary care hospitals of the State by constructing Super Speciality hospital at six medical colleges and infrastructure improvement of six district hospitals
- Cashless medical treatment upto Rs2.00 lakh per year under Atal Amrit Abhiyan (AAA) and Rs 5.00 lakh per year under Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) are being extended to poor and vulnerable eligible individuals and families benefitting more than seven lakh beneficiaries
- Sir, our government proposes to establish a new University College of Medical Sciences in the new campus of Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences with a teaching Hospital.
- To improve the quality of public health system JICA aided project 'Assam Health System Augmentation Project' for Rs 3800 Cr has been approved.
- As per announcement of Honb'le Chief Minister, Assam in the Platinum Jubilee celebration of Assam Medical College, Rs 300 Cr would be provided for infrastructure upgradation of AMC.
- Sir, Swasthya Mela Utsav on the lines of Gunotsav will be held to assess the health institutions.

- Further our government proposes to establish and introduce the following
 - Two new Dental Colleges in Morigaon and Lakhimpur
 - Upgrade the existing Regional Institute of Ophthalmology (RIO) attached to GMCH as a Center of Excellence
 - SMART classroom with skill & Simulation Laboratory facilities in all Medical Colleges
 - Master of Hospital Administration Course under Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences.
 - Graduate College for Paramedical Sciences in the campus of GMCH, Guwahati at an estimated cost of Rs 53 cr
 - Upgrade the SJN Homeo College into a Centre of Excellence.

Mines and Minerals Department- *“Optimal utilisation of Nature’s Gift”*

- Speaker Sir, the royalty collection for minerals in the financial year 2021-22 was Rs 2538.78 cr. I am very happy to inform members of this august house that till February 2023, the collection is Rs 3823.81 cr and is likely to cross Rs 4,140.00 cr.
- This increase is mainly due to the resumption activities of Coal India Ltd, increased rates for Oil & Natural gas in the international market, increased Production of Limestone, additional production in discovered small fields by private sector agencies. Further, Oil India Ltd has started petroleum exploration in the northern bank of Brahmaputra and Dima Hasao district for the first time
- Again, efforts for improving further exploration and mining of other minerals like Limestone, Sillimanite, China Clay, Granite, Iron ore and rare earth metals is being undertaken in collaboration with Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET),

Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Atomic Mineral Directorate (AMD).

- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 24.66 cr to this department.

Panchayat & Rural Development Department- “Grassroot Democracy”

- Speaker Sir, With a view to realize the vision of Hon’ble Prime Minister to conserve water for the future, our government has identified around 3007 sites for developing it into Amrit Sarovars and we were fortunate enough as the Hon’ble Prime Minister laid the foundation for Amrit Sarovar in Assam on 28th April, 2022 in Karbi Anglong district.
- Focusing on enhancing the livelihood security in the Tea Garden Areas, our government has generated 45,93,194 persondays in FY 2022-23 under MgNREGA. The proportion of women workers in MgNREGA is 47.34% and our government is making a concerted effort to bring more women into the fold.
- Sir, our government has provided 736587 nos of houses under the PMAY-G scheme by adopting a new innovative idea of cluster house and has also facilitated the house to home approach by converging with other Departments and providing toilets under SBM, drinking water connection under Jal Jeevan Mission, electricity connection under Saubhagya scheme, gas connection under Ujjwala scheme etc. Further, to boost the beneficiaries, a letter from the Hon’ble Chief Minister is distributed to all the beneficiaries.
- Further, under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) & Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS), the state was allocated Rs327.10 cr from Govt. of India out of which Rs232.16 cr has been received and 90% of it has been utilized already.
- ASRLM has formed a total of 329365 number of SHGs and a revolving fund of Rs 15000/ is being provided to the SHGs as a grant under ~~Day~~ NRLM. A total of 238291 SHGs have

received the revolving fund amounting to Rs 47324 cr till date. Further, community investment fund of Rs 50000 is also provided to the SHGs.

- Furthermore, under RGSA, the SIPRD has taken steps to set up 125 Common Service Centres in different districts of the state.
- I therefore allocate an amount of Rs 11548.38 cr to this department.

Parliamentary Affairs Department- “*Supporting Loktantra*”

- The Parliamentary Affairs Department acts as a coordinating agency between the Government and the State Legislature in respect of Government business in the Legislature.
- The Department proposes to take up the scheme "Conduct of Youth Parliament" amongst the students of schools, colleges and universities with the objective of providing an insight into the Parliamentary procedures of our country.

I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 88 lakhs to this department.

Personnel Department- “*Grooming the Human Capital*”

- Speaker Sir, the Personnel Department is working to fill in the vacancies across the State in order to optimize governance and create responsive, people-oriented modern administration through IT enabled services
- I therefore allocate an amount of Rs 47.76 cr to this department.

Power Department- “Propelling all round growth” “Futuristic Green Energy for the State”

- Speaker Sir, our Government is committed to provide uninterrupted power to the last mile for the inclusive growth of the State.
- With a vision of meeting the load demand till 2025-26 “Enhancement of Intra State Transmission System of Assam” has been taken up with the assistance of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).
- In generation sector, to boost the own power generation capacity 120 MW Lower Kopili Hydro Electric Project in Dima Hasao District has been taken up
- In line with our commitment to clean environment, the State’s Green energy production has been initiated with implementation of new solar projects at Namrup Solar Power of 20 MW, 70 MW Sonbeel Floating Solar PV Project, 40 MW Floating Solar Project at Golaghat District and Hydrokinetics Energy Project.
- I want to assure this August house that our government seeks to enhance the power generation capacity to 3000 MW by 2026, mainly through Solar Power Plants.
- I want to apprise the August House that electrification of all revenue villages of Assam has been completed
- With the introduction of a new Artificial intelligence (AI) based meter reading system under its E-Suvidha spot billing system the complaints related to bills have drastically reduced.
- Under the Assam Distribution System Enhancement and Loss Reduction (ADSELR) Project, APDCL aims to improve voltage reliability by installing 196 numbers of new Distribution Sub-stations and 2674 numbers of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS).
- MoU was signed between APDCL and NLC India Ltd. for development of renewable energy projects.

- There will be procurement of 495 MW from Coal based power plant at Ghatampur, Uttar Pradesh.
- Emphasis will be given to generate solar power through promoting roof-top solar.

For this department, I propose to allocate Rs 1550.97 cr in this year's budget.

Public Health Engineering Department- “Clean Water, Clean Assam”

- Speaker Sir, ensuring clean and safe drinking, water is essential to life and as envisioned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister under the Har Ghar Jal Mission, our government has been able to provide 100 percent functional household tap water connection to 2742 villages in the State and has also covered 83% schools and 73% Anganwadi Centres in the State.
- Under the Swachh Bharat Mission, our government aims to cover 50% of the villages in Assam as ODF Plus and also envisages to install Plastic Waste Management (PWM) units at every block of the State by March 2024.
- I therefore propose to allocate Rs 1730.44 cr.

Public Works (Buildings & NH) Department- “Building Infrastructure for Stronger Assam” Building the nation's future

- Speaker Sir, the Public Works (Building & NH) department is mainly entrusted with the development of public infrastructure and the construction & maintenance of public buildings of the state.
- With a goal to make Assam a medical hub for N.E region, this department has been able to make 2 new medical colleges, one at North Lakhimpur and the other at Dhubri, functional within the last year. Further, 3 new medical colleges at Nalbari, Nagaon and Kokrajhar are due to become functional from academic session 2023-24.

- In the education sector, the department has taken up the works for construction of 7 new universities at Hojai, Bajali, Narayanpur, Golaghat, Chabua, Majuli and Jorhat.
- In a bid to commemorate the 400 Birth Anniversary of Lachit, this department has been constructing a 125 feet tall statue of Lachit Borphukan at Lahdoigarh at the existing Lachit Maidam which shall be completed within 2025.
- The construction of the new Assam Bhavan at Dwarka (New Delhi) has been taken up.
- In the cultural sector, works of Sri Madhavadev Kalakshetra at Narayanpur are in the final stage of completion; development of Batadrava Than, as a cultural and tourist destination at Nagaon is also in progress.
- The Department is also undertaking the work for construction of the bridge connecting Majuli to Jorhat and the major R.C.C bridge over Brahmaputra on Morigaon-Kaupati road.
- I therefore allocate an amount of Rs 4483.04 cr to this department.

Public Works (Roads) Department- “*Connecting Assam*”

- Speaker Sir, our State was fortunate to have our Hon’ble Prime Minister inaugurating the ambitious Asom Mala programme which aims at creating high speed corridors with state of art safety standards for efficient transportation.
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Phase-III, 1538 km of road work has been completed out of the sanctioned 2760 kms. Project preparation of a next batch of road works is going on wherein a new technology called FDR (Full Depth Reclamation) is being adopted for environmental sustainability and durability.
- The department has taken up two new bridges over River Subansiri at Ghunasuti and over River Pagladiya with a road connecting Kumarikata and Nayabasti under the Asom Mala SOPD 2022-23 with an outlay of Rs 631.56 cr.

- Further, the Department has taken up the following projects
 - 247 km of roads have been taken up with an outlay of Rs 3519.27 cr under the AIIB funded Assam Secondary Road Network Improvement Project (ASRIP) component
 - 312 Km of road work have been taken up with an outlay of Rs 3994 cr under the ADB aided Assam South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation Corridor Connectivity Project
 - Under NABARD funded NIDA component, road length of 135 km has been taken up with an outlay of Rs1252.14 cr across the state.
- Our government has been able to complete 70% of the Construction of Extradosed PSC Bridge over River Brahmaputra connecting Guwahati and North Guwahati which was sanctioned at a project cost of Rs 2608.67 cr

I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 11973.55 cr to this department.

Revenue and Disaster Management Department- *Khilonziar mati Khilonziar adhikar*

- Speaker Sir, the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, with an aim to transform land revenue management towards quality, time bound and transparent citizen centric land related service delivery, has launched Mission Basundhara on the 14th of November 2022.
- Our Government has continued prioritizing and securing the rights of the indigenous people of the State and has launched the second iteration of Mission Basundhara which would provide the following online services through the Right to Public Service (RTPS)
 - Settlement of Government Khas and Ceiling Surplus land
 - Conferring Ownership rights to occupancy tenants

- Settlement of Annual Patta (AP) land transferred from original AP holder
- Settlement of PGR VGR Land for individuals
- Settlement of land for indigenous special cultivators
- Settlement of hereditary land of tribal communities
- Our Government is undertaking survey in 1074 unsurveyed non cadastral villages under SVAMITVA scheme to offer settlement to its inhabitants and resurveying 18789 villages using hybrid technology for digitisation of land records and generation of Unique Land Parcel Identification Number thereof
- Further, we have launched the online Composite Land Transfer Service to facilitate citizens with No Objection Certificates (NOCs), and Registration, auto Mutation and partition through a single window and have introduced online payment of land revenue using a single payment window.
- I hereby propose to allocate Rs 2077.24 cr to this department.

School Education Department- *Nurturing the future generation*

- Speaker Sir, during the year 2022-23, several developmental activities in the sector of School Education have been initiated and implemented in the state. For the academic year 2022, Free Textbooks (FTB) are provided to more than 41 lakh learners of Govt./ Provincialised, recognised & Tea Garden managed schools involving Rs117.58 cr.
- Our government has identified 80739 numbers of Out of School Children and has taken steps to mainstream them through enrolment/support in formal schools and through different interventions.
- The Department has been addressing the needs of Children with Special Needs and have identified 56576 Nos. of such special children and have enrolled them in schools and also supported through Home Based Education.

- As part of our Govt.'s agenda to recruit one lakh youth in Govt. sector advertisements have been published for recruitment of 5320 regular teachers of LP and UP Schools under DEE, Assam. Accordingly, online applications have been received and the recruitment process has been started. The recruitment process is scheduled to be completed by the first week of May, 2023.
- Moreover, the Govt. had constituted Assam Direct Recruitment Commissions for Analogous Posts in Class-III and Class-IV Posts and accordingly the details of vacancies had been forwarded to the commission for recruitment of the posts.
- Our Government has taken steps for setting up 119 Model High Schools in Tea Garden areas, out of which 97 schools have been made functional. Furthermore, Her Excellency, the President of India laid foundation stone in 100 more Model Schools in Tea Garden Areas across the State on 14th October, 2022.
- Cash Award of Rs16000/- to 22601 meritorious students have been awarded who have passed out HSLC with 75% marks and above under Anundoram Borooah Award Scheme 2022.
- Further, the Department have implemented the Arohon scheme- a flagship scheme of our Government and will continue to support our students through the following- Providing free textbooks, waiving of admission fees and tuition fees, waiving of examination fees, distribution of free uniforms, scholarship scheme for Minority Girls Students, Scholarship for the differently abled students, free bicycle distribution to students studying in Class IX etc.
- We will ensure restructuring of school education from 10+2 to 5+3+3+4 pattern.
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 16109.96 cr to this department.

Science, Technology and Climate Change Department- “Building Scientific Temper”

- Chief Minister’s Climate Resilient Fellowship and Chief Minister’s Bigyan Pratibha Sandhan will continue during 2023-24.
- Mission LiFE Lifestyle for Environment will be launched in 2023-24.
- Construction of Science City at Tepesia, Sonapur is progressing satisfactorily and more than 50% of the civil work is complete. It will be equipped with exhibits and displays to make them attractive destinations for science loving people of the entire region to have immersing experience.
- To promote education, research, development and attract investment in biotechnology and allied areas, Bio technology policy is extended upto 2027. The Technology Incubation Centre of Guwahati Biotech Park with state of art infrastructure facility is constructed at Amingaon.
- 11 District Science Centers and 6 new science centres and planetariums in different districts are at various stages of construction with an outlay of 280 cr.
- To sensitize the government officials on climate change mitigation an initiative in the form of Chief Minister’s Institutional Plantation Programme (CMIPP) has been initiated and more than fifty thousand institutions have participated in the effort. In 2023-24, it will be extended to private and semi-private premises. The department is also conducting a regular orientation programme on climate change issues for the Panchayati Raj Institutions in collaboration with SIPRD and other NGOs and institutions.
- Assam State Space Application Center(ASSAC) has initiated Satellite-based Land Use Intelligence System for Guwahati (SLIS-G) with an outlay of 4.5 cr funded by NEC.
- Assam Fisheries Resource Information System (AFISH) is being developed in coordination with Fishery department to

help farmers with necessary advisory for increased fish production by ASSAC.

- I therefore allocate an amount of Rs 123.08 cr to this department.

Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship Department- *“Reaping the demographic dividend”*

- Speaker Sir, our Government has been focusing on skilling youth and generating jobs and has been upgrading and strengthening the skill training facilities by setting up State of Art workshops and introducing new trades.
- To modernize the ITIs of Assam, our government has signed an MoU with Tata Technologies.
- Further, under the National Career Service Project, Employment Exchanges are converted to Model Career Centres and presently six numbers of Model Career Centres are operational across the State.
- Also, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is to cater the demand for high quality TVET system in Assam as well as NE region of India.
- Our government has already taken steps to establish a state-of-the-art Assam Skill University in Mangaldai, Assam with Project cost of Rs 1016 Cr to respond to the dynamic needs of industries as well as to support economic growth of the region. We have already established the North East Skil Centre (NESC) in collaboration with ITE Education Services (ITEES), Singapore to provide international skill training and to make our state “The Skill Capital of the Nation”.
- Further, to provide all round welfare facilities for the youth and to facilitate the jobseekers, our government has envisioned establishing a District Youth Welfare Centre in each district headquarter.

I therefore propose to allocate Rs 235.50 cr for this department.

Social Justice and Empowerment Department

- Speaker Sir, the Deen Dayal Divyangjan Pension Scheme having a total of 1,29,810 beneficiaries has now been subsumed under the Orunodoi Scheme.
- Under Deen Dayal Divyangjan Punarsansthan Scheme, a one time grant of Rs 20,000 is provided to each of the persons with disabilities between the age of 18 to 50 years for their self-employment and rehabilitation having benchmark disability of 40% or above.
- "Unique Disability ID" project is being implemented with a view of creating a National Database for Persons with Disabilities, and to issue a Unique Disability Identity Card to each person with disabilities. A total of 1,74,129 Nos. of UDID has already been issued.
- Further, our government has been implementing various welfare schemes for the elderly, transgender community etc and also runs de-addiction cum rehabilitation centers to provide preventive and rehabilitative services for the Drug Addicts.
- I hereby propose to allocate Rs 535.12 cr to this department.

Soil Conservation Department- “Conserving soil for a better environment”

- Speaker Sir, we have implemented the scheme - Mitigation of Flash Flood through Ecological Management Practices at Kahilipara Sub-Water Shed, Kahilipara Hills, Guwahati to fight against flash flood and 90% progress has been achieved
- The Department is also executing Centrally Sponsored Scheme WDC-PMKSY-2.0 and the Department of Land Resource, Ministry of Rural Development, GoI has sanctioned 29 nos. of Watershed projects for Assam covering an area of 1,28,574 lakh Ha. with a total project cost of Rs 293.0028 cr for a period of 3 to 5 years.

- Various Initiatives under SOPD would be taken up - Gully Control cum Water Harvesting, Land Reclamation and Water Distribution, Protective Afforestation etc
- Further, our Government proposes to create 59 nos. of Spring sheds in three hill districts of Assam, namely, Karbi Anglong, West Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao and the Department will also implement Integrated Soil & Water Conservation schemes to create rural infrastructure under RIDF

I hereby allocate Rs 182.62 cr to this department.

Sports & Youth Welfare Department- “A fitter Assam for better tomorrow”

- Speaker Sir, our government is committed to realize the vision of Hon’ble Chief Minister of making Guwahati the sports capital of the Country and Assam a sports hub and accordingly our government proposes to organise Khel Mahotsab, 2023 during the FY 2023-24.
- In the Sports infrastructure sector, construction of 10 District Stadiums and 34 Mini Stadiums have been started.
- Further, our government has decided to establish two High Performance Sports Training and Rehabilitation Centres at Guwahati and Jorhat which will facilitate the sportspersons in terms of scientific evaluation and assessment of their performances.
- Further, our government intends to start a scholarship scheme for students of poor and lower-middle class categories, sponsoring six seats for permanent residents of Assam for providing world-class training facilities to aspiring pilots.
- Sir, the Assam State Youth Commission has been constituted for the purpose of evolving and implementing programmes for the empowerment of youth, to function as protector of rights and to improve their status in the society.

I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 257.37 cr to this department.

Tea Tribes Welfare Department- “Pride of Assam”

- Speaker Sir, the contribution of our brothers and sisters of Tea Gardens to the State’s economy is widely known and their immense contribution to the formation and development of Greater Assamese culture too is unparalleled.
- The Assam Chah Janagusthiya Samannay Kalakshetra scheme taken up in the financial year 2021-22 to construct a self-sustaining multi faceted socio-cultural centre will be located near Kaziranga at Hatikhuli Bagicha Gaon under Bokakhat Revenue Circle, Golaghat.
- Our government also envisages to provide one-time cash grants of Rs25,000/- to self-employed entrepreneurs belonging to the Tea Tribes Communities under the Swahid Dayal Das Panika Swaniyojon Achoni.

I hereby propose to allocate Rs 429.38 cr.

Tourism Department- “Awesome Assam”

- Speaker Sir, our government has granted industry status to the tourism sector to further boost the sector and attract fresh investments which would contribute towards rapid employment generation, public-private partnership and infrastructure development of the State.
- Our government has focussed on theme based tourism like golf tourism and tea tourism. In order to boost the tea tourism sector, the department has selected 50 tea gardens to provide capital infrastructure support in order to facilitate tea tourism in the State.
- To tap the immense tourism potential of the state, several tourism infrastructural development projects across Assam has been taken up like Construction of Jongal Balahu Khetra at Jongal Balahu Archaeological site, development of Heritage

Bungalow at Kaziranga, Modern Yatri Niwas at Amingaon and development of Saraighat Lake at Amingaon.

- Given the strong growth potential of the tourism and hospitality sector in the State, our government has signed some major MoUs to make a Greenfield hotel project at Manas with IHCL, setting up a 5 star hotel at Kaziranga with Hyatt group of Hotels, operationalizing a hospitality training center with TATA group, setting up two high end Tea Tourism resorts at Kaziranga, setting up the online booking system for Assam tourism with the online platform Ease My Trip.
- Further, our government would take up many more tourism infrastructural development projects viz. State of the Art Guest House cum convention centre at Kaziranga, Tourism infrastructure development at Umrangshu / Panimore and Haflong, Development of tourist facilities at Banglagarh, Borgaon, Kamrup, Hahila Beel Conservation & Development plan at Nagaon, Development of multiple tourist spots in Goalpara district etc.

I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 100.02 cr to this department.

Transformation and Development Department- “Ensuring Sustainable Development Goals”

- Sir, the Transformation and Development Department is the nodal department for coordination with other departments and agencies for a large number of Schemes of vital importance.
- Speaker Sir, the Axom Adarxo Gram Yojana is being implemented for creating model villages with an aim to bring about sustainable and holistic development of the villages
- Further, with an aim to address the infrastructure gap in the state, 11 numbers of schemes are proposed under Prime Minister’s Development Initiative for Northeast Region (PM-DEVINE) amounting to Rs 1834.66 cr.

For this department, I propose an amount of Rs 645.37 cr in this year’s budget.

Transport Department- *Driving the development of the State*

- Speaker Sir, the Transport Department of the Government of Assam is one of the major revenue earning Departments whose mandate is ensuring transparent and efficient vehicular licensing and regulation and safe commute of passengers.
- Further, to adopt a business-oriented approach with proper business plans, Government has accorded approval for formation of the “Assam Inland Waterways Company Limited (AIWCL), in cabinet meeting held on 3rd May 2022.
- Our government has contributed an amount of Rs 1044.85 cr as M.V. Revenue in the financial year 2022-23 (upto 31st January, 2022), which is 43.52% higher than the same corresponding period of the previous financial year.
- Further, our Government has taken initiative for providing service delivery at the door steps of public in a contactless manner without requirement to visit DTO Offices. In this line, already 45 Contactless & Faceless Online Services have been launched, of which, 26 Nos. under Vahan Software (relating to Vehicles and route permits) and 19 Nos. under Sarathi software (relating to Driving License).
- Assam Railway Infrastructure Development Co-operation Limited (ARIDCL) joint venture company of Govt. of Assam (51%) and Ministry of Railway (49%) has been incorporated on 03.11.2022 and registered under Companies Act.
- Second entry of Guwahati Railway station is also taken up.
- All ASTC resources like land is being developed which will be monetized through transparent process.
- Uberisation scheme will be continued by the department. Further, it has been decided that ASTC will no longer be involved in running buses, but act like an aggregator. Hence, ASTC will not procure any new buses except electric buses.
- For this department, I propose to allocate Rs 819.31 cr in this year’s budget.

Tribal Affairs (Plain) Department- “Strive towards a rightful share”

- Our Government’s commitment towards protecting the rights of our indigenous communities is unparalleled. A slew of policy measures have been envisioned which focuses around holistic development of our indigenous brothers and sisters. We have continued to provide Pre-Matric Scholarship Post-Matric Scholarship for the benefit of poor ST students and have also provided special incentive to meritorious students.
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY), our government has identified a total of 1700 villages with at least 50% tribal population and 500 ST population to transform them into Model village (Adarsh Gram)
- Speaker Sir, our government has provided adequate funds to the 7 (seven) Autonomous Councils and we propose 10% enhancement on the budget allocation of FY 2021-22 in this FY. Further, our government proposes 20% enhancement on the budget allocation to the 11 (Eleven) Development Councils
- Our Government has been paying special attention for the development of tribal areas under the Tribal Sub-Plan
- I therefore allocate an amount of Rs 675.84 cr to this department.

Water Resources (Flood Control) Department-

“Harnessing the State’s Water Potential”

- Speaker Sir, the Water Resources Department had taken up flood & erosion management as well as infrastructure development schemes in order to tackle the flood and erosion problem of the State in a sustainable way.
- The Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India has approved a scheme for erosion protection of river Aie in Chirang District under Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP). The Department is taking up 38 schemes at a cost

of Rs 499.98 cr under NABARD and 22 schemes for Rs 519.28 cr under SOPD-G for the year 2022-23.

- The Department has also proposed “Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project (CRBIFRERMP)” with Asian Development Bank (ADB). The projects are targeted for flood and erosion management in the mainstream Brahmaputra and has proposed five projects under nine Water Resource Divisions at a cost of Rs 2461.78 cr.
- Moreover, the Department has formulated nine schemes for a total cost of Rs 817.34 cr for execution under Flood Management and Border Area Programme (FMBAP), which will be taken up after due recommendation of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India.
- I hereby propose to allocate Rs 1464.98 cr to this department in this budget.

Welfare of Minorities Development Department- *“Inclusive development “Building an inclusive society”*

- Speaker Sir, our Government has also taken decision to identify Indigenous Assamese Muslim Community of Assam namely Goriya, Moriya, Deshi, Jolha (belonging to the Tea Garden Community) and Syed for their development in the field of Health Care, Financial Inclusion Education, Population Stabilization, Skill Development, Women Empowerment and Cultural Preservation etc. Accordingly, notification in this regard has been issued. The Department has got the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for issuing of Minority Community Certificates approved by the Cabinet in 2023.
- Further, during the year 2021-22, Government has taken a new initiative -”Alaap Alochana” with the intellectuals and leading citizens of Indigenous Assamese Muslim Community for empowering them in financial inclusion, healthcare, education, skill development , cultural identity, upliftment of women, etc.

- I am pleased to announce that under the aegis of the Centrally sponsored Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK), during the FY 2022-23, construction of 9 ITIs were completed and handed over to different Government organisations.

I hereby propose to allocate Rs 162.50 cr to this department in this budget.

Welfare of Bodoland Department- “Respecting Autonomy”

- Speaker Sir, the department has proposed the scheme Bodoland Super 50 Mission which shall provide opportunities for aspirants of Indian Civil Services. and help the bright and meritorious students of Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) coming from economically backward classes.
- Further, many infrastructure projects are also being proposed by PWD and Irrigation Department
- The Department proposes to take up various missions - Bodoland Swaniyojon Yojana, Bodoland Atma Nirbhor Yojana, Bodoland Yuva Vikash, Bodoland Handloom Mission, Bodoland Sericulture Mission, Skill Employment & Entrepreneurship Mission, Mission Dugdha Dhara, etc.
- I therefore allocate an amount of Rs 3863.70 cr to this department

Women and Child Development- “All round development for Women and Children”

- Speaker Sir, our Government has been focusing on the overall development of women and children of our State and has been focusing on the Anganwadi Centres which plays a pivotal role in providing nutrition and focusing on the health of children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- We have completed the construction of 1000 Model Anganwadi Centres with child friendly facilities.

- Further, our Government has sanctioned another 3000 new Model Anganwadi Centres with modern facilities for overall growth and development of the children of our state.
- Various schemes aiming towards the all round development of women are being implemented such as One Stop Centre (OSC), Ujjawala, Swadhar, Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) etc.
- Speaker Sir, therefore, I propose to earmark an amount of Rs 3049.86 cr in FY 2023-24.

Finance Department

- Speaker sir, In order to ensure the complete procurement process and to extend the bidders and citizens a single centralized platform for access to any public Procurement related information, the State Public Procurement Portal (SPPP) has been envisaged under the ASPIRe project. The State Public Procurement Portal was launched on 22nd August 2022 by our Hon'ble Chief Minister.
- Collection of Excise tax through e-governance solutions at the first point of sale and roll out of e-Governance solutions resulted in an increase in excise revenue from Rs 850 cr in 2016. to Rs 2150 cr in 2022, an increase of 135% in 5 years (CAGR of 15%).
- Further, active Debt Management resulted in lowering the cost of borrowing of SDLs. (savings of approx. Rs 210 cr in interest costs).
- I hereby allocate an amount of Rs 26610.53 cr to this department.

PART- II

1. Sir, I would like to highlight that there has been considerable increase in Revenue receipts to Government in last two years. This growth in State own source revenue is reflected in all segments-Taxation, Excise, Forest, Land Revenue, Transport etc. Here, it would be pertinent to mention some of the initiatives that we propose for the upcoming year :

COMMERCIAL TAX

2. Sir, I have already announced decisions regarding exemption of electricity Duty on Renewable energy generation, continuing of Agricultural Income Tax holiday. Our government has focused on improving tax collection and raising tax revenue through constitution of a GST Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), a dedicated GST Audit Cell at Apex office and Institutional Strengthening through Capacity Building of officers and Exposure Visits to top performing States.
3. Further, I propose extension of tax holiday on Agricultural Income Tax for a period of next three years.

EXCISE

4. Speaker Sir, Excise Department has been able to mop up an amount of Rs 2200 cr (up to February, 2023), as against Rs 1674 cr collected for the corresponding period during 2021-22, registering an impressive growth of 31%. Sir, our government has focused on a slew of reforms and would like to highlight few of them:
 - i. Our Government has introduced tamper free high security holograms on each and every liquor bottle to protect consumers from spurious liquor and increase the State exchequer's revenue and curb the evasion of duty through sale of smuggled liquor.
 - ii. Rationalization of *Ad-valorem* levies on IMFL and introduction of new brand.

- iii. Introduction of online Transit Pass mechanism to curb illegal transportation and smuggling of liquor meant for sale in other states.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

5. Speaker Sir, our government has introduced the Vehicle Scrappage Policy of Assam, 2022 to ensure scientific dismantling and scrapping of End of Life Vehicles (ELVs) and the first Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF) of eastern and north-eastern India for carrying out dismantling and scrapping of vehicles has been set up at Rangia. I am glad to apprise the August Assembly that our State is the first state in the entire country to make scrapping of 15 years old government vehicles mandatory.
6. Our Government has levied the Green Tax to generate environmental compensation charges for renewal of registration of non-transport vehicles above 15 years and transport vehicles above 10 years respectively.

R & DM DEPARTMENT

7. Mission Basundhara has not only ushered the time bound delivery of long pending land related issues, but also led to unlocking of stranded lands that has led to buoyancy in collection of Revenue (Registration fees, Stamp duty & Land Revenue) in the recent years, i.e. Rs 397.79 Cr in 2020-21, Rs 624.34 Cr in 2021-22 and Rs 843.05 (as on 1-Mar-2023) for the year 2022-23. Further, we propose to undertake the followings:
 - i. Link the rate of land revenue with zonal valuation to make land revenue more equitable.
 - ii. Map as a service will be introduced to enable land holders to get digitally authenticated accurate geospatial maps of their land parcels as self service.

- iii. The E-khajana application will be universalized enabling and facilitating online payment of land revenue.
- iv. Discontinue the manual selling of physical non-judicial stamps with spread of digital stamping infrastructure throughout the state.
- v. Further, the Assam Title Guarantee Bill will be introduced for setting the statutory framework for conclusive titling in the State.

FOREST DEPARTMENT

8. Our government is committed to bringing back wood based industries like - Plywood and Veneer mills, Agar wood etc. to the State. In this regard, we have recently notified Assam Wood Based Industries (Promotion & Development) Rules 2022. This rule aims at liberating the prevalent regulatory regime and creation of right ecosystem for establishment of wood based industries in the State and thereby generating local employment.
9. Our government is also committed to establish Assam Forest Development Corporation Ltd for optimal utilisation of forest resources and adequate funds will be provided for the same.

MINES AND MINERALS

eAuction of Lime Stone and Iron Ore Blocks

10. Speaker Sir, we are proposing to carry out e-auction of Limestone and Iron ore blocks in accordance with Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended in 2015. This is the first time the State is going to carry out e-auction of major minerals since the promulgation of MMDR Act. The auction of such minerals shall be carried out via a fair, transparent, and competitive bidding process in accordance with the guidelines and procedures stipulated in the Act.

Once these mines are operationalized, it would generate revenue of over Rs 10,000 cr over the life of these mines for the State Government in the form of Royalty, DMF and other statutory payments.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, the hallmark of the Annual Financial Statement under the able guidance of our Hon'ble Chief Minister has been to place it without any additional tax burden on our people of Assam. Accordingly, I place my Budget before this August House.

BUDGET ESTIMATES

The Budget Estimates of 2023-24 show a receipt of Rs.139443.88 Crore under the Consolidated Fund of the State. Out of this, Rs.114084.69 Crore is on Revenue Account and the remaining Rs. 25359.19 Crore is under Capital Account. I have shown the estimated receipt in the Consolidated Fund from different sources at Table-1. After adding the receipt of Rs.180298.83 Crore under Public Account and Rs.2000.00 Crore under Contingency Fund, the aggregate Receipts amount to Rs.321742.71 Crore. As against this, total expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State in 2023-24 is estimated at Rs.139755.27 Crore of which Rs. 111336.59 Crore is on Revenue Account and Rs.28418.68 Crore is on Capital Account. The estimates of Grant-wise Expenditure from the Consolidated Fund during 2023-24 have been shown in Table-2. Taking into account the expenditure of Rs.179326.48 Crore under Public Account and Rs.2000.00 Crore under Contingency Fund, the aggregate expenditure for the year is estimated at Rs.321081.75 Crore. Thus, estimated transactions during the year will result in an estimated surplus of Rs.660.96 Crore. This, together with the opening deficit of Rs.1596.19 Crore will lead to a Budget deficit of Rs.935.23 Crore at the end of the year 2023-24.

Before concluding my budget speech, I would like to offer my best wishes to all the revered members of this August house for the ensuing *Rongali Bihu*. As the Assamese new year commences next month, may this *Rongali Bihu* bring in happiness for all and with this wish, I want to conclude my speech with a verse of Rupkonwar Jyotiprasad Agarwala-

“Xundore je phular mantra

ahoratri maate

xeyehe aji eman phul

prabhate prabhate...”

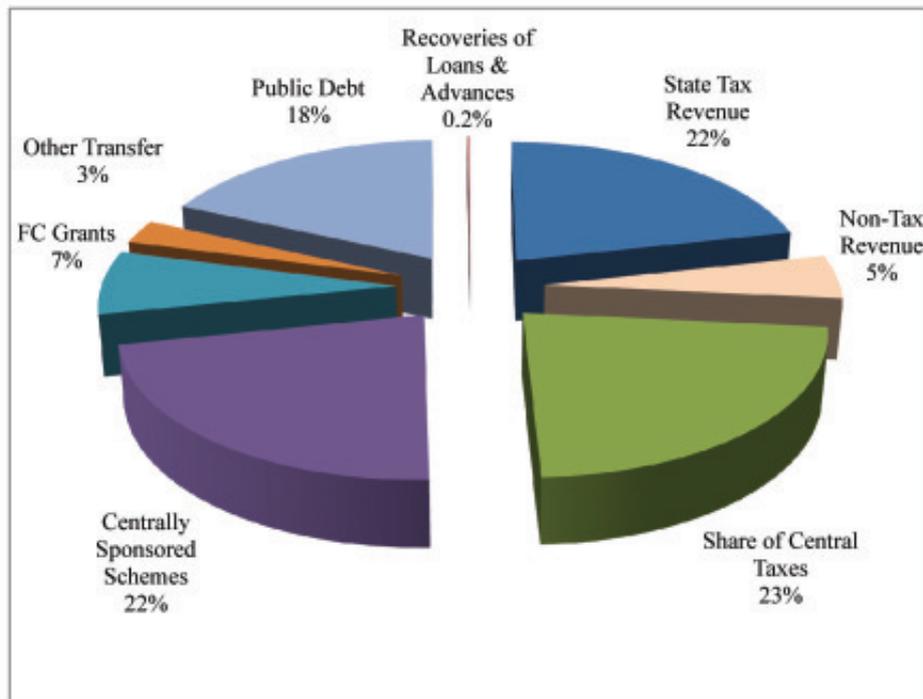
(Means- Beauty chants day and night/ the sacred hymns of blooming/ that’s why, every morning is decorated with so much of flowers...)

**Estimated of Inflows into the Consolidated Fund of the State during
2023-24**

(Rs. in Crore)

| Component | 2023-24 BE | % of Total against 2023-24 |
|--|------------------|-------------------------------|
| State Tax Revenue | 30001.66 | 22 |
| Non-Tax Revenue | 7010.84 | 5 |
| Share of Central Taxes | 31950.89 | 23 |
| Centrally Sponsored Schemes | 31130.48 | 22 |
| Finance Commission Grants | 10186.39 | 7 |
| Other Transfer/Grants to States with Legislature | 3804.43 | 3 |
| Public Debt | 25052.31 | 18 |
| Recoveries of Loans & Advances | 306.88 | 0.2 |
| Total | 139443.88 | 100 |

Where Rupee Comes From



| Table - 2 | | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Estimates of Grantwise outflows from the Consolidated Fund & a part of the Public Account of the State during 2023-2024 | | | | |
| (Amount in Rupees) | | | | |
| Grant No./ Appropriation | Title of Demand/ Appropriation | Voted | Charged | Total |
| C1 | Public Service Commission | Revenue 0.00 | 24625000.00 | 24625000.00 |
| | | Capital 0.00 | 1120000.00 | 1120000.00 |
| C2 | Head of State | Revenue 0.00 | 102247000.00 | 102247000.00 |
| | | Capital 0.00 | 900000.00 | 900000.00 |
| FD | Public Debt And Servicing Of Debt | Revenue 0.00 | 10815309000.00 | 10815309000.00 |
| | | Capital 0.00 | 44070994000.00 | 44070994000.00 |
| 1 | State Legislature | Revenue 1208723000.00 | 1410000.00 | 1222823000.00 |
| | | Capital 194840000.00 | 0.00 | 194840000.00 |
| 2 | Council of Ministers | Revenue 141381000.00 | 0.00 | 141381000.00 |
| | | Capital 2900000.00 | 0.00 | 2900000.00 |
| 3 | Administration of Justice | Revenue 6232219000.00 | 1141807000.00 | 7374026000.00 |
| | | Capital 1374043000.00 | 900000.00 | 1374943000.00 |
| 4 | Elections | Revenue 2233072000.00 | 0.00 | 2233072000.00 |
| | | Capital 128965000.00 | 0.00 | 128965000.00 |
| 5 | Sales Tax & Other Tax | Revenue 733229000.00 | 0.00 | 733229000.00 |
| | | Capital 743963000.00 | 0.00 | 743963000.00 |
| 6 | Land Revenue | Revenue 5530909000.00 | 0.00 | 5530909000.00 |
| | | Capital 201254000.00 | 0.00 | 201254000.00 |
| 7 | Stamps and Registration | Revenue 469713000.00 | 0.00 | 469713000.00 |
| | | Capital 29827000.00 | 0.00 | 29827000.00 |
| 8 | Excise & Prohibition | Revenue 909622000.00 | 0.00 | 909622000.00 |
| | | Capital 2980000.00 | 0.00 | 2980000.00 |
| 9 | Transport Services | Revenue 471398000.00 | 0.00 | 471398000.00 |
| | | Capital 3482432000.00 | 0.00 | 3482432000.00 |
| 10 | Other Fiscal Service | Revenue 40345000.00 | 0.00 | 40345000.00 |
| 11 | General Administration (Secretariat and Attached Offices) | Revenue 10871067000.00 | 0.00 | 10871067000.00 |
| | | Capital 199415000.00 | 0.00 | 199415000.00 |
| 12 | General Administration (District and Sub-Divisions) | Revenue 5273683000.00 | 0.00 | 5273683000.00 |
| | | Capital 1300254000.00 | 0.00 | 1300254000.00 |
| 13 | Treasury & Accounts Administration | Revenue 1306794000.00 | 0.00 | 1306794000.00 |
| | | Capital 154548000.00 | 0.00 | 154548000.00 |
| 14 | Police | Revenue 72960302000.00 | 7290000.00 | 72967592000.00 |
| | | Capital 5911185000.00 | 0.00 | 5911185000.00 |
| 15 | Jails | Revenue 93408000.00 | 2000000.00 | 95408000.00 |
| | | Capital 727425000.00 | 0.00 | 727425000.00 |
| 16 | Printing & Stationery and Information & Publicity | Revenue 1629124000.00 | 0.00 | 1629124000.00 |
| | | Capital 61021000.00 | 0.00 | 61021000.00 |
| 17 | Administrative and functional Buildings | Revenue 405496000.00 | 0.00 | 405496000.00 |
| | | Capital 37905015000.00 | 0.00 | 37905015000.00 |
| 18 | Fire & Emergency Services | Revenue 221336000.00 | 1000.00 | 221337000.00 |
| | | Capital 517785000.00 | 0.00 | 517785000.00 |
| 19 | Vigilance Commission & Others and Social Security & Welfare (Freedom Fighter) | Revenue 2895737000.00 | 0.00 | 2895737000.00 |
| | | Capital 68075000.00 | 0.00 | 68075000.00 |
| 20 | Civil Defence and Home Guards | Revenue 3289434000.00 | 0.00 | 3289434000.00 |
| | | Capital 10829000.00 | 0.00 | 10829000.00 |

| Grant No / Appropriation | Title of Demand/ Appropriation | | Voted | Charged | Total |
|--------------------------|---|---------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 21 | Guest Houses, Government Hostels | Revenue | 541271000.00 | 0.00 | 541271000.00 |
| | | Capital | 51963000.00 | 0.00 | 51963000.00 |
| 22 | Administrative Training | Revenue | 168865000.00 | 0.00 | 168865000.00 |
| | | Capital | 82899000.00 | 0.00 | 82899000.00 |
| 23 | Pension & Other Retirement Benefits | Revenue | 162032126000.00 | 0.00 | 162032126000.00 |
| 24 | Aid Materials | Revenue | 90000.00 | 0.00 | 90000.00 |
| 25 | Miscellaneous General Services & others | Revenue | 70102739000.00 | 0.00 | 70102739000.00 |
| | | Capital | 3158539000.00 | 0.00 | 3158539000.00 |
| 26 | Education (Higher) | Revenue | 32041406000.00 | 0.00 | 32041406000.00 |
| | | Capital | 1686057000.00 | 0.00 | 1686057000.00 |
| 27 | Art & Culture | Revenue | 121202000.00 | 0.00 | 121202000.00 |
| | | Capital | 921793000.00 | 0.00 | 921793000.00 |
| 28 | State Archives | Revenue | 30828000.00 | 0.00 | 30828000.00 |
| | | Capital | 5251000.00 | 0.00 | 5251000.00 |
| 29 | Medical & Public Health | Revenue | 63257815000.00 | 1050000.00 | 63268315000.00 |
| | | Capital | 8033496000.00 | 0.00 | 8033496000.00 |
| 30 | Water Supply & Sanitation | Revenue | 4609052000.00 | 11890000.00 | 4727952000.00 |
| | | Capital | 12575677000.00 | 836000.00 | 12576513000.00 |
| 31 | Housing & Urban Affairs (Town and Country Planning) | Revenue | 10172588000.00 | 0.00 | 10172588000.00 |
| | | Capital | 22340000.00 | 0.00 | 22340000.00 |
| 32 | Housing & Urban Affairs (Housing Schemes) | Revenue | 66990000.00 | 0.00 | 66990000.00 |
| | | Capital | 9000000.00 | 0.00 | 9000000.00 |
| 33 | Residential Buildings | Revenue | 17289000.00 | 0.00 | 17289000.00 |
| | | Capital | 4703000.00 | 0.00 | 4703000.00 |
| 34 | Housing & Urban Affairs (Municipal Administration) | Revenue | 21801211000.00 | 0.00 | 21801211000.00 |
| | | Capital | 17431000.00 | 0.00 | 17431000.00 |
| 35 | Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship | Revenue | 1410173000.00 | 0.00 | 1410173000.00 |
| | | Capital | 944858000.00 | 0.00 | 944858000.00 |
| 36 | Labour Welfare | Revenue | 1085099000.00 | 0.00 | 1085099000.00 |
| | | Capital | 88082000.00 | 0.00 | 88082000.00 |
| 37 | Food Storage & Warehousing | Revenue | 5799616000.00 | 0.00 | 5799616000.00 |
| | | Capital | 34541000.00 | 0.00 | 34541000.00 |
| 38 | Tribal Affairs (Plain) | Revenue | 8075637000.00 | 0.00 | 8075637000.00 |
| | | Capital | 2976890000.00 | 0.00 | 2976890000.00 |
| 39 | Women & Child Development | Revenue | 27621109000.00 | 0.00 | 27621109000.00 |
| | | Capital | 2877903000.00 | 0.00 | 2877903000.00 |
| 40 | Social Justice & Empowerment | Revenue | 4703741000.00 | 0.00 | 4703741000.00 |
| | | Capital | 64752000.00 | 0.00 | 64752000.00 |
| 41 | Natural Calamities | Revenue | 14289581000.00 | 0.00 | 14289581000.00 |
| | | Capital | 7200000.00 | 0.00 | 7200000.00 |
| 42 | Other Social Services (Welfare of Minorities & Development) | Revenue | 1619283000.00 | 0.00 | 1619283000.00 |
| | | Capital | 5814000.00 | 0.00 | 5814000.00 |
| 43 | Co-Operation | Revenue | 1362242000.00 | 0.00 | 1362242000.00 |
| | | Capital | 826945000.00 | 0.00 | 826945000.00 |
| 44 | North Eastern Council Scheme | Revenue | 9000000.00 | 0.00 | 9000000.00 |
| | | Capital | 387045000.00 | 0.00 | 387045000.00 |
| 45 | Census, Survey & Statistics | Revenue | 51529000.00 | 0.00 | 51529000.00 |
| | | Capital | 31876000.00 | 0.00 | 31876000.00 |
| 46 | Weights & Measures | Revenue | 258091000.00 | 0.00 | 258091000.00 |
| | | Capital | 5709000.00 | 0.00 | 5709000.00 |
| 47 | Trade advisor | Revenue | 18967000.00 | 0.00 | 18967000.00 |

| Grant No./ Appropriation | Title of Demand/ Appropriation | | Voted | Charged | Total |
|--------------------------|---|---------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 48 | Agriculture | Revenue | 19059175000.00 | 0.00 | 19059175000.00 |
| | | Capital | 1711587000.00 | 0.00 | 1711587000.00 |
| 49 | Irrigation | Revenue | 6096739000.00 | 0.00 | 6096739000.00 |
| | | Capital | 4232054000.00 | 0.00 | 4232054000.00 |
| 50 | Other Special Area Programmes (Border Protection & Development) | Revenue | 34820000.00 | 0.00 | 34820000.00 |
| | | Capital | 433756000.00 | 0.00 | 433756000.00 |
| 51 | Soil & Water Conservation | Revenue | 1385555000.00 | 0.00 | 1385555000.00 |
| | | Capital | 440739000.00 | 0.00 | 440739000.00 |
| 52 | Animal Husbandry and Veterinary | Revenue | 4770799000.00 | 0.00 | 4770799000.00 |
| | | Capital | 845330000.00 | 0.00 | 845330000.00 |
| 53 | Dairy Development | Revenue | 457249000.00 | 0.00 | 457249000.00 |
| | | Capital | 139152000.00 | 0.00 | 139152000.00 |
| 54 | Fisheries | Revenue | 1168147000.00 | 0.00 | 1168147000.00 |
| | | Capital | 582138000.00 | 0.00 | 582138000.00 |
| 55 | Environment & Forest | Revenue | 9720264000.00 | 0.00 | 9720264000.00 |
| | | Capital | 846750000.00 | 0.00 | 846750000.00 |
| 56 | Panchayat & Rural Development (Panchayat) | Revenue | 27989823000.00 | 35798000.00 | 2802621000.00 |
| | | Capital | 81000000.00 | 7500000.00 | 88500000.00 |
| 57 | Panchayat & Rural Development (Rural Development) | Revenue | 87368745000.00 | 0.00 | 87368745000.00 |
| 58 | Industries & Commerce | Revenue | 4292936000.00 | 0.00 | 4292936000.00 |
| | | Capital | 3073731000.00 | 0.00 | 3073731000.00 |
| 59 | Village & Small Industries Sericulture and Weaving | Revenue | 3538999000.00 | 0.00 | 3538999000.00 |
| | | Capital | 238573000.00 | 0.00 | 238573000.00 |
| 60 | Cottage Industries | Revenue | 754829000.00 | 0.00 | 754829000.00 |
| 61 | Mines & Minerals | Revenue | 194880000.00 | 0.00 | 194880000.00 |
| | | Capital | 51765000.00 | 0.00 | 51765000.00 |
| 62 | Power (Electricity) | Revenue | 7820870000.00 | 0.00 | 7820870000.00 |
| | | Capital | 7888898000.00 | 0.00 | 7888898000.00 |
| 63 | Water Resources | Revenue | 3906450000.00 | 0.00 | 3906450000.00 |
| | | Capital | 10743366000.00 | 0.00 | 10743366000.00 |
| 64 | Roads & Bridges | Revenue | 14969941000.00 | 0.00 | 14969941000.00 |
| | | Capital | 107943204000.00 | 0.00 | 107943204000.00 |
| 65 | Tourism | Revenue | 420759000.00 | 0.00 | 420759000.00 |
| | | Capital | 579515000.00 | 0.00 | 579515000.00 |
| 66 | Compensation & assignment to local bodies of Panchayat raj institutions | Revenue | 10027850000.00 | 0.00 | 10027850000.00 |
| 67 | Horticulture | Revenue | 833090000.00 | 0.00 | 833090000.00 |
| | | Capital | 13553000.00 | 0.00 | 13553000.00 |
| 68 | Loans to Govt. Servant etc | Capital | 100000.00 | 0.00 | 100000.00 |
| 69 | Science, Technology and Climate Change | Revenue | 483554000.00 | 0.00 | 483554000.00 |
| | | Capital | 747246000.00 | 0.00 | 747246000.00 |
| 70 | Hill Areas | Revenue | 62089000.00 | 0.00 | 62089000.00 |
| | | Capital | 17978000.00 | 0.00 | 17978000.00 |
| 71 | School Education | Revenue | 154980486000.00 | 0.00 | 154980486000.00 |
| | | Capital | 6119156000.00 | 0.00 | 6119156000.00 |
| 72 | Social Security & Welfare | Revenue | 171130000.00 | 0.00 | 171130000.00 |
| 73 | Housing & Urban Affairs (Gawahati Development) | Revenue | 4407503000.00 | 0.00 | 4407503000.00 |
| | | Capital | 3418496000.00 | 0.00 | 3418496000.00 |
| 74 | Sports & Youth Welfare | Revenue | 1945430000.00 | 0.00 | 1945430000.00 |
| | | Capital | 628361000.00 | 0.00 | 628361000.00 |
| 75 | Information & Technology | Revenue | 1187969000.00 | 0.00 | 1187969000.00 |
| | | Capital | 2570000.00 | 0.00 | 2570000.00 |

| Grant No./ Appropriation | Title of Demand/ Appropriation | Voted | Charged | Total | |
|--------------------------|---|---------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 76 | Karbi-Anglong Autonomous Council | Revenue | 19531414000.00 | 0.00 | 19531414000.00 |
| | | Capital | 100000000.00 | 0.00 | 100000000.00 |
| 77 | N.C. Hills Autonomous Council | Revenue | 9865294000.00 | 0.00 | 9865294000.00 |
| | | Capital | 100000000.00 | 0.00 | 100000000.00 |
| 78 | Bodoland Territorial Council | Revenue | 38692028000.00 | 0.00 | 38692028000.00 |
| 79 | Welfare of Bodoland | Capital | 45000000.00 | 0.00 | 45000000.00 |
| 80 | Indigenous And Tribal Faith And Culture | Revenue | 336108000.00 | 0.00 | 336108000.00 |
| | | Capital | 116422000.00 | 0.00 | 116422000.00 |
| | Total | Revenue | 100353170000.00 | 109834210000.00 | 111336591000.00 |
| | | Capital | 240082353000.00 | 44104432000.00 | 284186785000.00 |
| | Grand Total | | 1243614053000.00 | 153938642000.00 | 1397552695000.00 |

2023

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