

Preface

Sir,

1. May I present the budget for 2013-14.
2. We are in the closing days of the first year of the 12th five year plan. I am presenting this budget with the gratification that the developmental activities of the State could be led with fiscal stability despite the challenges that arose in the national and global arena. I am not oblivious of the fact that in as much as the issues relating to the economic recession are still lingering, we have to face the impacts in the coming year too. Though the U.S which was in the shadow of economic recession from 2007 has been slowly recovering, the situation in most of the European Union Countries appears grim. India has been maintaining close co-operation with countries such as U.S.A., European Union Countries and Japan in respect of exports, IT industry and employment. About a fourth of India's exports are to the European Union Countries. Hence the economic recession in those countries adversely affects our exports and employment opportunities.
3. Though target rate of growth in the 11th five year plan period was 9 percent at the national level, it was reduced to 8.2 percent for the 12th plan period in the context of the economic slowdown. India's expectation for achieving rate of growth for current year above the rate of growth of 6.2 percent in 2011-12, has not been realized due to the meltdown in the agricultural and manufacturing sectors. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has estimated the growth rate for current year to be 5.5 percent whereas the Central Statistical Organization approximates it at 5 percent. It is the lowest rate in

the last decade. Despite this, India is one of the four countries that achieved comparatively better rate of growth in 2012.

4. The global economic recession is reflected in the tepid economic growth, spiralling inflation, fiscal deficit, current account deficit, devaluation of currency etc. in India. The central tax revenue receipts have not been as expected due to the general slowdown in the economic activity. Though it was estimated that the direct taxes would grow at 13.9 percent and the indirect taxes at 26.7 percent in the current financial year, it's actually less by ₹ 39575 crore compared to the Budget estimates. The earnest effort of the Union Government to pilot the economy along the right track amidst acute fiscal crisis is laudable. It will, of course help enhance the growth of the economy.
5. Another factor that adversely affects the growth of our economy is inflation. During the first month of the current year, the consumer price index was as high as 10.79 percent, the price index of food grains was 11.88 percent and the wholesale price index was 6.62 percent. The price rise can be dealt with creatively, only by improving the public distribution system on the one side and by strengthening the productive sectors of the economy on the other side.
6. The brunt of the economic slowdown has affected Kerala in general, and particularly in certain sectors due to its special characteristics. Export oriented agricultural production, devaluation of currency, high dependence on foreign employment opportunities, inflation, low credit-deposit ratio in the banking

sector, high rate of interest etc., are significant among them. The steep fall in the demand for commercial crops in the export market due to the global economic slowdown has adversely affected the commercial crops of the state.

7. I would like to point to some of the internal issues of our state that challenge its economic prospects. Kerala being a consumer state, the shock of price increase is high. As the state imports lion's share of its consumer products including food materials, inflation causes its resources to migrate increasingly outside. About 70 percent of its GSDP is contributed by the service sector. The larger share of its economic growth is also from this sector. While the service sector grew at 11.81 percent, industrial sector recorded 7 percent growth and agricultural sector (-) 0.7 percent during the last year. On account of the negative growth of agriculture and low growth of industrial sector, a development strategy focusing on the service sector alone appears to be deficient to lead the state along the path of sustainable growth. It is in this context that I chose to include the seven faceted development strategies in my last budget. It is gratifying that most of the projects articulated with this aim, could be started and carried forward.
8. The crucial test before us is to achieve the growth momentum that is necessary to maintain the high human development index achieved by Kerala. At the same time, efforts have to be made to realize the fiscal balance that has been mandated in the FRBM Act. The government is committed to maintain high level of resource mobilization as well as resource utilization for the attainment of these goals. The growth of revenue receipts of the state in the

current year over the previous year at 20.53% is a matter of gratification. It is worthwhile to mention that at the same time revenue expenditure has also recorded an increase of 17.8 percent.

9. It is a matter of pride that even in the midst of the crises and challenges mentioned earlier, the State could achieve the growth rate of 9.51 percent, 3.31 percent higher than the national average of 6.2 percent, on the strength of the exemplary programmes put forward in the last budget and also due to the effective implementation of its promises by the Government. The target growth rate mentioned in the last budget has already been achieved by the State. It is the highest rate of growth in the last one decade. The state could achieve only the national average growth rate of 8 percent during the 11th plan period. It was on account of the deceleration of the growth of the State in the first four years of 11th plan period. On an average, the State could achieve only 7.58 percent in the first four years of the 11th plan period. Changing the direction of growth positively to a high growth trajectory has been made possible due to improved fiscal management and efficient implementation by the UDF Government. The capital expenditure during the five year period of the previous LDF government was ₹ 9497 crore. This government assigning high priority to employment generation and development has spent more than ₹ 8000 crore in the capital sector during the first two years of its tenure. Along with this, this Government has raised the welfare pensions by 75 percent. Steps have already been initiated to distribute all the welfare pensions up to 31.3.2013 during the current month itself.

- 10.** The rate of growth of the State is expected to reach 9.58 percent in the current financial year. If the state is able to retain this momentum of growth, it can set a record of achieving double digit growth rate. It is with this end in view that our plan estimate has been enhanced to 21.34 percent during the next year as compared to the previous year. Out of the total plan allocation of ₹ 1,02,000 crore for the 12th Five Year Plan, the amount earmarked for the current year is ₹17,000 crore.
- 11.** Attempt has been made in this budget to enhance the budget allocation compared to GSDP in view of the fact that the same for Kerala is less than the All India average. The Budget allocation – GSDP ratio in 2011-12 and 2012-13 were 16.2 percent and 16.4 percent respectively and it has increased to 16.7 percent for 2013-14.
- 12.** I have a clear vision of the developed Kerala of the coming decade. The schemes presented in the budget are with a vision to fulfil these goals. My dream is to augment the per capita income of Kerala at par with the BRICS countries by 2023. I aim to enlarge the infrastructure facilities and human development index to the level of developed countries during the period. Modern transport facilities clean drinking water, electricity, health and educational facilities have to be ensured for all towards this end. Required revenue for it can be ensured only if we guarantee employment for all. It necessitates better employment skills and healthier work culture. In this budget, I aim to move to the next step of the seven point development strategy put forward in my last budget for achieving this goal. First of all, let me propose the flagship

programs and the salient programs in the budget meant to guarantee food, health and life security for all.

Flagship Schemes:

Scheme for enhancement of speed and efficiency of Plan implementation:

13. It is essential to rectify the deficiencies in plan implementation, which has been in existence for many years. Major portion of the plan outlay is spent during the months of February and March. Moreover, capital component in plan expenditure is relatively low. We have to target plan execution free of delay and unnecessary cost overruns. Plan implementation style needs to be modernized and reformed so as to achieve it. Towards this, the following action points are formulated:

- In order to avoid delay, plan formulation will be completed in the months of April and May. For formulating projects, the services of technical experts will be utilized at various levels.
- Expert training will be provided to the officials concerned, in various departments.
- The responsibility of execution of each scheme will be vested with a specific official subject to the general control by Government Secretaries and Heads of Departments. It will be his responsibility to monitor plan implementation on a continuous basis. The name of

the responsible official will be published in the website. The officials who exhibit efficiency in plan execution will be given adequate encouragement and recognition. At the same time, the culpable lapses in this area will be viewed seriously and appropriate and strict measures will be taken against those responsible.

- Sanction and disbursal of project funds will be done electronically and projects will be monitored. In order to ensure that the new proposals announced in the budget speech are implemented in a timely manner, a Monitoring Committee with Chief Secretary as Chairman will be formed. The Government Order on the increases, if any, in the social security pensions and other economic concessions announced in the budget speech will be issued in the month of April itself.

Farmers' Protection Programmes

14. Farming community is the backbone of our economy. The overall development of the country depends on the agricultural sector. Unfortunately, this sector has been languishing. Therefore, for the development of agricultural economy and to ensure the protection of farmers, following important schemes are announced.
15. **Writing-off the interest burden of small farmers:** Government will write off the arrears in respect of interest on NABARD agricultural loan taken by small farmers through Co-operative banks as on 15 March 2013. This will be applicable to small farmers having agricultural land of one hectare or below. This

interest concession will be in the form of one-time settlement for those who repay the principal of the loan amount. The financial burden on the co-operative institutions due to this will be reimbursed by the Government. ₹ 50 crore is earmarked towards this purpose.

- 16. Interest-free agricultural loan to all small and marginal farmers:** Government will ensure interest free loan to all small and marginal farmers having land of one hectare or below. Government will take over the interest on NABARD refinanced agricultural loans availed from co-operative banks. The additional financial burden due to this on the co-operative banks will be reimbursed by the State government. Short-term agricultural loans from commercial banks or private banks will be made available to farmers at maximum of 4% interest with central assistance. An amount of ₹ 30 crore is earmarked for this.
- 17. Risk insurance for loan repayment:** If the head of the family who has taken agricultural loan dies or becomes bed-ridden due to chronic diseases or accidents and thereby become incapacitated to repay agricultural loans, full protection will be given to debtors through taking over their non-performing assets by expanding the scope of the risk insurance scheme.
- 18. Abolition of Agricultural Income Tax for individual assesses:** The role of agricultural sector in the development of Kerala is vital. Since growth witnessed by this sector is limited, conditions conducive for accelerating this growth need to be created. I believe that, one of the methods for achieving this is through the reform of

the tax structure. Kerala is one of the few States in the country which imposes tax on agriculture income. Tamil Nadu has already abolished it and Karnataka imposes this tax only on companies. It has been a long standing recommendation of the Plantation Study Committee to do away with this tax. Of the total collection of AIT, only less than 10% is contributed by the assesseees other than company. In this circumstance, to give encouragement to the farmers of the State, assesseees other than companies will be totally exempted from Agricultural Income Tax.

19. Integrated Agricultural Garden Scheme: In the last budget, I had formulated various schemes for giving a new impetus to agricultural sector through value addition by adopting hi-tech agriculture. Since the average land holding in Kerala is only 0.27 hectare, the process of setting up modern agricultural farms, adopting hi-tech agriculture as an integrated economic unit is to be encouraged. Those entrepreneurs who combine the following three or more crops along with fruits and floriculture in farmsteads up to one acre will be given an incentive of ₹ 10000 per acre.

1. Chicken/duck/turkey/quail/rabbit farming.
2. Pisciculture
3. Bee-keeping
4. Mushroom cultivation
5. Floriculture

Those organizing these types of agricultural activities will be given technical assistance from Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Departments. During the year, a total of 10,000 farms at the rate of 10 farms in each Panchayat will be set up.

- 20. Model Hi-tech Green Villages:** Hi-tech green villages are those which adopt solar energy, rain water harvesting and waste processing at source in almost all houses and which achieve environmental preservation, hi-tech agriculture and organic farming. Such model villages, which ensure food security, water security, energy security and environmental security, will be established one each in all 14 districts as per approved criteria. Government will provide the required technical knowledge, expertise and financial support in designing them. In addition to the existing funds under various schemes, a total of ₹ 42 crore, at the rate of ₹ 3 crore each for a village is earmarked.
- 21. Paddy Procurement:** I am gratified that sufficient funds have been allocated for arranging paddy procurement in an efficient manner since this Government came to power. This year, ₹ 215 crore has been distributed under this head. From next year onwards, steps will be initiated for spot cash payment of price to the paddy farmers on procured paddy. At the beginning of the harvesting season itself, government will deposit the required funds for paddy procurement in the revolving funds formed in the respective District Co-operative Banks. While procuring paddy, cheques towards its price will be given to the farmers through the Service Co-operative Banks. For milling the paddy thus procured, rice mills will be

established under the auspices of Civil Supplies Corporation in Wayanad, Kuttanad and Palakkad. Towards this, ₹ 14 crore is additionally allocated.

22. Farmer's producer societies and farmers' markets: It is essential to establish farmers' markets under the auspices of farmers' producer societies to make available better prices to the produce of farmers and also essential quality consumer goods to the end users at reasonable price. Government will establish such markets with cold storage facilities in all Taluks for protecting agricultural products from loss of quality and value. These will be established in government lands if suitable land is available. In other places, it will be established in the places provided by producers' societies or co-operative societies or organization of farmers formed for this purpose. Markets promoted by women for women will also be established in this manner. In addition, Agri-malls will be started in major cities. ₹ 25 crore is set apart for this scheme.

23. Kerala Brand for Organic farming: Kerala has the highest potential for the development of organic farming and a global brand thereon. For the development of this sector, I visualize a stage-by-stage approach. In the first stage, one taluk each in Kasaragod, Wayand and Idukki districts will be developed as organic taluks. As part of this scheme, necessary support for securing brand recognition for local products like "Gandhakasala" rice will be given. In order to promote the production of organic manure, pesticides and disease resistant and high productivity seeds, tissue-

culture seedlings, research institutions and production units will be established in the aforesaid districts. ₹ 12 crore is set apart for this purpose.

24. Production of “Neera” from coconut tree: In the last budget, I had made a beginning for bio-parks for achieving value addition in coconut production sector. Production of “Neera” is the greatest value addition programme in this area. If “Neera” can be produced from coconut trees, coconut farmers can be ensured more income and toddy tappers more employment opportunities. By now, commercial production of “Neera” has commenced in the neighbouring state of Karnataka. Kerala Agriculture University has developed the technology for marketing “Neera” produced by farmers, as a drink. By making use of this, it is proposed to launch “Neera” units in 10 districts, namely, Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Malappuram, Palakkad, Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasaragod for commercial production of “Neera”. ₹ 15 crore is allocated for this purpose.

25. Integrated Crop insurance for farmers: Kerala has to be equipped for addressing the problems arising from climate change in the agricultural sector. Climate based crop insurance is at present available for paddy, cashew nut and pepper. Even this is available only for those farmers taking agricultural loans. In order to make the benefits available to all farmers of Kerala, an integrated insurance scheme incorporating all major crops will be implemented in 2013-14. Towards this, ₹ 20 crore is allocated.

26. “Trupthi” fare price restaurants: It is important to ensure food at reasonable prices to ordinary people especially, workers. For this purpose, there should be hotels serving food at fair prices. Towards achieving this target, fair price eateries serving food at ₹ 20 to all will be started in all Taluk headquarters. This will be implemented through women’s organizations like “Kudumbasree”, “Janasree”, “Grihasree” etc. For hotels, government will give a yearly grant not exceeding ₹ 5 lakh towards rent, electricity and water charges. In addition, ₹ 50,000 per year will be given as managerial subsidy. Food grains, provisions, vegetables, and fish will be made available at fair prices through various government agencies to these restaurants. Gas connection at concessional rates will also be given.

27. Sustainable Employment Development Program

Finding a solution to unemployment is imperative for Kerala. I present an innovative and sustainable employment development program which can remove unemployment within five years. I visualize the following six point programme for this end:

28. Placement cells in Educational institutions: In order to find solution to unemployment, job skills should be imparted to all. The Additional Skills Acquisition Programme and Additional Skills Enhancement Programme announced in the last budget are being implemented. This year, placement cells will be started in all colleges, polytechnics and ITIs. This will help the students completing education in the State to effectively and confidently participate in interviews and ensure placements. ₹ 8 crore is set apart towards this purpose.

29. **Career Development Mission:** I believe that there is need for permanent training platforms for job seekers to develop their personality, enhance their competitiveness and to raise them to a higher level of excellence. In order to start such training centres in each district to organise the needed training programmes at various levels, an amount of ₹ 7 crore is allocated.
30. **Start up subsidy for creation of employment opportunities:** If ten or more employment opportunities are created in specified areas of micro and small enterprises, a start up subsidy of ₹ 10,000 per job slot will be given for each employment opportunity generated as an incentive for employment creation. The specified areas are information technology, tourism, health care, agro processing, food processing, power generation and manufacturing of energy efficient products, electronic hardware, mobile technology and readymade garments. ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for this purpose.
31. **Support from project report to production:** Kerala Financial Corporation will be preparing model projects based on innovative technologies developed by research institutions functioning under the auspices of Central and State Governments in Kerala. Youth who are desirous of launching such industrial units will be given technology and financial support. Assistance will be available to enterprises launched in areas such as food processing, information technology, apparels, handicrafts, presentation articles, agro processing, fish processing and packaging. Against the loans availed by such units, Government will provide interest subsidy of

3% for loans up to ₹ one crore and 2% for loans above ₹ one crore. Towards this scheme, an amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart.

- 32. Encouragement for research papers, patents, innovations and inventions:** Research and invention in all areas of knowledge will be given encouragement. Towards this, a scheme titled “Fostering Linkages for Academic Innovation and Research” (FLAIR) for supporting research by teachers and students in academic institutions is proposed. ₹ 6 crore is earmarked towards this programme. The articles published by teachers and students in selected international journals will be given an incentive of ₹ 5000 each. Researchers who secure patents will be given ₹ one lakh each as financial assistance by the State Government. The awards will be on the basis of the recommendations of the committee formed for this purpose. ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for this programme.
- 33.** In order to encourage innovation, innovation groups will be formed through Face Book, Twitter, Google, E-mail, and Blog and innovation meets will be organized. District-wise special awards will be given to students who present innovative projects, and also to teachers who guide them. The selection will be through the State Innovation Council. Awards will be given for one teacher and one student in each district. To each award winner, ₹ one lakh will be given for an All India Study tour.
- 34.** New inventions which improve productivity and quality of products will be given encouragement. The applications for the same will be scrutinized by the expert committee formed under the auspicious of science and technology department. Back-up grants ranging up to

Five lakh or 75% of project cost whichever is lower will be awarded. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is provided for this.

35. Website for skilled workers and Task Force for Agriculture:

Though skilled workers of various categories are needed in offices and homes, they are not available on time. In view of this, a website will be operationalised in the State this year to make available skilled workers as may be required, through mobile or internet. The services of Akshaya Centres will be utilised for this purpose. As part of this, the Agricultural Task Force started in Kudappanakunnu Krishi Bhavan will be extended to all Krishi Bhavans across the State. Agricultural services will be rendered to the farmers using technical equipment at concessional rates throughout the State. ₹ one crore is earmarked for this purpose.

Infrastructure Development:

- 36.** Considering the crucial role of infrastructure development in the progress of the state, Government has initiated several mega projects for creation of infrastructure facilities. Kochi Metro, High speed rail corridor, the monorail projects at Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode, Kannur Airport, Vizhinjam Port, 35th National Games Projects, Mobility Hub etc., are some of them. Towards speedy completion of these project activities, ₹ 788.93 crore has been granted during this year. Acquisition and transfer of the required land for Kochi Metro to KMRL is progressing. Mobility

hubs on the model of the Vyttila project will be started in all district headquarters in Kerala and other infrastructural projects will be expedited. ₹ 846 crore is set apart for the continued activities of these projects.

37. The joint venture projects of State and Central Government for the development of railways will be implemented in Kerala also. The availability of coaches in the State can be increased by the establishment of Coach Repair and Maintenance Centre at Kochuveli. To implement this project, an amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart as State share. It is essential to develop the facilities of Ernakulam town station parallel to the Kochi Metro Project. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided for the development of Thrissur, Kollam, Kozhikode and Kottayam stations along with this. Steps will be taken to start the Sabari railway project during this year itself.

Generation of Solar Energy and Rainwater Harvesting

38. As a solution to the power crisis in Kerala, new sources of power are to be developed. As part of this, State Government proposes to launch a project to install floating solar panels in Kerala's water bodies. These projects are the most innovative and environment-friendly of all the existing power generation systems in the world. This year itself 20 Mega Watt power will be generated through projects in Chulliyar and Meenkara under the irrigation department. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is set apart for this programme.

- 39.** State Government will give a subsidy of ₹ one each per unit of net electricity supplied to the grid by those who install solar power systems with grid connection. Steps have been taken to install solar panels connected to grid in Government Offices. In addition, it is proposed to install 25000 off grid roof top solar power plants each with a capacity of one kilowatt. Through this, it is possible to achieve 25 MW installed capacity. ₹ 15 crore is earmarked for this purpose.
- 40.** It is proposed to make it mandatory to install arrangements for rainwater harvesting and waste treatment at source in newly constructed houses above 2000 square feet in the State. Those who arrange these along with solar panels in the specified measures will be given 50% concession in the one-time building tax.
- 41.** It is necessary to develop the industry for manufacturing and assembling of solar panels in the State. ₹ two crore is earmarked for setting up a solar industrial park.

Social Welfare Programmes

- 42.** The existing social security pensions and other benefits in the State will be enhanced as follows:

Pension benefit	Present rate	Increased rate
Agricultural workers pension	400	500
Farmers pension	400	500
Widow pension	525	700
Pension for physically challenged	525	700
Pension for physically challenged with 80% disability	700	1000
Pension for unmarried women above 50 years	525	700
Old age pension	400	500
Old age pension for above 80 years	900	1100
Monthly grant to the inmates of orphanages, old age homes, shelters for beggars and homes for physically challenged	525	700
Monthly food grant for students in the government and aided blind and deaf schools	750	900

Monthly pension for dialysis dependent renal patients falling under BPL category	525	900
Assistance for TB patients	525	800
Assistance to leprosy patients	525	800
Assistance for cancer patients	525	800
Coir workers pension	300	400
Pension for artists	500	600
Pension for circus artists	1000	1100
Pension for sports persons above 80 years	1000	1100
Pension for sports persons below 80 years	500/750	800
Pension to traditional Viswakarmas under BPL category of age above 60 years and who are not getting any other pension	..	400

Adhar ID will be made compulsory for all pension beneficiaries.

Women Empowerment and Welfare

43. This Government gives great emphasis to the welfare and protection of women. There is a need to develop healthy code of behavioural conduct towards women among our growing generation. Towards this, it is proposed to include Gender Balance Score in the internal valuation of students at high school and higher secondary level.
44. **Financial assistance for higher education to the children of widows:** It is proposed to grant tuition fee at Government rates in higher education for the children of widows having family income below ₹ 3 lakh. In the case of students under Below Poverty Line category, hostel fee also will be given in addition to tuition fee. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is provided for this.
45. **Matrimony Fund (Mangalya Nidhi):** I wish to form a Matrimony Fund for girls from economically weak families. It is proposed to raise the required fund from the wedding expenses of relatively well-off sections. A contribution not less than 3% of the expenses in wedding celebrations held in hotels above three star status or auditoriums with a seating capacity above 500 will be mobilised for Matrimony Fund. While reserving hotel/auditorium, the receipt in original of the remittance towards the fund in advance must be produced. Out of this fund, ₹ 20,000 will be given as marriage assistance to poor girls. Along with this, the financial assistance given to the daughters of widows will be raised from ₹20,000 to ₹30,000 and income limit will be enhanced from ₹ 10,000 to ₹ 3,00,000 lakh.

46. **Drought Prevention Programme:** The State is under the grip of acute drought conditions. It may be more acute in the coming year. Therefore there is a dire need to assign more emphasis on the measures to fight against drought.
47. The space agency, NASA based on the study of the water map of Kerala, has reported that the water level of Kerala has been falling. This is an indication of the problems of climate change. Therefore, meaningful projects to intensify soil and water conservation activities will be launched and implemented from this year. As part of this, it is proposed to undertake protection of water sources, upkeep of canals and rivers, soil and water conservation activities, well recharging etc. Those activities will be undertaken by integrating with the Employment Guarantee Programme in co-operation with the Panchayats.
48. In order to meet the drinking water requirements of the State, the water flowing to ocean through canals and rivers need to be preserved by constructing Check Dams and Storage Dams in all suitable places. Grant amount of ₹ 50,000 each will be given for construction of rainwater storage tanks in educational institutions and public offices. Along with this, Government will undertake well recharging and rainwater harvesting as popular programmes. For these activities a total of ₹ 40 crore is allocated.

Integrated Health Programme

49. There is a Medicare programme in all developed countries. Such a medical insurance scheme beneficial to all families is not available

in Kerala. I present an integrated medical insurance programme for this purpose.

50. The medical benefits through CHIS are now available only to BPL and certain other low income categories. Government intends to extend this benefit to families having annual income up to ₹ three lakh. Government will bear the insurance premium of this category. Those having annual family income above ₹ 3 lakh can also become beneficiaries of this scheme by paying the premium amount in full. ₹ 70 crore is allocated for this programme.
51. For Government employees, the approved rates of medical assistance will be given for treatment done in selected private hospitals as well.
52. It is proposed to integrate Allopathic, Ayurvedic and Homoeo systems of medicine at the primary level and design it as Holistic clinics on a pilot basis.
53. **Modernisation and extension of Cancer Hospitals:** Karunya Scheme for giving assistance to the treatment of diseases such as cancer has been implemented in the State since last year. Considering the high incidence of cancer, it is proposed to elevate Regional Cancer Centre in Thiruvananthapuram to a National Cancer Institute. Besides, arrangements for cancer tertiary care in Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode Medical Colleges will be introduced and a cancer hospital will be established in Central Kerala. In addition, cancer care centres will be established in district hospitals in Alappuzha, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Kannur. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is additionally provided for this.

- 54. Relief in tax to Charitable Hospitals on medicine and consumables:** Government recognizes the pivotal role played by private hospitals in improving the health standards in Kerala. In order to redress certain taxation issues faced by this sector, certain concessions were announced in my last budget, which were generally welcomed by all. Hospitals run by charitable institutions, which avail exemption under Income Tax Act provide health care to weaker sections at comparatively lower rates, without any profit motive. As announced in the last year's budget, these hospitals will be exempted from assessment in respect of medicines sold from their pharmacy to patients, if the same is purchased from a wholesaler who had remitted tax on MRP as per compounding system. In addition to this, as a token of appreciation for their good deeds, I propose to exempt such hospitals from tax on the sale of lab store items and consumables, as may be notified by Government provided they take registration before 30-6-2013.

Salient Programmes

- 55. Scholarship for Bright Students from poor families:** If the students from families with an annual income below ₹ 3 lakh, secure admission in graduate or post-graduate courses in prestigious Central Government Institutions such as IIT, IISC, ISER and IIM, the State Government will bear 75% of the tuition fee. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for this.
- 56. Interest remission on educational loans extended to APL also:** In the previous budget, I had taken steps to write off the interest on professional education loans taken by individuals falling under BPL

category from scheduled banks during the period between 2004 and 2009. However, the demand to extend this concession to more categories has been raised from several quarters. In these circumstances, as a relief measure, it is decided to extend this concession to APL families having annual income up to ₹ three lakh. I set apart an amount of ₹ 25 crore is additionally for this purpose.

57. Pension for Workers under Employment Guarantee Scheme:

A new pension scheme will be implemented for workers under Employment Guarantee scheme who work for at least 100 days per year. It will be implemented through joint participation of Central and State Governments and workers. Last year, Government had given a financial assistance of ₹ 1000 for their children's education and purchase of books. This year ₹ 1000 will be given towards the share of the Government in the proposed pension scheme. Along with this, ₹ 1000 under the Swavalamban Scheme will be utilised in the pension scheme as Central Government share. Over and above this, workers share can also be deposited in this scheme every year. As and when employment guarantee scheme workers attain the age of 60, lifelong pension will be given to them in proportion to the amount in their pension accounts. In addition, Government will give to all female workers who work for 100 days or above, free Onakkodi not exceeding ₹400. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is provided for this.

58. Competitive Examination Training Centres for Backward

Categories: I feel that youth belonging to backward categories need special training programmes to make use of employment

opportunities in the Central and State services, public sector enterprises and also private sector. Towards this end, three apex recruitment training centres will be started region-wise under the auspices of Backward Communities Development Department. ₹ 3 crore is set apart for this purpose

- 59. Integrated development of areas inhabited by traditional workers:** By developing infrastructure and modernisation of areas inhabited by traditional workers in Coir, Cashew and Handloom sectors, areas inhabited by traditional workers will be developed as model villages. In such centres, roads will be constructed, drinking water and electricity will be made available and drainage and sanitation systems will be arranged. A sum of ₹ 10 crore is allocated towards this scheme to be implemented by Backward Communities Development Department.
- 60. Professional education scholarships for economically backward among forward communities:** At present, there are no significant educational concessions to economically backward students in forward communities. I consider it equitable to provide educational concessions to professional students falling under this category. Therefore, those students hailing from forward community families having annual family income up to ₹ 3 lakh will be given fee concessions at Government rates. ₹ 5 crore is allocated for this purpose.
- 61. Human Resource Development Centre in Economically Backward Regions:** In order to develop the human resources of students hailing from economically backward families of forward

communities, three entrepreneurship training centres will be set up under the auspices of Forward Communities' Development Corporation. ₹ 3 crore is allocated towards this purpose.

62. Beggar free Kerala: At present, there is no codified beggar protection law or institutions under it in the State. Under these circumstances, it is not possible to bring the beggars wandering and living in streets to accommodate them in shelter. Therefore, an integrated beggar protection law will be enacted in the State. Stringent provisions will be made in this law against those exploiting people including children for begging to gain monetary benefits. Wandering beggars will be brought to shelter homes and will be rehabilitated with logistic medical support and treatment. Thus, Kerala will be transformed into a beggar free State. Towards this purpose, one shelter home each will be established in all district headquarter ₹ 10.5 crore is earmarked for these shelter homes.

63. Higher Education Scholarship for Students in Orphanages: Around 35,000 students living in orphanages in the State are studying in various classes in educational institutions. Owing to lack of finances, around 1000 bright students are unable to continue education every year. Therefore, bright students in orphanages need to be given opportunities for joining higher studies including degree, professional, paramedical and diploma courses to equip themselves for better employment. As part of continuous education programme, Government will bear the course fee and hostel fee of students of orphanages who study in Government and Aided Institutions. For this scholarship programme, ₹ 5 crore is allocated.

- 64. Lifelong shelter homes for mentally challenged:** In order to provide integrated mental health through schools and organisations, a new scheme of ₹ 20 crore under 'Integrated Mental Health programme' will be initiated this year. Along with this, it appears that there is need for lifelong shelter homes for mentally challenged children in the State. For the lifelong protection of those sections, Government wishes to start joint ventures with NGO's having qualifications, training, commitment and willingness. As a first step, one lifelong shelter home in each district will be started in the next financial year. ₹ 10.5 crore is allocated towards it.
- 65. De-Addiction Centres:** Addiction to liquor is exponentially increasing in the State. Its bitter experiences are mostly borne by the women and children. De-addiction centres will be opened in government hospitals to treat addiction to alcohol and drugs. In addition, one de-addiction centre in each Taluk under NGO sector will be started with facility to provide de-addiction treatment to minimum 300 persons in a centre. ₹ 6.3 crore is set apart for starting 63 de-addiction centres in 63 taluks.
- 66. Modern Crematoria:** It is essential to start natural gas/LPG based state of the art crematoria in all districts. Along with this, AC-ambulance facility also needs to be arranged. To establish one crematorium in each district ₹ 10.5 crores is allocated. In addition, a scheme will be implemented with the participation of local bodies to renovate the existing crematoria by converting it into gas based fuels. As part of this, the grant for constructing crematoria in each Panchayat is raised to ₹ 20 lakh. Over and above this, permission is granted to incur additional expenditure subject to a maximum of

₹ 10 lakh for this purpose, from the Kerala Local Government Service Delivery Project. Local bodies will be given powers to sanction additionally 50% of the fair value of land to be acquired for construction of crematoria. I am setting apart ₹ 550 lakh for these activities.

67. This year it is proposed to implement a scheme of Gas Crematoria on an experimental basis in two municipalities which are ready to incur 50% of the total expenditure and provide required land. Towards this ₹ 50 lakh is allocated.
68. **Welfare of migrant workers:** The contribution of 25 lakh migrant workers to the labour front of Kerala is significant. These workers will be provided registration through Labour Department. In order to provide boarding facilities to these workers at reasonable rates, ₹ 5 crore is allocated for a scheme of night shelter to be implemented through the Housing Board. Another scheme to provide timely medical care to the migrant workers will be implemented through the Health Department. The amount of relief given to these workers in the event of death at the workplace will be raised from ₹ 50,000 to one lakh. ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for these schemes.
69. **Kasaragod Package:** Following the Endosulphan tragedy, the Government formulated a package for the integrated development of Kasaragod district. This package will be implemented integrating Central and State Schemes. ₹ 15 crore is earmarked for its implementation.

- 70. Marine Ambulance for the Security of Fishermen:** Owing to adverse weather and clashes among boats, fishermen in the State often are caught in accidents. In such emergency situations, making use of assistance from Navy involves cumbersome procedures and consequent delay. I feel that arrangements for continuous monitoring in fishing sectors and emergency help in case of accidents are essential. Therefore, it is proposed to establish 'Marine Ambulance' in five centres at Vizhinjam, Neendakara, Vipeen, Beypur and Azheekkal. ₹ 3 crore is set apart for this purpose.
- 71. Ice and Freezing Plant:** The fish catch of traditional fishermen need to be preserved without delay and processed so as to retain its quality for use and export to foreign countries to make value added products. It is possible to create more employment opportunities through this processing facility. Hence, it is proposed to construct a mega ice and freezing plant centred at Sakthikulangara in Kollam. This scheme involves facilities such as modern ice plant and cold storage which requires ₹30 crore. As and when the scheme attains full capacity, it will provide direct employment to 150-200 persons and indirect employment to 500 persons. This project is intended to be implemented with 90% financial assistance from National Fishermen Development Board (NFBD). I allocate ₹ 3 crore for the same.
- 72. Fish Processing Centres:** The present practice of fish marketing is to carry fish catch by fishermen to cities either by head load or in small vehicles. If fish can be brought to the cities in a ready-to-cook form, the fish workers and their families will be able to earn

more income through value addition. Considering this, fish processing centres will be established in all coastal districts under the auspices of the Coastal Area Development Corporation. The fish thus processed and added value can be made available for retail sales or can be sold through fish markets. In order to establish 10 such fish processing centres, ₹ 10 crore is earmarked.

73. Fish Malls and Modern Fish Markets: In order to market fish and fish products on most modern lines, one fish mall each will be established in the Metro cities of Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi and Kozhikode through Kerala State Coastal Development Corporation (KSCDC). Such air conditioned fish malls will have marketing outlets for various types of ornamental fish, dried fish, fresh fish, value added fish products, pisciculture related equipments, fish feeds and most modern electronic equipments for fishing besides tasty fish product eateries. Towards this, ₹ 10 crore is earmarked. As part of promoting a culture of modern fish marketing, steps are progressing to establish 50 modern fish markets. This involves a cost of ₹ 100 crore and is being implemented in the current financial year with assistance from National Fish Development Board. Kerala State Coastal Development Corporation will establish 50 more modern fish markets with financial assistance from National Fish Development Board. The expected cost of this project is around ₹ 100 crore.

74. Coastal Shipping Transport Scheme: In order to reduce the congestion on Kerala roads and reduce environmental pollution by increasing energy efficiency, coastal shipping transport scheme will be implemented. It is proposed to develop five small ports so as to

enable them to handle more freight movement through water. In order to encourage coastal ship transport, incentive will be given for freight transport and passenger traffic. Initially, it will be started by developing the ports of Vizhinjam, Kollam, Kodungalloor, Beypur and Azheekkal. Loan will be made available for making small ships for coastal ship transportation. In addition, tariff concession will be given for one year for the freight traffic through the ports of the State. ₹ 15 crore is allotted for the scheme.

- 75. Increased benefits to Journalists:** The pension currently being given to journalists will be increased to ₹ 7000 from ₹ 4500.

The pension for non-journalists will increase from ₹ 2500 to ₹ 4000.

The housing subsidy for journalists will be increased to ₹ 100,000 from ₹ 50000. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for this.

- 76. Increased benefits to Other Sections:** The honorarium currently being given to ASHA workers in the Health Department will be increased to ₹ 700 from ₹ 600.

The cooking staff will get an additional wage of ₹ 50 over and above the current rates.

The State component of the honorarium given to Anganwadi workers and helpers will be increased to ₹ 1400 from ₹ 1000.

The honoraria given to psycho social counsellors in schools, counselling adolescent school children will be enhanced to ₹ 7500 from ₹ 6500. The marriage assistance given to the inmates of

women welfare institutions will be increased to ₹ 50,000 from ₹ 10,000

- 77. Coir Export Processing Park:** Kerala accounts for 60% of the coir & natural fibre production in the world. This golden fibre of God's own country provides ₹ 1000 crore worth export earnings and double that amount through domestic sales turnover. In order to exploit the potential of this sector and increase the income of workers, a coir export processing park will be established in Alappuzha. Towards this ₹ 5 crore is set apart.
- 78.** In order to develop a global brand for the cashew produced in Kerala and thereby strengthen the cashew industry, ₹ 2 crore is set apart for Kerala State Cashew Development Corporation and CAPEX.
- 79.** For the revival of handloom industry, ₹ 20 crore is allocated to the centrally assisted scheme. The modernisation will be implemented after undertaking a detailed study on marketing of handloom products for the benefit of the worker ₹ 50 lakh is allocated for this purpose.
- 80. Plastic tarring:** It is proposed to encourage tarring of roads using plastic for improving the environmental cleanliness of the State and make it plastic menace free. Accordingly, if any Panchayat or Residents' Association collects and supplies required quantum of plastic for road tarring, Government will give a subsidy not exceeding ₹ 5 lakh. Necessary changes will be made in the PWD manual to permit the use of plastic and rubber in appropriate specified proportion in road surfacing.

- 81. Plastic collection under the auspices of women groups:** Government proposes to formulate a scheme of collection and processing of plastic under the auspices of women self-help groups such as Kudumbashree, Janashree and Grihashree etc. Government will give interest free loan up to ₹ 25 lakh through local bodies to these groups for starting small scale industries for plastic collection and recycling or producing granules for road surfacing. The required land should be made available by the Panchayat.
- 82. International and Inter University Centres:** Nano technology is an area which has attained revolutionary achievements after the information technology. Nano science offers new hopes in health industry, environmental protection, availability of fresh water and sanitation. In order to give global leadership in Nano science, it is proposed to form an International and Inter University Centre for Nano Science and Nano materials in Mahatma Gandhi University by networking with various universities in Kerala, India and abroad and prominent industrial enterprises. Similar world class centres will be established in Cochin University on intellectual property rights studies, in Kannur University on biology, in Kozhikode University on financial economics and financial engineering and in Kerala University on natural resource management. ₹ 10 crore is set apart for this purpose.
- 83. Three Lakh houses in three years:** Government targets to construct or repair three lakh houses in three years by combining various housing schemes for homeless poor. When this Government came to power, Housing Board had HUDCO loan arrears of ₹ 750 crore. Loan amounting to ₹ 534 crore including

interest was paid by the Government making it eligible for HUDCO refinancing. Under these circumstances, the aforementioned housing scheme will be implemented by selecting Housing Board as nodal agency. Special emphasis will be given on the house construction of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. This scheme will be extensively implemented by combining various schemes like Indira Avas Yojana, Rajiv Avas Yojana, Saphalyam and the Janani scheme for workers under the auspices of the Labour department. For each house under general category, ₹ 2 lakh and for SC/ST/Fishermen, ₹ 2.5 lakh will be given. The funds for this scheme less Central subsidy will be found through State subsidy and HUDCO loan.

- 84. Grihasree Bhavana Padhathi:** For those houseless belonging to EWS/LIG having 2 or 3 cents of own land, a new housing scheme titled Grihasree will be implemented with the co-operation of voluntary agency/NGO. Government subsidy of ₹ 1.8 lakh and the sponsor as well as the beneficiary will provide ₹ 1.1 lakh each for building houses costing ₹ 4 lakh each. An allocation of ₹ 90 crore is made for construction of 5000 houses.
- 85. Excellence Awards:** Though Kerala is ahead of other States in education, we are yet to achieve excellence in standard of education. To incentivise and recognise merit, excellence awards are announced at various levels. Accordingly, the best government and private LP Schools will be given ₹ 5 lakh each as excellence award. The corresponding figures for UP Schools, high schools, plus two schools and arts and Science College will be ₹ 7.5 lakh, 10 lakh, 15 lakh and 25 lakh. Awards will be given on the basis of the

recommendation of the Education Department. This amount can be utilized for any of the development activities of the institution under the supervision of Parent Teacher Association or College Development Council.

- 86. Increase in Honorarium for Peoples Representatives of Local Self Governments:** The members of Gram-Block-District Panchayat as well as Municipalities and Corporations will be given increase in honorarium of ₹ 1000 each.
- 87. Expatriate Welfare Scheme:** According to the available figures, there are around 25 lakh Malayalees in Gulf countries itself. Government gives top priority to the welfare of expatriate Malayalees who play a significant role in stabilising our economy. Government will formulate an entrepreneurship scheme for Keralities who are forced to return on account of the policy of foreign countries to provide employment to locals. For this purpose, KSFE will formulate a deposit fund. The NRIs can make their contribution to the fund while working in foreign countries. The NRIs who take membership in this deposit scheme will be given additional loan equivalent to the sum of their deposits when they return. An interest subsidy of 3% will be sanctioned on this loan. KSFE, the nodal agency will provide to them necessary techno-management assistance through various government departments and institutions to build suitable self-employment ventures. For this purpose ₹ 2 crore is set apart.
- 88. Permanent bridge to Alwaye Manappuram:** Instead of constructing temporary bridge every year to the sand bed in Alwaye

in connection with Sivarathri, it is proposed to construct a permanent iron bridge. This year, ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for this scheme with an estimated cost of ₹ 14.5 crore.

- 89. Vivekananda Study Centre:** This is the 150th birth centenary year of Swamy Vivekananda, who proclaimed religious tolerance and religious amity. Comparative studies on religion are an important and relevant topic today. In view of this, the Vivekananda chair in Mahatma Gandhi University will be elevated to the Vivekananda Study Centre.

Various Departments' Schemes

Agriculture

- 90.** Under the Agriculture sector, Government mainly propose to implement schemes aiming at integrated food grain production, coconut development, strengthening and extension of Agriculture and Animal husbandry activities, special cattle breeding programme, inland fish farming etc. An amount of ₹ 1494.74 crore is set apart for this sector with an increase of 16% over the previous year.
- 91. Technology centre for vegetables, flowers and fruits:** The state has a large scope for expanding cultivation of vegetables, flowers and fruits. Several innovative techniques are now available to increase the productivity of these crops. Government intends to establish a Technology Centre with the assistance of Netherlands Government for making use of these technologies in the state. This Centre will facilitate acquisition of modern technologies available

in the areas of cultivation of fruits, vegetables and flowers and its transfer to the farmer community. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for the establishment of this centre.

92. **‘Niravu Scheme’:** This scheme, aiming at comprehensive development of agriculture in the State is now being successfully implemented in 12 Assembly Constituencies. This scheme will be extended to 30 more constituencies during 2013-14.
93. **Horticulture Development:** An amount of ₹ 62.25 crore is earmarked for Horticulture development. Aiming at excellence in productivity of vegetables, financial assistance will be provided to the farmers for setting up 1000 greenhouses during 2013-14 under the Greenhouse scheme introduced through my last budget. Also, steps will be taken for procurement and auction of vegetables and other produces of farmers and farmer groups through the block level procurement centres of HortiCorp.
94. **High Tech Farming:** High Tech Farming started during 2012-13 is being successfully implemented in the State. This programme currently being implemented in Grama Panchayats will be extended to Municipality and Corporation areas also during 2013-14. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is set apart for this purpose.
95. **Coconut Development and procurement:** Government have already initiated steps to establish coconut bio-parks integrating schemes for the value addition and diversification of coconut. The scheme for replanting coconut will be implemented throughout the State with financial assistance from the Coconut Development Board. Realising the fact that copra procurement under the support

price scheme of the central government has not achieved the desired result, Agriculture Department have taken steps to procure raw coconut through the selected Krishi bhavans. With this, farmers could sell coconut through their respective Krishi bhavans and receive its fair price. Steps will be taken to extend this scheme to more Krishi bhavans during 2013-14. ₹ 50 crore is earmarked for coconut development in 2013-14. In addition to this, I earmark an additional amount of ₹ 25 crore for these activities.

- 96. Paddy Development:** The rice cultivation became unattractive due to shortage of agricultural labourers and increase in cost of production. Government has taken steps to set up Rice Bio-parks aiming at value addition of paddy as per the announcement in the last year's budget. A provision of ₹ 50 crore is made in this budget for completing various paddy development programmes including the above one during 2013-14.

Soil & Water Conservation

- 97. Ecological Restoration through soil and water conservations under Kuttanad package:** Aiming at the ecological restoration of Kuttanad, Upper Kuttanad and Onattukara regions of Pathanamthitta, Kottayam and Alappuzha districts will be taken up under the Kuttanad package implemented with 13th Finance Commission grant. Under the scheme, renovation of 240 ponds and 1000 wells, rainwater reservoirs, cuscus planting, distribution of fruit bearing plants and medicinal plants etc. will be undertaken.
- 98. Soil Museum:** A soil museum will be established at Parottukonam, Thiruvananthapuram to exhibit different varieties of soil from all

parts of the State. The museum will provide comprehensive information on all varieties of soil, illustrating their specialties and limitations for the benefit of farmers, students, researchers and administrators.

- 99.** Kuttanad Heritage Programme is being implemented as part of Kuttanad Development Package. I earmark an amount of ₹ 5 crore for this programme to encourage Kuttanad agricultural system.
- 100.** An allocation of ₹ 25 lakh is made for upgrading Vellanikara Agricultural Bio-Technology into a Centre of Excellence. An amount of ₹ 25 lakh is set apart for IP Protection Centre, ₹ 125 lakh for establishment of horticulture research centre and ₹ 50 lakh for Cocoa research at the Vellanikara campus of the Agricultural University.
- 101.** An amount of ₹ 75 lakh is set apart for the large scale production of hybrid coconut plants, ₹ 75 lakh for the development of Kuttanad special environment region and ₹ 25 lakh for the establishment of the Rice Breeding cum Seed Production Centre at the Agriculture College at Padannakkad.
- 102.** I set apart an amount of ₹ 1 crore for establishing a Central Technology Museum in the Kerala Agricultural University and an amount of ₹ 10 crore for constructing an Agricultural complex in Thrissur District with participation of the departments of Animal Husbandry, Diary Development, and Fisheries and with central assistance.

Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development

- 103. Registration of Farmers:** A scheme for registration of farmers will be launched for collecting the details of their dwelling areas, birds and animals reared by them etc., so as to enable Government to extend required service to the eligible farmers.
- 104. High Tech Fodder Unit:** A Solar power-based High Tech Fodder Unit, capable of producing 1000 Kg fodder daily, will be set up in the district cattle farm at Kudappanakunnu. This will also be used as display unit for farmers.
- 105. Meat processing plant:** A most modern meat processing unit at will be set up Chalakkudy under the Meat Products of India with an investment of ₹ 35 crore. In addition to this, a modern chicken processing unit will also be set up at a cost of ₹ 1 crore.
- 106. Genomic Laboratory:** A most modern genomic laboratory capable of developing sophisticated technology for early detection of good heifers will be set up under KLD Board at a cost of ₹ 11 crore. With the establishment of this, Kerala will become the first Indian State capable of using Genomic selection for breeding bulls, like developed countries. This laboratory will also play a crucial role in the development of indigenous genus of Malabari goats.
- 107. Hay block factory under Kuttanad package:** A Hay bloc factory with 50 MT production capacity will be established under Kuttanad package, similar to the one started at Palakkad. This project will be implemented by Kerala Feeds Limited with an investment of ₹ 4.5 crore.

- 108.** During 12th plan period, a five-year programme for dairy development will be implemented to achieve self sufficiency in milk production. In the last budget, the rate of subsidy for cattle feed per litre of milk was increased from 40 paise to 80 paise and the benefit extended for the whole year. This year the rate cattle feed subsidy will be enhanced to ₹ 1 per litre. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is set apart for this purpose.

Development of Fisheries Sector and Welfare of Fishermen

- 109.** Fishing is the means of livelihood for 11 lakh people in the State. An amount of ₹ 157.8 crore is set apart for this sector. Of this, ₹ 50 crore will be utilized for the comprehensive development of fishing villages.
- 110.** During 12th five year plan period, 250 model fish farms will be set up, to impart practical training on fish farming to new farmers and to increase the availability of inland fish. Each beneficiary will get financial assistance up to ₹ 1 lakh under this scheme. A unit comprises of fish pond of 25 cents, costing net, gathering net, drag net, 2 HP pump set, plastic pool etc. Fish seedlings, fish food etc required for fish farming will be provided by Fisheries department free of cost. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is provided for implementation of this programme.
- 111.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided for developing Adimalathura, Thiruvananthapuram as a Model Fishing Village.
- 112.** The construction of fishing harbours at Arthunkal, Vellayil and Thanur with central assistance will be started this year. A new

fishing harbour will be constructed at Parappanangadi at a cost of ₹ 65 crore.

Forest and Wild Life

- 113.** There is an unprecedented increase in the number of wild life attacks in forest areas, especially in those adjacent to wild life protected areas. It is proposed to set up two Elephant Squads at Wayanad where more such problems are reported. Long time protection measures such as digging of trenches, construction of protection walls, electric fences and check dams will also be undertaken. This scheme will be extended to protect farmers in other districts also where the threat of wild life attacks are likely to occur. A total amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for these activities.
- 114.** Domestic and foreign tourists are keen to enjoy the charming wilderness of our forests. An amount of ₹ 6.05 crore is provided for the completion of the ongoing tourism projects of Forest Department and also for starting new projects.
- 115.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for the comprehensive eco-friendly tourism project to be established at Adavi region on the bank of Kallar River as a part of eco-tourism project at Elephant Care Centre, Konni, Pathanamthitta.

Cinema

- 116.** An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the modernisation of 5 cinema theatres under the Kerala Film Development Corporation

and an amount of ₹ 2.5 crore is set apart for the establishment of a film archives at Munnar.

Rural Development

- 117.** An amount of ₹ 810 crore is earmarked for this sector in the budget which includes assistance to Kudumbasree, Suchithwa Mission and KILA.
- 118.** The slow pace in utilizing the MLA/MP development funds is a matter of serious concern to Government. The shortage of staff is pointed out as the reason for this. Action will be taken to start engineering wings at Block level under the Local Self Government Department.
- 119.** The works under PMGSY were at standstill when the present Government came to power. The works are now restarted as this Government decided to take over the excess liability including the tender excess. An amount of ₹ 51.87 crore has been earmarked for this purpose.

Revenue and Legal Metrology

- 120.** Government proposes to implement a scheme whereby no family in Kerala will be left landless by 2015. An amount of ₹ 3 crore is set apart during 2013-2014 for implementation of the scheme by purchasing land in districts where no surplus Government land is available.

121. The Revenue offices in the State will be converted into smart offices, capable of delivering service from anywhere at any time. Smart offices built on the fundamentals of speed, transparency and responsibility will be established in a phased manner. An amount of ₹ 1.4 crore is set apart for the modernization of one village office each in every district.
122. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is set apart for the construction of a mini civil station at Perumkulam near Kattakada for housing different Government offices in the area.
123. The survey training school at Peroorkada in Thiruvananthapuram will be modernised to impart training to the department personnel in survey using modern equipments. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this purpose.
124. The video conferencing and electronic net working facilities will be provided in Taluk offices and Revenue Divisional Offices as part of their modernization.
125. The Institute of Land and Disasters Management under Revenue Department which imparts training on disaster management will be upgraded as a Centre of Excellence at national level. An expenditure of ₹ 5 crore is anticipated on this account.

Local Self Government

126. The policy of ensuring availability of more funds at grass root level to strengthen Grama Panchayats will be continued incessantly. This will ensure development based on local priorities and effective

public service delivery at local level. An amount of ₹ 4,000 crore out the total State annual plan outlay of ₹ 17,000 crore is set apart for the Local Government institutions. This is 23.9% more than that of the current year.

- 127.** I am happy to announce that all financial transactions of Grama Panchayats, including beneficiary payments under welfare schemes will be made online with effect from 2013-14 through bank accounts.
- 128.** It is intended to improve the standard of rural slaughter houses, keeping them clean and equipped with slaughter waste disposal systems. An amount of ₹ 5.5 crore is earmarked for this purpose.
- 129.** The joint initiatives of the Social Justice Department and Kudumbashree, for the rehabilitation of the differently-abled so as to enable them to remain in the mainstream of the society will be continued.
- 130.** With view to improve the quality of the services and standards of various activities of the Panchayats, ISO certification will be sought for 10 selected Grama Panchayats in each district as an initial step. For this an amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart.
- 131.** A new scheme for setting up of an Art village (Kalagramam) in one Panchayat of each district will be launched. The objective of these Art villages is to protect our art, culture and heritage and also to retain them for the future generations. I set apart an amount of ₹140 lakh for this purpose.

- 132.** The Kerala's model of democratic decentralization with people's participation has got international acclaim. In this context an International Meet on Local Governance will be conducted in Kerala this year.
- 133.** I set apart an amount of ₹ 1 crore for modernising the Kattakada market in Poovachal Panchayat.
- 134.** The Earattupettah Panchayat will be upgraded to the level of Municipality.

Urban Development

- 135.** The allocation for 2013-14 under Urban Development sector is fixed at ₹ 1130.49 crore which is 16.7% more than that of the previous year. Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme, Integrated Local Area development projects in all districts, Rajeev Awaz Yojana, KSUDP and urban waste disposal systems are the major schemes coming under this sector.
- 136.** As part of the initiative to encourage walking and cycling, an amount of ₹ 10 lakh is earmarked for the construction of cycle tracks, uninterrupted walk ways and cycle racks under PPP mode.
- 137.** A detailed project reports will be prepared for priority schemes such as improvement of existing roads, construction of ring roads & link roads, formulation of parking policy, construction of parks and parking places, shopping streets, improvement of markets and greening of cities.

- 138.** I set apart ₹ 10 crore for the widening of the urban roads with less than 6 metre width by acquiring land and to carry out the repair works of the existing roads.
- 139.** Considering the enormous increase in the number of vehicles, traffic congestion and inadequate parking facilities, a provision of ₹10 crore is made for the establishment of modern mechanised parking systems in urban areas.
- 140.** An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart to develop Municipal Town Junction of Cherthala.
- 141.** Amount of ₹12.16 crore is earmarked for Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme.
- 142.** An amount of ₹ 33.55 crore is set apart for solid waste management projects in urban areas and an amount of ₹ 12 crore is set apart for the source level waste disposal scheme in Panchayats under Suchitwa Mission.
- 143.** Hoardings are being erected in an uncontrolled way in city centres, creating inconvenience to the public and vehicle use. It is proposed to erect 1500 modern hoarding boards which will in turn generate income for urban local bodies. A loan scheme will be arranged for implementation of this project.
- 144.** The process of renewal the master plans of around 30 urban local bodies in the state is almost completed. Renewal of master plans of the remaining urban local bodies is in progress. For the completion of these activities, an amount of ₹ 1.95 crore is earmarked.

- 145.** An amount of ₹ 884 crore is earmarked for the completion of various ongoing projects such as ADB assisted KSUDP, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in Thiruvananthapuram and Cochin Corporations, Capital Region Development Project (CRDP) and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT).

Co-operation

- 146.** The relevance of the co-operative sector in the social and economic development of the state has increased substantially. For equipping the co-operative sector to take up more welfare schemes for the people, the allocation to the sector is enhanced by 21% and fixed as ₹ 75 crore.
- 147.** An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for establishing 20 new Farmer Service Centres to provide agricultural services to the farmers and an amount of ₹ 30 crore is earmarked for NCDC assisted projects. An amount of ₹ 4.25 crore is earmarked for strengthening agricultural marketing sector for providing assistance to primary marketing societies which made profits continuously in the last three years.
- 148.** In the ensuing year, thrust will be given to the welfare of women and disabled persons. Along with this, more Neethi and Nanma Stores, Triveni Super Markets and Mobile Triveni outlets will be started to the benefit of consume`
- 149.** As part of the initiatives in the health care sector, new laboratories will be started at Kayamkulam in Alappuzha and near Medical

College, Thrissur as part of the 'Susrooksha High tech laboratories' scheme to be launched in all district head quarte`

- 150.** There are around 60000 self help groups/joint liability groups in the co-operative sector. The activities of these groups will be strengthened and regional trade fairs will be organized for marketing their products.
- 151.** The SC/ST Co-operatives under Co-operative sector will be rejuvenated with assistance of SC/ST department. Government approved courses will be started in selected SC/ST Co-operatives to impart employment training to the youth belonging to these categories.
- 152.** To strengthen all co-operative societies including primary agriculture credit societies, a scheme by name "Dhara" will be implemented. In the first phase, this scheme will be implemented at Nedumangad, Adoor, Thiruvalla, Sasthamcotta, Peerumedu, Kuttanad, Meenachil, Kothamangalam, Thalappilli, Chavakkad, Manjeri, Chittoor, Vadakara, Mananthavadi, Thaliparambu and Hosdurg Taluks during this year.
- 153.** Construction of a head quarters building for the Co-operative department at Thiruvananthapuram will be taken up to bring the office of Registrar of Co-operative Societies, offices of various Boards under the department and other state level offices under one roof.

154. A scheme will be introduced for providing loan and subsidy for solar power installations through co-operative institutions.
155. The rice mills under co-operative sector with warehouse facilities will be permitted to collect paddy directly from the farmers against cash payment.
156. Post Graduate Courses will be started in the Engineering Colleges under CAPE at Thrikkariyoor, Vadakara, Thalasseri and Kidangoor in Electronics & Communication, Computer Science, Electrical & Electronics and Mechanical Engineering.

Pollution Control

157. Steps for rejuvenating the Parvathy Puthanar, which is completely polluted with the liquid waste of the capital city and is serious threat to public health, will be initiated.
158. The bio-medical waste from the hospitals is creating serious environmental problems. Public bio-medical waste treatment centers will be started in selected places with private participation and by availing the subsidy available under Central Government schemes.

Water Resources

159. In view of the prevailing acute drought situation and climatic changes in the state, various schemes will be implemented to preserve the available water sources to be utilized for drinking

water supply and for agriculture and allied purposes. For such activities, a total amount of ₹ 505.14 crore is earmarked. The river water flowing to sea will be stored at various places by constructing check dams. The check dams and regulators will be constructed in all river basins based on detailed studies to be conducted. A mega project costing ₹ 400 crore will be implemented for constructing such 700 check dams in the state in a phased manner.

- 160.** Projects for utilising the 30 TMC water from Kabani, Bhavani and Pambar basins under the Kaveri Tribunal Award will be expedited. The construction of first such dam in Pambar basin at Pattisseri will be started soon. An amount of ₹ 25.15 crore is earmarked for this purpose. Similarly, steps will be taken for constructing a dam at Attappady for utilising the water available in Bhavani basin also. Efforts for constructing dams in Kabani basin will also be continued.
- 161.** The court case relating to Mullaperiyar water sharing is in its final stage. Government expects the clearance of court to construct a new dam. For this, an amount of ₹ 50 crore is earmarked.
- 162.** Steps for commissioning of the Moovattupuzha Valley Irrigation Project and the Edamalayar Project during this year will be taken. For this, a provision of ₹ 25 crore is earmarked. Besides, work of Meenachil River Valley Irrigation Project will be started this year, for which an amount of ₹ 50 crore is earmarked.

- 163.** Malankara Irrigation Tourism Project will be implemented near Malankara Reservoir, Thodupuzha for which ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked towards preliminary activities.
- 164.** Steps for enriching the water resources will also be taken along with usage of water for drinking and agricultural purposes. Studies will be conducted in areas having scarcity of ground water. First of such studies has already started in Chittoor block. To modernise the Ground Water Department and to provide improved services, new Riggs and Scientific study equipments will be procured. For this an amount of ₹ 8 crore has been set apart. The scheme of renovating one pond each in every Panchayat will be continued to counter the drought situation.

Water Supply

- 165.** This Government could make remarkable achievements in the area of drinking water supply. JICA aided Cherthala project has already been commissioned. The water supply schemes of Thiruvananthapuram, Kannur, Meenad and Kozhikode will be completed this year. Efforts will be taken to complete all the 64 major water supply schemes which are under implementation under NRDWP, SPAN and NABARD programmes during this year itself. During this year, funds to the extent of ₹ 422.66 crore were released to Kerala Water Authority till January 2013. An amount of ₹ 849 crore is earmarked as next year's Plan allocation.

- 166.** A water supply schemes utilising the water from at least two alternate river sources will be prepared for the five Municipal Corporations in the State. The water supply systems will be improved by using water from Periyar and Moovattupuzhayaar in Ernakulam, Karuvannur and Peechi in Thrissur, Chaliyar and Kuttiadi in Kozhikode, Sasthamkotta Lake, Kallada and Ithikkara rivers in Kollam and Karamana and Vamarapuram rivers and Vellayani Lake in Thiruvananthapuram.
- 167.** A total of 200 MLD drinking water will be made available for supply in Ernakulam in view the ongoing developmental schemes including smart city, by implementing the JICA assisted water supply scheme costing ₹ 1000 crore. Likewise, 50 MLD drinking water will be made available for supply in Thrissur, for which the state share will be ₹ 25 crore. Apart from completing the ongoing water supply schemes, steps will also be taken to find a permanent solution to the severe water scarcity problem of Vypin by simultaneously implementing the rain water harvesting scheme also.
- 168.** I set apart an amount of ₹ 2 crore for a comprehensive water supply scheme to resolve the drinking water scarcity in Kalliyoor, Venganoor, Vizhinjam and Kovalam areas.
- 169.** The main supply pipes in most of the existing water supply scheme are more than 30 years old. A project will be implemented with loan assistance for replacement of old and damaged pipes including those in Thiruvananthapuram on a priority basis in a phased

manner. For this an amount of ₹ 90 crore is earmarked as state's share.

Power

- 170.** A provision of ₹ 46.58 crore is earmarked under energy sector to implement power projects and to carry out dam safety and electric transmission-distribution works during this year.
- 171.** An amount of ₹ 5 lakh each is set apart for preliminary activities of hydroelectric projects at Bhoothathankettu, Chathankotta, Kallar, Arippara, Valamthode, Maripuzha, Thoniyar and Thommankuthu.
- 172.** An amount of ₹ 8 crore is earmarked to establish solar power plants in the vacant land available at sites of existing substations and power houses during 12th plan period to generate 60 MW electricity.
- 173.** The 1026 MW gas based power project at Brahmapuram, the 1200 MW KSEB – Petronet joint venture project at Puthuvaippin, the 1200 MW KSEB-KSIDC joint venture project at Cheemeni are the major power projects now under consideration. It is proposed to produce additional 1050 MW power by converting Naphtha units at NTPC, Kayamkulam to natural gas units. A power project will be established at Kochi using Petcoke from BPCL to generate 550MW power.

- 174.** Various technology-based systems such as smart grid, prepaid meter, automated metering will be started in 2013-14. An innovation unit will be set up under KSEB with support from the Innovation Fund.
- 175.** The careless disposal of used CF lamps leads to serious environmental pollution. An amount of ₹ 15 lakh is earmarked for the establishment of plants for the safe recycling of CFLs.
- 176.** The ongoing 14 hydro electric projects with production capacity of 179.85 MW power are expected to be completed in 2013-14. Besides, it is proposed to start new projects with 111.2 MW capacity.
- 177.** KSEB is giving paramount importance to strengthening its transmission network. To achieve this, two 220 KV substations, ten 110 KV substations, two 66 KV substations and seven 33 KV substations will be installed during 2013-14.
- 178.** A wind farm with 200 MW capacity will be set up in the state with the support of NTPC. Besides, a 22 MW wind farm will be set up at Kanchikode.
- 179.** Projects worth ₹ 800 crore which include R-APDRP and RGGVY will be implemented to strengthen the distribution network and to reduce the consolidated technical –commercial loss. It is also proposed to provide 4.68 lakh new service connections during this period.

- 180.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for setting up of energy parks which will impart training on assembling and repairing of energy conservation equipments and generate awareness on renewable energy sources and energy conservation.

Industry

- 181.** Industrial development is highly essential for creating job opportunities and bringing in economic development. A provision of ₹ 579.36 crore is provided in the budget towards industrial parks, investment promotion activities and incentives to entrepreneurs.
- 182.** The response to the investment meet 'Emerging Kerala' held during September, 2012 was quite encouraging. The state is having tremendous growth potential in different sectors. It is proposed to conduct a detailed review on the growth potentials of the state through a professional agency or academic institution of international standard.
- 183.** The Government intends to give special consideration to electronic manufacturing industry. For attracting investors and technology towards this end through a mission mode project, an amount of ₹ 20 crore is set apart. It is also proposed to set up an electronic fabrication laboratory each at Techno Park, Thiruvananthapuram and in the Start up Village, Kochi.

- 184.** An amount of ₹ 15 crore is earmarked for improving the water supply and road infrastructure in the Smart City, Info Park and Export Promotion Industrial Parks.
- 185.** It is proposed to set up a Textile Industrial Park of international standard at Kanjikode, Palakkad, Industrial Park at Ottappalam, Business Park at Kollam and Small Scale Industrial Park at Uduma under KINFRA. An International Convention Centre will be set up at Ernakulam in association with ITPO. A Telecom Incubator will be set up at Hi-tech Park, Kalamasseri. A 'Nano Technology Centre' will be set up at KINFRA Bio-Technology Park at Kalamassery with the support of CUSAT and Amritha Centre for Nano Sciences. An amount of ₹ 86.68 crore is earmarked to KINFRA for the development of various parks.
- 186.** With the objective of strengthening and protection of traditional industries sector, provisions of ₹ 71.5 crore for the cashew sector, ₹ 111.37 crore for the Coir sector and ₹ 76.76 crore for the Handloom sector are made. Besides, an amount of ₹ 3 crore is additionally set apart for Handicraft Development Corporation, Kerala Artisans Development Corporation, SURABHI, KELPALM and Kerala State Bamboo Corporation over and above ₹ 3 crore provided in the budget.
- 187.** Under the auspices of Coir Development Department, a permanent exhibition Center of international standard will be set up in the model of CIAL. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for starting this venture.

- 188.** A Coir Incubation Cell for helping new business enterprises which makes innovative products and an Innovation Fund for developing new technologies and products by making use of innovative ideas in the Coir sector will be constituted. An amount of ₹ 20 lakh is set apart for this project.
- 189.** The handloom sector will be strengthened with product diversification, introduction of new designs and skill development of handloom workers.
- 190.** At present, Textile industry sector is in a crisis. An amount of ₹ 3 crore is additionally earmarked for the comprehensive modernization of this sector. Besides, an amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked for the renovation of Priyadarsini Co-Operative Spinning Mill, Kottayam and ₹ 1 crore is set apart for the renovation of the Integrated Power loom Industrial Co-operative Society, Amayannur.
- 191.** NIMZ (National Investment and Manufacturing Zone) will be set up in Ernakulam, Thrissur, Malappuram and Palakkad districts for accelerating large scale construction activities in Kerala as part of National Manufacturing Policy.
- 192.** Steps will be taken to establish a Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment region at Kochi at a cost of ₹ 9000 crore in line with the National Policy. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for its preliminary activities.

- 193.** The industrial development of Kerala demands strengthening of micro and small enterprises through cluster development. The Government will provide a subsidy up to an amount of ₹ 1 lakh per unit for securing quality certification. Financial assistance of ₹ 2 lakh and ₹ 50,000 will be provided for the participation in international trade fairs and national trade fairs respectively. Trade fairs of Kerala products will be organized in different parts of the State.
- 194.** The Industrial Estates under the control of Industries and Commerce Department and SIDCO will be modernized. Considering the increased demand of Steel furniture, a Hi-tech steel furniture production unit will be set up under SIDCO.
- 195.** So as to enable the entrepreneurs in the State to tap the investment opportunities in West Asia, South East Asia, Africa and Latin America, an overseas Investment Promotion Wing will be constituted under KSIDC. Besides, Integrated Business Hubs will be set up in Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi, Kozhikode, Idukki and Kannur. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for this purpose.
- 196.** Technology Incubation Centres of Kerala are among the best performing models in the country. Taking a cue from this, Business Incubation Centres will be established in Industrial IT sectors protecting the interest of investors. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for this activity.
- 197.** In order to rejuvenate Public Sector Undertakings, efficient professional management systems will be put in place. The Governing Board of Public Sector Undertakings will be

reconstituted with inclusion of the experts in the sector. The efficiency of the Public Sector Undertakings will be enhanced with the effective implementation of e-procurement; enterprise resource planning etc. With a view to enhance the efficiency of the Public Sector Undertakings, the practice of Government Departments resorting to purchases from Public Sector Undertakings without tender formalities will be eliminated in a phased manner. An amount of ₹ 80 crore is earmarked for the rejuvenation of the Public Sector Undertakings under the Industries Department. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is additionally set apart for providing margin money to enable companies to obtain institutional finance towards working capital and for modernisation in their effort to enhance efficiency and profit.

- 198.** A provision of ₹ 1.5 crore is made towards financial assistance to the Travancore Cements Ltd towards procurement of a High Chrome Grinding Mill and allied activities.
- 199.** The profitable/viable Public Sector Undertakings will be permitted to set up solar energy units. Industrial Estates, Parks and Khadi Production centres under the control of Khadi Board will also be included under the coverage of this scheme. Besides, water harvesting activities would also be taken up along with this. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart for these activities.
- 200.** An SPV will be formed with participation of KSIDC and other PSUs under the Industries Department, Local Government Institutions and private entrepreneurs with technical expertise to

meet the challenge on solid waste management. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is set apart for this purpose.

- 201.** A Cancer Centre and Research Institute will be established at Malappuram under INKEL as a part of its charitable activities. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this.

Khadi and Village Industries

- 202.** An amount of ₹ 13.31 crore is set apart to the Khadi and Village Industries Board to rejuvenate village industry units in the traditional industries sector.
- 203.** A Rural Industrial Park will be established at Pappinisseri in Kannur district on the land of Khadi Board, and a permanent exhibition centre set up in Ernakulam for marketing Khadi and rural industrial products.
- 204.** An allocation of ₹ 1 crore will be made towards one time assistance for providing special amenities for women Hajj pilgrims in the existing Hajj House.

Information Technology

- 205.** Improved infrastructure facilities will be provided at Technopark and Infopark so as to transform Kerala as the most attractive IT destination for investors. An amount of ₹ 125 crore is earmarked to Technopark, Infopark and Cyberpark for achieving this goal. New building with 4 lakh sq. ft. area will be constructed at Cyberpark in Kozhikode.

- 206.** In order to transform our technically qualified youths as job providers from the level of job seekers, Government have already announced a student entrepreneurship programme. The objective of this programme is to change the status of skilled youths to that of entrepreneurs. An 'Innovation Zone' will be set up at Kochi as part of this initiative. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is set apart for this project.
- 207.** The e-district programme aimed to make available Government services to common man through Akshaya Centres without visiting Government offices will be implemented throughout the state. An e-governance Centre at a cost of ₹ 10 crore with the assistance of Government of India and an Investment Promotion Management Cell at a cost of ₹ 5 crore will be set up during the year.
- 208.** Kerala stands first in the enrollment of Aadhar/UID among Indian states. It will be ensured that all Keralites will be brought under the ambit of Aadhar/UID by September, 2013. The amount spent on developmental and welfare activities of Government will be disbursed to beneficiaries through their Aadhar enabled bank accounts. With this, benefits will directly reach the beneficiaries concerned through micro ATMs.
- 209.** Master plan of Smart City is now completed and construction of essential infrastructure facilities will start soon.
- 210.** The Government will take a creative and proactive approach for developing Integrated IT parks, Hi-tech parks and Knowledge parks with private participation.

- 211.** The Indian Institute of Information Technology and Infopark will be established at Valavoor as PPP project with participation of the Union and State Governments and private entrepreneurs. An amount of ₹ 65 crore is earmarked for this project.
- 212.** An ICT Academy will be established at a cost of ₹ 14 crore with central assistance and private participation. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for this project.
- 213.** A modern building will be constructed at Thiruvananthapuram at a cost of ₹ 16 crore for the Kerala State IT Mission.

Ports

- 214.** A total provision of ₹ 78.69 crore is made for development of ports. Apart from this, the amount that required for providing infrastructure facilities to Vizhinjam International Port will be met from the lump provision of ₹ 846.03 crore set apart for infrastructure development.
- 215.** An amount of ₹ 65 lakh is provided in the budget for preparing master plan of ports and undertaking a model study on ports.
- 216.** An amount of ₹ 6.75 crore is set apart for the development of Kozhikode and Beypore ports during this financial year.
- 217.** Maritime Education Institutions will be started at Neendakara and Kodungallur for enhancing human resource potential in this area.

Public Works

- 218.** The increase in road accidents is mainly attributed to the pathetic conditions of the roads. Taking this into account, Government will initiate measures aimed at reduction of road accidents through action for road widening, construction of bus bays, foot over bridges etc. An allocation of ₹ 855 crore is made in the budget for the development of State Highways and District Roads including these activities.
- 219.** In order to avoid the traffic bottlenecks in major cities where National Highway passes through, construction of bypass roads will be expedited. The construction of Thiruvananthapuram Bypass will start soon through the National Highway Authority. The State Government will bear 50% of the construction cost of the Kollam and Alappuzha bypasses, work of which remain incomplete. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is provided for these bypasses. Similarly, an amount of ₹ 5 crore each is set apart for Kozhikode, Thalasseri-Mahe, Sulthanbathery, Chengannur and Kozhencherry bypasses.
- 220.** The projects envisaging construction of foot over bridges in crowded roads, under passes for pedestrian crossing and foot over bridges connecting bus stations and railway stations, parking places etc. will be implemented on a priority basis. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is provided for this project.
- 221.** A project will be launched in association with the Local Self Governments for the construction of bypasses. Accordingly, projects for constructing bypasses will be taken up in places where

free land is available. The construction of new roads will also be taken up in a similar pattern.

- 222.** A scheme will be launched to upgrade the main roads in the state into BM & BC standard in a phased manner. As part of this, Government have decided to upgrade 100 Kms of road to BM & BC standard in the first stage. Government will ensure 5 years performance guarantee on such roads.
- 223.** The Road Infrastructure Company which was formed to implement the State Road Improvement Project for up-gradation of selected 1204 Km of roads has started functioning. As the first phase of this project, renovation of 551 Km of road which was included in the rehabilitation package and which require no land acquisition will be taken up this year. An allocation of ₹ 170 crore is made for this project.
- 224.** Phase II of the Kerala State Transport Project (KSTP) will start this year itself. Against the expected out lay of ₹ 2005 crore, an amount of ₹ 280 crore is earmarked for this year.
- 225.** In addition to the above, improvement of around 1000 Km of selected roads in the state will be undertaken on a long term maintenance contract basis. Steps are being taken for availing World Bank Assistance for this project which has an estimated outlay of ₹ 1000 crore.
- 226.** A scheme for developing the unutilized portion of the land left by sides of PWD roads after geometric correction (Oxbow lands) will be started with private participation for providing amenities to long

distance travelers. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart towards the initial expenses of this project. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is provided for the initial expenses on formation of two companies with private participation – one for construction and maintenance of modern Bus shelters and the other for construction and maintenance of toilets.

- 227.** An amount of ₹ 20 crore is provided for the formation of the Kumarakom-Nedumbassery State Highway by developing the existing roads at Kottayam, Vaikom, Kaduthuruthy, Kunnathunadu and Perumbavoor.
- 228.** The first and second phases of the work of the Seaport-Airport road are in progress. An amount of ₹ 25 Crore is provided for this project.
- 229.** A coastal corridor will be developed from Vallarpadom container terminal to Kozhikode via Ponnani on completion of Azhikode-Munambam Bridge. The administrative Sanction was issued for the first phase of the project for an amount of ₹ 117 crore.
- 230.** The construction of Azhikode-Munmbam Bridge with an approximate outlay of ₹ 150 crore will start soon. Steps will be taken for the completion of the coastal road from Fort Kochi to Alappuzha through Chellanam this year. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is provided for this purpose.
- 231.** An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked to construct a bridge connecting Mankompu with Alappuzha-Changanassery road.

- 232.** An amount of ₹ 2crore is earmarked to carry out preliminary activities for the construction of AnakkampoZHil-Kalladi-Meppadi tunnel road as an alternate route to Wayanad district.
- 233.** The 'Pre-Fab Technology'- a modern technology in the construction field, will put into experimental use in the selected works of PWD.
- 234.** A new office complex based on green building Technology will be constructed near the PMG Junction at Thiruvananthapuram for accommodating various offices under PWD.
- 235.** A modern flat complex will be constructed for MLAs near the existing hostel building. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided for this.
- 236.** Development of 5.5 Km road from HMT Junction to Manalimukku as a concrete road has been taken up on an experimental basis. If this is found successful, similar constructions will be taken up in other places also.
- 237.** The RBDCK will undertake the construction of 40 new railways over bridges. An amount of ₹ 50 Crore is provided for this purpose.
- 238.** A new training Centre will be established at NeriYamangalam to improve the professionalism among the Engineers in PWD. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is provided for this purpose.

- 239.** The newly added 8750 Km major district roads under PWD will be upgraded in a time bound manner. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is provided for this project this year.
- 240.** An amount of ₹ 5 crore is provided for the construction of a new bridge parallel to the existing narrow bridge near Mamburam Makham, a major pilgrim centre in Malabar.

Transport

- 241.** The prevailing problems in the transport sector directly affect the day to day life of public and also the goods movement in the state and thereby slowing down the growth of the State. The increased usage of inland water ways and costal shipping for freight movement and improving railway and road transport facilities will be the remedy to this problem. The inter model integration will be strengthened for the smooth freight transportation and travel. The water taxi service connecting Railway-Bus stations with nearby places will be introduced at Thrissur, Alappuzha, Kottayam and Chengannur. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is provided for this project.
- 242.** The e-governance system will be strengthened to improve the efficiency in transport sector. The e-payment system will be fully implemented in Motor Vehicles Department during this year. It is also proposed to construct two new driver testing tracks, to purchase 12 radars and to start two computerized vehicle testing centre`
- 243.** Taking a serious view on the environmental pollution being created by passenger boats, action is being taken to set up chemical toilets

in all boats of State Water Transport Department. It is proposed to use solar powered boats on experimental basis.

- 244.** The increasing cost of diesel is a crisis for the KSRTC. An amount of ₹ 260 crore has been released by Government to the KSRTC during 2012-13. In order to reduce expenditure on the fuel cost, KSRTC has to switch over to the usage of CNG as fuel in its buses. More than 500 very old buses require replacement. As part of the improvement of infrastructure, KSRTC will construct six commercial complexes and also start a new bus depot at Anayara, Thiruvananthapuram. Taking in to consideration the level of crisis being faced by KSRTC, special assistance of ₹ 100 crore will be provided in addition to ₹ 186 crore provided in the budget.
- 245.** A road safety Audit has been conducted after the tanker lorry mishap at Chala, Kannur. The road safety measures will be strengthened based on the audit report.

Coastal Shipping and Inland Navigation

- 246.** Out of the total provision of ₹ 117.18 crore made for the sector, an amount of ₹ 21.67 crore is earmarked for the maintenance and up keep of the currently navigable waterways, revival of TS Canal including Kadinamkulam-Anjengo region, Varkala tunnel and Kollam Thodu. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the construction of 6 road bridges and 50 foot bridges across Vadakara-Mahe Canal.

247. Work of Kollam-Kottappuram Waterways will be completed this year itself. The work of Kottappuram-Neeleswaram sector has been started.
248. Kollam Thodu from Ashtamudi Lake to Paravur Lake will be revived.
249. KSINC will start fast ferry service at Kochi. Besides, it will modernize its luxury boats to attract more tourists and construct jetties. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is provided for these activities.

Tourism

250. Considering the important role being played by the tourism sector in the state's economy, an allocation of ₹ 189.23 crore is made for this sector. Kerala Sea Plane Project is one among the priority projects announced by Government during its first anniversary. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided for this project. The first phase of Muziris Heritage Tourism Project has been completed. As part of its second phase the 'Spice Route Project' will be taken up technical support of UNESCO.
251. The Alappuzha Canal Renovation Project which started in 2004, found a place in the World Tourist Map, will be completed soon. The Alappuzha Mega Tourism Circuit will commence its activities during this year. The Veli Tourism Centre will be upgraded to international level under PPP mode by forming a SPV.
252. Government will undertake the first phase of the development activities in international tourist centres of Kovalam, Kumarakom, Thekkady and Fort Kochi based on the master plans to be prepared

by approved national agencies. Master plans will be prepared for the development of Ashtamudi Lake, Kalady-Malayattoor-Athirappally Tourism Circuit, Nilambur, Kakkayam-Peruvannamoozhy, and Kadappattoor-Bhanrananganam-Ilaveezhapoonchira-Illikkakkallu-Vagamon Tourism circuits.

253. The scope of coastal tourism has not been utilized fully so far. Government proposes to tap its full potential by starting luxury cruising and backwater cruising in Varkala-Kottapuram sector.
254. The standards and security of beach tourism will be upgraded to match international standards. As part of this, steps will be taken to obtain ISO certification for beach tourism managements.
255. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided for establishing the Golden Valley Tourism circuit covering Kallar, Golden Valley, Meenmutty falls, Peppara and Ponmudi in Thiruvananthapuram District.

Science, Technology and Environment

256. The improvement of infrastructure facilities of Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment and the Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram is the major activities proposed under this sector. An allocation of ₹ 141.62 crore is made for this purpose.
257. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is provided for the scientific conservation of the Karamana river basin with participation of TRIDA, State Bio-diversity Board and the Irrigation Department.

- 258.** An amount ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for the preparation of a project report on establishment of a Science City.
- 259.** In the context of the 125th birth anniversary of Sreenivasa Ramanujan, the famous mathematician, an allocation of ₹ 10 crore is set apart to the Sreenivasa Ramanujan Institute of Basic Sciences at Kottayam, which aims to conduct advanced research in science and technology.
- 260.** An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for establishing a Centre-State Technology Transfer Institute with central assistance to prepare and implement a master plan on technology transfer.
- 261.** The Urban Environment Improvement Project aimed to reduce environmental impact due to urbanisation will be implemented in the State during 12th five year plan in a phased manner.
- 262.** An amount of ₹ 3 crore is set apart for the ecological protection of Vembanad Lake with central assistance.

School and Higher Education

- 263.** An amount of ₹ 581.14 crore is earmarked for this sector, higher thrust being given for the infrastructure development and improvement in academic standards and student centric activities.
- 264.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for arranging telecast of lectures of experts to benefit students appearing for entrance examinations for professional courses.

- 265.** An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for establishment of a State Assessment Accreditation Council (SAAC) aiming to improve the standard of Higher Education in Kerala.
- 266.** Government will encourage Arts & Science Colleges and Engineering colleges, maintaining higher academic standards, to obtain academic autonomy from UGC. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is provided for the improvement of the basic physical infrastructure in Government Colleges and also for setting up of modern management systems. Improvement in management of these institutions will be achieved in a professional manner by granting them autonomous status.
- 267.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for the setting up of a Special Purpose Vehicle for establishment of an academic city in the state based on the recommendation of the expert committee.
- 268.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for establishing a Faculty Training Centre under the aegis of Kerala State Higher Education Council for imparting training to develop the innovative and creative abilities among the newly recruited college teachers.
- 269.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for establishment of Research Park at Government Engineering College, Thiruvananthapuram in the model of Techno Park which will give emphasis to research activities.
- 270.** An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for starting training courses on skill development in Automobile manufacture, Communication, Agriculture and Information Technology in Polytechnics and

Technical High Schools, under the National Vocational Education Qualification Framework.

- 271.** New courses will be started in collaboration with foreign companies, under Public Private Partnership on subjects such as Automation Technologies in Rajeev Gandhi Institute of Technology; Printing Technology in Government Engineering College, Thrissur and Automotive Mechatronics in the Barton Hill Government Engineering College, Thiruvananthapuram. An amount of ₹ 2.5 crore is set apart for this.
- 272.** A new college will be started at Thanoor, where no higher educational institutions now exist under Government/aided/unaided sector. The resources from the area development fund of MLAs, assistance from the UGC and Government funds will be used for this purpose. Other similarly placed constituencies will also be considered for starting of new colleges on the same pattern.
- 273.** A Science city in Kozha at Kottayam with the assistance of Government of India and a Regional Centre for Science in Parappanangadi will be established under the aegis of Kerala State Science and Technology Museum in 2013-14. The work of the Science city project for children at Kalamassery being established with the co-operation of the Municipality will be started this year.
- 274.** I provide ₹25 crore for establishing LBS Integrated Institute of Science and Technology at Thirurangadi, ₹ 6 crore for the construction of Architectural Block for the Rajeev Gandhi Institute

of Technology and ₹ 3 Crore for the construction of Academic Block in the College of Applied Science, Payyappadi under IHRD.

- 275.** An amount of ₹ 10 lakh is provided to start an International school for Sree Sankaracharya Studies in Sree Sankaracharya Sanskrit University.
- 276.** An amount of ₹ 30 lakh will be provided as grant-in-aid for starting Ayyankali Centre for Research Studies at Thiruvananthapuram.
- 277.** An amount of ₹ 26.6 crore is provided for the developmental activities, modernization and improvement of academic level of Government Schools and an amount of ₹ 56 crore provided for the infrastructure development of Higher Secondary Schools.
- 278.** A scheme for health and life skill education will be implemented in schools to enable the children to effectively resist themselves from the ill effects of use of pan products and drugs etc. and to improve their mental and physical health.
- 279.** Digital libraries will be established in the campuses of High School/Higher Secondary Schools and Vocational Higher Secondary Schools during 2013-14. This will be implemented as a pilot project in two selected districts during 2013-14 for which an amount of ₹ 5 crore is provided.
- 280.** Tablet PCs will be provided to all High Schools/Higher Secondary Schools and Vocational Higher Secondary School students in the state in a phased manner. In the first phase, this will be implemented in two selected districts during 2013-14 for which an amount of ₹ 3 Crore is set apart.

- 281.** It is proposed to formulate a scheme to enhance the ability and knowledge of the mentally challenged and to assess their abilities through appropriate evaluation techniques. An amount of ₹ 10 lakh is allocated to the State Resource Centre for implementation of the programme.
- 282.** It is proposed to upgrade SIEMAT, Kerala as an international centre of excellence in educational planning, management and administration. For this, an amount of ₹ 2.5 crore has been provided in the budget.
- 283.** An amount of ₹ 15 lakh is provided for starting Malayalam libraries in cities like Delhi where large number of Malayalees reside.

Art and Culture

- 284.** The budget allocation for the Art and Culture Sector for 2013-14 is ₹ 70 crore. Projects for renovation of Baston Bungalow in Kochi, Kollamkode Palace in Thrissur, and Sreepadam Palace in Thiruvananthapuram and Pazhassiraja Museum in Wayanad are progressing. An allocation of ₹ 7 core has been made for setting up district level heritage museums in the remaining districts.
- 285.** The Archives Department now has a collection of more than one crore palm leaf manuscripts. This large and rare collection of palm leaf records will be conserved scientifically. These records are proposed to be included in the heritage list and arranged for exhibition to public. An amount of ₹ 2 crore has been provided for the activities of the Archives Department in 2013-14.

- 286.** For the various activities of the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Academy, ₹ 2 crore is provided. Provisions of ₹ 1.7 crore for Lalithakala Academy, ₹ 2 crore for Kerala Sahithya Academy, ₹ 1 crore for the Folklore Academy and ₹ 10 lakh for Bharat Bhavan are also made in this budget. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for the revival of dying art forms of Kerala.
- 287.** The first Cartoon Museum in India will be set up in the name of Cartoonist Sankar, at Kayamkulam, his birth place. The Lalithakala Academy will be provided with an amount of ₹ 10 lakh for this purpose.
- 288.** An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for the establishment of Mural city at Kottayam and Art village at Sreekandapuram in Kannur district.
- 289.** Malabar cultural Village will be set up at Kozhikode for the preservation of cultural identity of Malabar. To meet the initial expenditure of this initiative, an amount of ₹ 50 lakh is provided.
- 290.** Financial assistance of ₹ 10 lakh is provided for the Narendra Prasad Drama Research Centre at Mavelikkara and an amount of ₹ 5 lakh is provided for the renovation of Achutha Marar Vaadyakala Kendra at Kodungallur.
- 291.** An amount of ₹ 10 lakh is set apart for the construction of building for Valappad Kunhunni Mash Memmorial in Thrissur district. An amount of ₹ 10 lakh is set apart for Sister Mary Beneenja's Memorial at Elanji. Allocations of ₹ 15 lakh for the construction of building for O.V.Vijayan Memorial at Thasrak in Palakkad district,

₹ 10 lakh for Vaikunda Swami Memorial at Neyyattinkara, ₹ 10 lakh for the Mahakavi Pulikottil Hyder Memorial at Wandoor, ₹ 10 lakh for Memorial of Bhagavatha Hamsam Malliyoor Sankaran Nampoothiri at Kaduthuruthi, ₹ 10 lakh for the infrastructure development of A.R. Raja Raja Varma Memorial and ₹ 5 lakh for the birth centenary celebrations of S.K. Pottekkad are also being made.

- 292.** The annual grant given to Mahakavi Moyeenkutty Vaidyan Mappila Kala Academy at Kondotty, Malappuram will be doubled.
- 293.** An amount of ₹ 25 lakh will be provided to MRG Panicker Foundation at Eranjal for establishing a cultural centre with computer training facility to unemployed youth. This centre is established as birth centenary memorial of former freedom fighter Sri.MRG Panicker, who participated in Vaikom Sathyagraham.
- 294.** The service of Malayalam Mission, established with a view to enable the non-resident Keralites and their children to understand Malayalam language and its culture in depth will be extended to the foreign countries like Bahrain, Japan, Ireland, Singapore, Dubai, Malaysia etc.
- 295.** Malayinkeezh Madhavakavi wrote his eminent Book, Bhasha Bhagavat Gita, in 15th Century before the era of Ezhuthachan, the father of Malayalam language. An amount of ₹ 10 lakh is provided for establishing a Malayinkeezhu Madhavakavi Sanskrit Centre.
- 296.** An amount of ₹ 25 lakh will be provided for the establishment of Dr. Benchamin Baily Study Centre and Museum at CMS College in

commemoration of Dr. Benchamin Baily, the father of Printing and the author of first English-Malayalam Dictionary. An amount of ₹ 15 lakh is earmarked for Pandit Karuppan Memorial at Kochi.

- 297.** The 'Hajoor kachery' at Thiroorangadi is a historically important building established by the British. This building will be renovated and preserved as a cultural heritage museum at Thiroorangadi, the centre of the rebellion against the British, for which an amount of ₹ 15 lakh is provided.
- 298.** The Kadavallur Anyonyam, a competition on Veda Studies, held in Kadavallur Temple in Thrissur district was given a grant of ₹ 2 lakh last year. Similar financial assistance will be provided this year also.
- 299.** A cultural complex and Picture Gallery will be set up at Munnar, Idukki to facilitate exhibition of contemporary art works. The cultural complex will include museum, children's park, Knowledge Park etc.
- 300.** Government have already set up a Special Purpose Vehicle for the development of Varkala. This year a modern museum will be started at Varkala as a UNESCO Heritage Centre. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this.

Museums and Zoos

- 301.** A museum complex and an animal care centre are proposed to be setup at the land available in Perinthalmanna constituency under the Museums and Zoos Department.
- 302.** A policy will be formulated to facilitate adoption of birds and animals in Zoos by individuals, industrial institutions, public sector undertaking, voluntary organizations etc.

Health and Family Welfare

- 303.** An amount of ₹ 541 crore is provided in the budget for Health sector, with emphasis on infrastructure development of Hospitals, Immunization Programs and health education to accomplish the objective 'Health for all'.
- 304.** At present only 35 Taluk Head Quarters Hospitals are having causality facility. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is provided for establishing casualty facility in the remaining 31 hospitals. A new Government Nursing College will be started at Taluk Hospital, Kanjirappally.
- 305.** An Institute of Quality and Safety in Health will be established with support of immigrant Malayalee Doctors to impart training for staff in the Health Department and to set standards to be followed for the safety, efficiency and quality of the department. An amount of ₹ 10 lakh is set apart for this.

- 306.** An amount of ₹ 25 crore is set apart for establishing Trauma care unit in Alappuzha Medical College, construction of Cardiology block in Medical College, Thrissur and for establishing liver transplantation unit and Cadaver Transplantation unit in Thiruvananthapuram Medical College.
- 307.** Government intends to provide generic drugs at free of cost to all patients seeking treatment from all levels of health care institutions ranging from Primary Health Centres to Medical College Hospitals. The scheme has already been started in 5 Medical Colleges and General Hospitals at Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikkode. This programme will be extended to the Taluk level hospitals this year. The Medical Services Corporation is provided with an allocation of ₹ 220 crore for its activities including the above one.
- 308.** Medical Cities will be set up in Thiruvananthapuram, Kozhikkode and Cochin by establishing networks of modern hospitals.
- 309.** The improvement of infrastructure facilities in Government Hospitals will be carried out at an estimated cost of ₹ 25 crore with the assistance of Government of India. An amount of ₹ 4.5 crore is provided for the renovation of Ayurveda Hospitals and ₹ 5.6 crore is set apart for Homoeo Hospitals.
- 310.** A Public Health Protection Agency will be set up for the first time in India, with central assistance, aiming at control of epidemics and improving quality of health protection. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided for this purpose.

- 311.** The activities for starting new medical colleges announced last year are now in progress. In tune with the new policy of the Central Government to convert district level hospitals as Medical Colleges, a new Medical College will be started at Thiruvananthapuram, combining General Hospital and the Women and Children Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram. This scheme will be implemented in other District/General hospitals also in a phased manner, depending on the availability of land. An amount of ₹ 6 crore is provided for this purpose.
- 312.** At present patients suffering from burn injuries are treated in surgical wards along with other patients. A burn treatment unit will be set up in the existing 5 Medical Colleges for special care and treatment for such patients. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is provided for this purpose.
- 313.** An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for constructing women hostel building at Dental College, Thiruvananthapuram.
- 314.** A scheme for quality testing of drugs will be launched with the assistance of Government of India in the pharmaceutical colleges under the Medical Colleges at Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Kozhikode and Kottayam at an estimated cost of ₹ 4 crore.
- 315.** Twenty five new Ayurveda dispensaries will be started in the state. Besides, the Naturopathic Hospital at Varkala will be upgraded to a 100 bedded hospital. “**Jeevani**” Scheme will be implemented, in Ayurveda General Hospital at Neyyattinkara, District Ayurveda Hospital, Kottayam and in District Ayurveda Hospital Ernakulam for special treatment of Type-2 Diabetes under the Indian system of

medicine, for which ₹ 20 lakh is provided. It is proposed to start a new scheme, “Drishti”, envisaging medical care to School children with Myopia at Ramavarma District Ayurveda Hospital and Government Ayurveda Hospital, Irinjalakkuda.

- 316.** A law will be enacted to protect the intellectual property rights in the traditional health care sector and for ensuring effective execution of activities relating to documentation, registration, publication, research and awareness on such traditional knowledge. This legislation will enable marketing of products based on traditional knowledge under Kerala Brand and this could be brought under world heritage map of UNESCO. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for these activities to be taken up with the support of Government of India.

Housing

- 317.** Kerala State Housing Development Finance Corporation will establish Shelter Fund (Abhaya Nidhi) and Technology Innovation Fund under the Technical Cell for Housing.
- 318.** Under the auspicious of Housing Board, a Finance City will be set up at Kochi in the model of the Finance City of Bangaluru.
- 319.** A city centre with convention facility will be established in the land of Housing Board at Thodupuzha.
- 320.** An amount of ₹1.4 crore is earmarked for setting up of a campus for Lary Baker International School of Habitat Studies at Vazhamuttom.

Information & Public Relations

- 321.** A State Information Hub will be set up at Thiruvananthapuram to disseminate information on developmental and welfare activities of Government as well as to enhance public awareness about these activities. An amount of ₹ 2.6 crore is provided in this budget for equipping the State Information Hub and digitizing District Information offices and New Delhi Information Office.
- 322.** The renovation and up gradation of Kerala pavilion at New Delhi will be undertaken during this year. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is provided for this.
- 323.** In the last budget, it was announced that a Media City will be established at Kochi. An expert Committee has already been appointed for this. An amount of ₹ 20 lakh is provided in this budget for setting up the Media City.
- 324.** An amount of ₹15 lakh is provided for renovation of Press Club, Thrissur and another ₹ 15 lakh is earmarked for constructing a Media Centre and News Museum at Press Club, Kottayam.

Labour and Rehabilitation

- 325.** Industrial Tribunal will be started at Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam, Pathanamthitta, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Kannur.

- 326.** I believe that a housing scheme is essential for plantation workers. A housing scheme for plantation workers by name “Bhavanam” will be introduced using the central assistance and state share. For this an amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided as state share.
- 327.** A training course to improve labour skills will be started through Kerala Academy for Skills Excellence under PPP mode with the assistance of NCDC.
- 328.** Kerala Institute for Labour and Employment will conduct different Training programmes to labourers and trade union leaders to improve labour relation in Kerala.
- 329.** An amount of ₹ 3 crore is provided for improving standard of women ITI at Chengannur, Kalamassery, Chalakkudy, Malampuzha and Kannur.

Scheduled Caste Development

- 330.** An amount of ₹ 839.5 crore is provided in the budget for implementing housing schemes such as home to homeless, land to landless, employment schemes and economic uplifting schemes for SCs. An amount of ₹ 100 crore with central assistance is set apart in this budget to buy land for 15000 SC families with an objective of providing land for all landless SC families.
- 331.** SC students acquiring diploma and degree in Technical Education will be provided finishing school training to enhance their employability.

- 332.** The 'Self depended Village Programme', designed for colonies having a population of more than fifty SC families, will be extended to 100 more colonies this year.
- 333.** Assistance up to ₹ 50,000 will be given to SC youth to meet the expenses for securing employment abroad.
- 334.** Financial assistance will be given to self help groups formed by ten or more people belong to SC community for starting self employment enterprises based on project reports.
- 335.** Financial assistance will be given to women self groups having 80% or more SC people as members for starting self employment enterprises based on project proposals.
- 336.** Financial assistance will be given to young SC entrepreneurs having degree in IT sector for starting incubation ventures.

Scheduled Tribe Development

- 337.** An amount of ₹ 272.3 crore is provided in this budget for developing ST hamlets for helping comprehensive development of STs and setting up of other economic development/employment facilities. The infrastructure facilities such as drinking water, electricity, solar lights, link roads, foot paths, inland roads, sewerage treatments, bio-gas plant, income generating activities and community centres in each SC hamlet will be developed in 20 hamlets by providing an amount of ₹ 1 crore for each hamlet.
- 338.** Government gives paramount importance for the rehabilitation of Tribal community. An extent of 8966 acres of land has been given

to 6800 ST families through Adivasi Rehabilitation Mission so far. I set apart ₹ 20 crore for various activities of the Mission.

- 339.** An amount of ₹ 3 crore is provided for a scheme called “Gothrasarathy” to arrange conveyance for tribal students who are residing in interior forests with the assistance of PTAs and LSGIs.
- 340.** In order to expand the research centre for traditional healers at Vithura, Thiruvananthapuram and setting up new centres at Attappady and Wayanad an amount of ₹ 50 lakh is provided.
- 341.** A new Model Residential School at Aaralam in Kannur district and a post metric hostel at Agali in Attappady will be established. An amount of ₹ 4.2 crore is provided for its preliminary expenses.
- 342.** The traditional healers in Scheduled Tribes are not able to continue their present occupation and research activities due to financial constraints. An amount of ₹ 20 lakh is therefore set apart for providing an annual financial assistance of ₹ 10,000 to each traditional healer.
- 343.** The monthly salary of teachers in Kinder Garten/Vikasanavaadi/Peripathetic Centres will be enhanced to ₹ 3000. An amount of ₹ 16 lakh is provided for this.
- 344.** The educated ST youth for starting self employment ventures will be provided financial assistance up to an amount of ₹ 1 lakh.
- 345.** In order to compensate malnutrition among tribal mothers and children, financial assistance of ₹ 1000 per month will be given to tribal mothers during initial six months of pregnancy and to the

new born children for the first six months. An amount of ₹ 1.15 crore is provided for this programme.

Social Justice

- 346.** An amount of ₹ 382 crore is provided in the budget for achieving progress in Social Justice Sector focusing at development and care. I am glad to note that, the ‘Nirbhaya’ programme, for which the Government is giving top priority, has got a mention in the Union budget. Government proposes to expand the scope of ‘Nirbhaya’ Programme by emphasising the security of women and girl child and arranging counseling and rehabilitation to the victims of atrocities. The shelter homes like one started in Thiruvananthapuram will be set up in more places. An amount of ₹ 6 crore is provided to ‘Thantedam’, Gender Park at Kozhikode.
- 347.** Policy formulation will be done for better running of various institutions under the department of Social Justice, ensuring participation of individuals, NGOs, Social Organizations and Corporates based on clearly laid down criteria.
- 348.** The ‘Children’s Village’ aiming all round development of children including entertainment will be started at Kodungallur. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided for this purpose.
- 349.** Separate courts will be established in all districts for the trial of cases relating to sexual atrocities against children based on the Act of 2012.
- 350.** Kerala Social Security Mission is one of the best Government agencies carrying out charitable activities. An amount of ₹ 70

crore is provided for the different activities of the Mission such as 'Our Responsibility to Children', 'Snehapoorvam', 'We Care', 'Aswasa Kiranam', 'Dementia Care' and 'Cochlear Implantation'.

- 351.** An amount of ₹ 2.5 crore is provided to Kerala State Physically Handicapped Persons Welfare Corporation for the welfare activities of differently abled persons. An amount of ₹ 5.73 crore to Women Development Corporation and an amount of ₹ 6.15 crore to NISH is also provided in the budget. The NISH will be upgraded as a university.
- 352.** It is propose to provide motorized three wheeler vehicle to 250 differently abled persons. An amount of ₹ 1.5 crore is earmarked for this.
- 353.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for establishing a Regional Centre for Disabled and Research in N.K.Mathew Memorial Building Complex at Kallettumkara, Thrissur which is now handed over to Social Justice Department.
- 354.** One Model Anganavadies will be set up in all the 140 Legislative Assembly Constituencies. An amount of ₹ 6.2 crore is provided for this.
- 355.** Every year 'Sthree Sakthi' award will be given to five women excelled in different fields. An amount of ₹ 25 lakh is provided for this purpose.

Sports and Youth Affairs

- 356.** In order to revolutionize the Sports Sector an amount of ₹ 15 crore is provided in the budget for the construction of multipurpose synthetic stadiums in selected centres.
- 357.** A Sports development fund will be constituted with the aid from Government and the private sector as recommended by the Kerala Sports Commission. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for this purpose.
- 358.** An amount of ₹ 20 lakh is set apart to start Kerala Institute of Sports to train physical education teachers and starting courses in Vocational training on physical education.
- 359.** The physical education college at Kozhikode will be upgraded and an amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided in the budget.
- 360.** A Sports complex at Changanassery will be started and an amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked.
- 361.** A new State youth policy has already been approved to accelerate activities under youth welfare. To implement various schemes under this sector an amount of ₹ 17.5 crore is set apart for the Youth Welfare Board.
- 362.** A State level Research Study Centre will be started for research studies relating to youth. An amount of ₹ 60 lakh is provided in the budget 2013-2014 for this purpose.
- 363.** There are about 4500 youth clubs functioning under State Youth Welfare Board. An amount of ₹ 25 lakh is earmarked for

“JEEVADAYINI” a scheme for conducting at least one blood donation camp every day in each district coordinating youth organizations, NCC and NSS.

Other Backward Community Development

- 364.** The Kerala State Backward Development Corporation will provide various loans such as occupational loan, education loan, micro credit loan and marriage loan etc. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided to the Corporation as capital grant.
- 365.** An amount of ₹ 8 crore is provided in the budget to start Post Metric Hostel to backward community students with the assistance from Central Government.
- 366.** An amount of ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for sanctioning scholarship to OBC students for their studies abroad.
- 367.** An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked in the budget to train OBC candidates to increase their employability. Another ₹ 2 crore is provided to assist OBC candidate for seeking employment in automobile industry with the participation of private sector.
- 368.** The scheduled castes who had been converted to Christianity will be given all financial assistances like others. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for this.

Forward Caste Development

- 369.** An amount of ₹ 10 crore will be provided to Forward Caste Development Corporation which was set up to extend various concessions/financial assistance to the economically backward

among forward communities. The corporation will undertake activities such as providing scholarships, arranging trainings and collection of relevant data etc.

Minority Welfare

- 370.** The Minority Development Finance Corporation will be provided an amount of ₹ 8.4 crore as share capital contribution to carry out its activities.
- 371.** An amount of ₹ 6 crore is earmarked for the setting up of an ITI at Kozhinjampara, a Tamil minority area in Palakkad. I set apart an amount of ₹ 1 crore for the reimbursement of 70% of course fee of the students belong to minority community, who complete two year ITC course purely on merit basis.
- 372.** A housing scheme for the divorced and widows among minority communities will be implemented under ‘SAPTHADHARA’ project. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart for this.

Home and Judiciary

- 373.** Kerala Police is one of the best police forces in India. Government gives priority to its modernization, providing high standard training, ensuring security to women, children and other weaker sections.
- 374.** An amount of ₹ 1.5 crore is earmarked for the formation of a special unit of State special branch fully equipped with advanced technology to combat the security threat from State Forest boundaries with the collaboration of India Reserve Battalion.

- 375.** The number of cyber crimes has also increased substantially in tune with the advancement in the information technology and communication sector. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is set apart for establishing a cyber crime centre at Kochi under PPP mode to handle cyber crimes.
- 376.** A Regional Forensic Laboratory will be established at Kottayam for testing documents related to cases.
- 377.** Government will set up centralized committees at Municipal Corporations to co-ordinate law and order activities in the area. The committee will consist of representatives from Police force, Revenue and Health Department officials along with Corporation Councilors. This committee will be responsible for formulating effective and comprehensive measures and policies to prevent theft, atrocities against women and other weaker sections in the locality.
- 378.** An amount of ₹ 85 lakh is earmarked for the up gradation of Thiruvananthapuram Traffic Police Station with all modern facilities.
- 379.** A judicial complex at Changanassery will be constructed to bring all Courts under one roof and an amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this.

Prisons

- 380.** The Jails in Kerala are facing acute shortage of water and this adversely affecting its functioning. The water reservoirs will therefore be constructed in 16 Jails.

- 381.** The prisoners will be equipped with employment skills by providing various training activities.

Fire and Rescue

- 382.** The training facilities of Kerala Fire & Rescue Services Academy, the only Fire Service Training Centre in Kerala at Viyyur in Thrissur District, will be modernised.
- 383.** The structure and design of Fire & Rescue Services will be modified in accordance with the modernization process of the department. Besides, Fire & Rescue Stations will be opened at 5 Places, including Pattambi.

Finance

- 384.** Government have initiated several steps to accelerate plan implementation. The powers of administrative departments have been enhanced to facilitate speedy release of funds. The ATM and other infrastructure facilities will be provided at Treasuries to provide better service to pensioners and other customers. A headquarters building for Treasury Department will be constructed at Thiruvananthapuram.
- 385.** As per the existing rules, General Insurance Business of all Public, Semi Government, Co-operative and Autonomous institutions should be carried out through State Insurance Department. These businesses will be done by Public Insurance Companies and State Insurance Department on co-Insurance basis in future.

- 386.** The Accident Insurance Scheme will be implemented to Kudumbasree, Janasree and Grihasree workers of the State. An insurance coverage of ₹ 1 lakh will be provided under the scheme. 50% of the premium will be met by the beneficiaries and the rest by the Agency concerned. Around 40 lakh people will get the benefit under this scheme.
- 387.** Total computerization of the Local Fund Audit Department is being implemented as part of e-governance project declared in previous budget. On completion of computerization, all records of the department including previous audit reports will fully be digitalized.
- 388.** The service of the National Savings Agents is now being utilized for development and service sectors. Those officers and agents who deliver excellent service will be given due recognition. A housing scheme in collaboration with KSHB will be formulated for the agents who are not having any house of their own. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is earmarked for this.

Law

- 389.** An amount of ₹ 30 lakh is set apart to make necessary arrangements to provide expert training to the staff of law department in the areas of legislation and preparation of legislative bills.
- 390. Amendment to the Kerala Court fee and Suit Valuation Act of 1959:** In those cases referred by civil courts for arbitration, mediation or for the consideration of Lok Adalats, the entire court

fee paid by litigants will be reimbursed, provided the case is finally settled.

- 391.** While filing appeal against the decisions of Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, the fees shall be determined on the basis of the valuation by the Assessment Officer on net income and remedy requested. The fee shall be determined in similar manner for the cases of appeal memorandums filed against the order of the Wealth Tax Tribunal also.
- 392.** It is proposed to charge a court fee of ₹ 100 for testimonials on personal documents to be used outside India and ₹ 50 will be charged as court fee for attesting a personal document certified by a notary.
- 393.** The Arbitration Act of 1940 has been repealed by the Arbitration and Conciliation Act of 1996. Necessary steps will be taken to bring amendment so that the fee paid for Appeal cases under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act of 1996 is the same for the cases coming under the Arbitration Act of 1940.

Lottery

- 394.** It is gratifying that 'Karunya' lottery is getting wide acceptance, support and co-operation from all. The services of this lottery will be extended to more areas.
- 395.** A new scheme by name 'Sampadya' will be launched to facilitate depositing a part of the lottery prize money to earn a permanent income. The depositor will get monthly fixed amount after 3 years and get back his entire deposit after 10 years.

- 396.** Government will purchase two hi- tech machines in Government Presses for printing lottery with modern safety features.

Devaswom

- 397.** It is this Government which took initiative to implement the Sabarimala Master Plan which was kept idle for long years. Government with a strong will to implement master plan is taking steps to arrange all amenities to Sabarimala pilgrims. An amount of ₹ 15.5 crore and ₹ 25 crore has been allotted for this during 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively and progress has been achieved at expected level. An additional amount of ₹ 25 crore is included this year for the implementation of the various activities under the master plan.
- 398.** The waste disposal at Sabarimala was effectively managed during 2011-12. This achievement is due to success of the zero waste Sabarimala project announced in the Budget Speech 2011-12 for which an amount of ₹ 5 crore was allotted. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart for this programme in this budget also.
- 399.** The holy groves and ponds have great role in keeping the equilibrium of our ecosystem. Considering its importance an amount of ₹5 crore was allotted last year. Government intends to continue this project. This year also an amount of ₹ 5 crore will be set apart for this.
- 400.** A waste disposal scheme will be implemented for the ancient Kanichukulangara Temple in connection with the 'Chikkara' offerings. An amount of ₹ 1.5 crore is set apart for this.

Food and Civil Supplies

- 401.** The State Public distribution system is poised for a transformation. The entire supply chain right from FCI depot to distribution of the ration to card holders will be computerized. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is additionally provided for building a digital database of the ration cards linking it with the Aadhar, Computerized Supply Chain management and transparent compliant redressal system.
- 402.** Though a survey conducted in 2009 identified around 32 lakh BPL families, only 21 lakh families were issued BPL/AAY ration cards so far. The Government however had taken steps to distribute ration at BPL rate for all the listed beneficiaries for four months. This scheme will be continued with the assistance from Government of India.
- 403.** The opening of fare value shops will be permitted along with SUPPLYCO outlets. This year, one Maveli Store will be started at each Assembly constituency. Apart from this, 50 mobile Maveli Stores will be started during this year.
- 404.** Government could arrest the hike in price of essential commodities with the strong market intervention. Government have already spent an amount of ₹ 205 Crore for this purpose. The supply of essential commodities at subsidized rates through the outlets of SUPPLYCO will be continued with a view to provide essential commodities at subsidised rate throughout the state. The resources for this subsidy will be found out by SUPPLYCO through a scientific business model to be developed by expanding market of

non subsidised products. An amount of ₹ 100 crore is provided to support the subsidy scheme of SUPPLYCO.

Registration

- 405.** The various activities to make Registration Department more people friendly are now progressing. As part of this, a unified and standardized format for registration of documents will be introduced.
- 406.** A new registration system by which any document can be registered at any sub registrar office will be introduced on experimental basis. This will be introduced in ten sub-registrar offices in Trivandrum which were brought under online in 2012-13. The project of digitizing the records kept in the Sub Registrar offices will be extended to more offices.
- 407.** All Sub Registrar Offices will be provided with internet connectivity to facilitate web based services. An amount of ₹ 125 lakh is additionally provided for this.
- 408.** The Travancore Cochin Science Societies Registrations Act and Indian Societies Registration Act will be unified to simplify the registration process. District level monitoring cells will be formed and inspections will be conducted to control illegal chitties in the State.
- 409.** The e-stamping system will be implemented in the State during this year.

Excise

- 410.** Considering the increased prevalence of alcoholic addiction and its grave social consequences, Government formulated a comprehensive anti-alcoholic awareness programmes in 2011. Anti-narcotic clubs have already been started functioning in about 1000 Schools in the State. An amount of ₹ 50 lakh is set apart for the 'liquor free Kerala' (Madya vimuktha Keralam) which will be implemented jointly with Kudumbasree, Student Police Cadet and National Service Scheme volunteers.
- 411.** Two more mobile chemical laboratories will be set up in the State to ensure the quality of liquor sold through licensed shops and to obtain immediate report on the sample collected. An amount of ₹ 70 lakh will be provided for this purpose.
- 412.** An amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided to strengthen enforcement activities of Excise Department using wireless system in Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Idukki, Thrissur, Malappuram, Wayanad, Kozhikkode, Kasaragod Districts.

General Administration

- 413.** Taking into consideration of the sentiments of youth, retirement age of employees who are now in service will not be raised. But retirement age of youth, who will join Government service after 1st April 2013 is fixed at 60 ,as envisaged under National Pension Scheme .This will in no way affect the interests of youths and beneficial to them in future also.

Welfare of Non-Resident Keralites

- 414.** Some studies indicate that about 30 lakh Keralites are working in Gulf countries. Government is implementing various schemes for the welfare of Pravasi Malayalees who are contributing significantly to State's economy. Necessary steps have been taken to provide legal aid to those who are in foreign jails even for minor crimes. NORKA offices are now functioning in Chennai, Bangaluru, Mumbai and Delhi. Government proposes to open new offices in other important States with the help of Malaylee Organizations.
- 415.** NORKA Business Assistance Centres will be started under NORKA Calling Centre which is established to provide hotline with Non Resident Keralites. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for this purpose.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

REGISTRATION

- 416.** The One Time Settlement Scheme announced for the settlement of pending undervaluation cases in the Registration Department shall be extended for one more year.
- 417.** A bill was published in the Legislative Assembly for enhancing various fees for services under the Indian Partnership Act. Steps will be taken to pass the bill in this session. To improve the standards in delivery of services related to Registration of Partnership Firms, timely revision will be made in various fees

under the provisions of The Kerala Partnership (Registration of Firms) Rules. Steps will be taken for issuing digitally signed Registration Certificates by collecting service charge of ₹ 500 per Registration.

- 418.** Timely revision will be made for various fees related to Registration of Chits.
- 419.** Timely and rational revision of fees for various services delivered from the Registration Department shall be made.
- 420.** In order to prevent evasion of stamp duty in the stock and securities market, stamp duty shall be levied on the basis of value of stock and securities transacted. Certain documents for which the stamp duty was not revised for a very long time shall be revised such as, ratification deed to ₹ 500, Articles of Association (AoA) of a company to ₹ 10,000, Cancellation deed to ₹ 500, copy or extract under article 23(i) and 23(ii) of Kerala Stamp Act to ₹ 20 and ₹ 50 respectively. The maximum stamp duty levied under article 40(b) (i), 40(b) (ii), 40(c), 40(d) shall be done away with. The stamp duty for Partnership deed shall be revised to ₹ 5000, Revocation of Partnership deed to ₹ 1000, Revocation of settlement to ₹ 500 and surrender of lease to ₹250. Adjudication fee under section 31 of Kerala Stamp Act shall be revised to ₹ 50 and levy of fine under section 34 and 39 of Kerala Stamp Act shall be doubled. Since the Fair value of land is finalized and published in the state, necessary amendment shall be made in section 28 and 29 of Kerala Stamp Act for enforcing compliance.

- 421.** It is noted that certain tendencies are prevalent in the sphere of real estate sector causing undue increase of land value. I feel that some measures are necessary so as to control this. In this direction, resale of a land purchased, within a period of 3 months from the date of registration of the purchase deed shall be subjected to double the stamp duty of the previous conveyance deed.
- 422.** In order to arrest evasion of stamp duty from the transactions involving share/stock transfer, to control economic offenses under Chit Funds Act,1982 and the Prize chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, and to reduce the revenue loss from registration of chitty, an “Economic Monitoring Cell” shall be constituted in the Registration Department.
- 423.** Fees under Kerala Special Marriage Rules 1958 shall be revised timely.
- 424.** Fees under Travancore Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act, 1955 shall be revised. Along with this, necessary amendments shall also be made in the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- 425.** I feel certain concession on prevailing rates of Stamp Duties need be given as fair value of land has been published. The existing rates of Stamp Duty are therefore reduced by 2%.
- 426.** Stamp duty exemption of 50 % shall be given to the Kerala State Housing Board for transactions involving land and sale of flats.

- 427.** Additional revenue of around ₹ 200 crore and tax concessions for an equal amount is expected from the above is expected from the above measures.

COMMERCIAL TAXES

- 428.** Considering the impending GST, most of the neighboring States like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry have already increased the tax rate of items other than essential commodities and industrial inputs to 14.5% from 13.5%. Additional funds are needed by the Government for implementing various social welfare and development programmes. Goods attracting tax rate of 13.5% mainly consist of luxury items, automobiles, white goods and other consumer goods. Any increase in the tax rate of these goods would not affect the price levels of essential commodities. Hence rate of tax of such goods will be raised from the present 13.5% to 14.5%. By doing so there is no likelihood of tax loss through trade diversion since there will be uniformity of tax rate in the southern region and will also be beneficial in the interest of state revenue once GST is rolled out in the country. Such an increase has also been proposed by the Expenditure Review Committee, Kerala.
- 429.** I am particular that this measure should, in no way affect the common man. Hence, I exempt rice and other varieties of rice namely broken rice, puffed rice, parched rice and beaten rice which is consumed by the common man, from tax. Rice is also exempted in many States including Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. This is in

continuation of my policy initiative announced in last year's budget, wherein, tax rate of certain essential commodities like cereal flour, maida, edible oil, pulses etc. were reduced from 4% to 1%. The view that, essential goods have to be exempted under Goods and Service Tax regime, is getting wider acceptance and in this context, the present step is a rational one. Adjusting the revenue loss on account of exempting rice and certain rice products from tax, the additional revenue mobilization expected is ₹ 650 crore.

- 430.** Taking into account the health hazards caused by smoking, the tax rate on cigarettes and similar products, excluding beedies were increased to 15% last year. The rate of tax on cigarette in Tamil Nadu is 20% and in Karnataka, 17%. The ill effect of smoking and the burden it imposes on the society is known to all of us. This compels me to increase the tax rate of cigarettes and similar products, excluding beedies to 20% from the present 15%. Additional revenue of ₹ 120 crore is expected from this.
- 431.** The last point of sale in the State in case of cigarette trade is carried out by the secondary and other petty dealers. I intend to keep them out of the intricacies of taxation. Hence, an option would be provided to the manufactures and first sellers of cigarette and similar products except beedies in the State to remit tax on MRP at first point of sale so that the subsequent sales are exempted and at the same time the Government does not lose tax also.

- 432.** The rate of tax of foreign liquor other than beer and wine is proposed to be increased from present 100% to 105%. Additional revenue expected from this measure is ₹ 250 crore.
- 433.** As per Kerala Tax on Paper lotteries Act an ordinary draw is taxed at ₹ 25 lakh and Bumper draw at ₹ 50 lakh. It will be enhanced to ₹ 30 lakh and ₹ 60 lakh respectively. Additional tax revenue expected from this is ₹ 16 crore.
- 434.** In order to dissuade the public from excessive use of plastic products, last year the tax rate of plastic carry bags was increased to 20%. However, while carrying out amendment certain discrepancies had occurred with respect to entry regarding plastic carry bag. It will be clarified that plastic carry bags having self carrying feature of 'vest type' alone will attract higher tax rate of 20%. On the same line, the tax rate of disposable plastic cups, plates, leaves and polypropylene carry bags, is also proposed to be increased to 20%. Additional revenue of ₹ 25 lakh is expected from this measure. This will also help in protecting our environment from hazardous effect of this non bio-degradable material.
- 435.** Manufactured sand is presently taxable at 5% and there is no compounding scheme in this sector. There have been numerous representations from these units demanding for a suitable compounded scheme as is the case with crusher units. A Committee will be constituted at the department level for studying

about the introduction of a compounding scheme for manufactured sand as mentioned above.

- 436.** All dealers who have turnover of ₹ 5 lakh in a year are liable to take registration and those dealers whose turnover exceeds ₹ 10 lakh in a year are liable to pay tax. Approximately only 2 lakh dealers are registered with the Department, at present. This points to the fact that there are many more dealers who should have been registered under the Act. Economic Census Report, Expenditure Review Committee Report and AG's Report have also highlighted this situation. With the implementation of e-Governance the registration process has been simplified considerably and there is little excuse for these dealers to remain outside the tax net. During pre budget consultations the Chamber of Commerce and the Trade Organizations have pledged their support in working together with the department in bringing such dealers under the tax net. These dealers are mainly the last link in the VAT chain and their non registration causes some value addition to escape tax, not to mention the fact that these dealers may be used as a conduit to sell the unaccounted goods of wholesale. Widening the tax base is therefore the need of the hour and requires our immediate attention.
- 437.** For the small dealers the department has a simplified system of tax called presumptive tax. It is surprising to note that the small traders are not availing of this simplified system even at the risk of imposition of heavy penalty on detection. I propose to introduce a

scheme to bring these traders under the tax net. The scheme would be known as “One time incentive to new registrant scheme”. The details of the scheme would be as below:

- i) It will be operational from 1st April, 2013 to 30th September, 2013.
- ii) All dealers who are liable to be registered should voluntarily apply for registration during this period.
- iii) This scheme will not be available for importers, manufacturers and works contractors. It will also not apply for dealers against whom departmental action has been initiated before 1-4-2013.
- iv) There will not be any enquiry into the previous tax liability of the dealers who take registration during this period. Further, dealers who get so registered shall be totally exempted from tax liability for the previous period.

I specifically appeal to all the trade organizations and trading community to avail this facility and to co-operate with the Department in the interest of the State.

After this period is over, an intensive drive will be conducted by the department utilizing all resources with data from departments like local bodies, food safety, mining and geology, industries and income tax etc. to detect those traders who have wilfully decided not to take registration even after being mandated by the act to do so. I am constrained to state that there will be no leniency in initiating action against such defaulters. Government will provide necessary resources for formation of additional squads, hiring of

vehicles and awareness campaign etc. which is required for successful implementation and effective monitoring of the scheme. A sum of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for this purpose. Additional revenue generation expected from this measure is ₹ 50 crore.

Administration and licensing of money lenders is done through the Kerala Money Lenders Act. Considering the increase in administrative charges and various electronic services offered to money lenders, it is proposed to increase the license fee from existing ₹ 3000 to ₹ 10,000 per annum. This will result in generation of ₹ 8 lakh as additional revenue.

CONCESSIONS

- 438.** Considering the request of the trade, a new Amnesty Scheme will be introduced in 2013 for those dealers who could not avail the benefit of the earlier scheme due to various reasons. Availing the scheme, arrears up to 31-3-2005 under Section 23 B of KGST Act can be settled on the same condition as it existed in the last scheme. The arrears as per this scheme should be paid before 31st December, 2013. The intention of the Government is to settle such arrears once and for all. Therefore, it will be specifically provided that, if the matter is to be settled under the amnesty scheme, cases, if any, pending in any Appellate Forum or Courts, will have to be withdrawn. Also, it is clarified that the right to bring the same issue before any appellate or judicial authority after the settlement under amnesty scheme will have to be forfeited.

- 439.** In 2008, Government had granted exemption from CST with respect to certain rubber commodities subject to the condition that it should have suffered VAT in the State. In 2011, on the request of the trade, centrifuged latex and field latex were removed from the purview of this notification. It was also made clear that a dealer would be entitled for CST exemption only if the interstate sale is to a registered dealer under the CST Act. This rectified the earlier notification. Misinterpreting the subsequent notification some assessing authorities are wrongly disallowing CST exemption even in the case of interstate sale to a registered dealer under CST Act. It will be therefore clarified accordingly. With regard to interstate sale to unregistered dealers during the 2008 notification period the CST liability will be assessed as per law and input tax if any under the provisions of KVAT Act will be granted. The bonafide action based on the 2008 notification will be protected and any penal action with respect to non-payment of CST will be dropped.
- 440.** Kerala is the biggest producer of cardamom in India, but the trade in this sector mainly happens interstate through the Auction Centres of Spices Board. It has been the long standing demand of the Kerala Traders, that the present tax structure gives undue advantage to other State dealers. Presently, Kerala dealers are required to pay 5% VAT and in case of interstate sale 2% CST also, whereas outside dealers pay only 2% CST. Even though Kerala dealers are eligible for refund of VAT paid, it happens only in the subsequent year. This puts obstacles in creation of level playing field in the Auction Centre by exposing the Kerala dealers

to block more funds for the same level of trade. This has also been identified by the Spices Board as an area requiring urgent attention of the State Government. In order to resolve this issue, I propose to reduce the rate of tax of cardamom at the point of sale of auction only, through authorized auction centres of Spices Board, to 2%.

- 441.** Apart from this, I have received a number of representations in respect of hill produce varieties like pepper, areca nut etc. regarding equalization of our tax rates with the rates prevailing in our neighboring States. This issue requires immediate attention. I propose to a committee will be set-up to study the taxation issues affecting this sector. Necessary reforms would be under-taken based on the report.
- 442.** Waterbed is widely used in geriatric care in our State. Presently the same is taxable at 13.5%. Considering the fact that other medical equipments are taxable at 5%, the tax rate of waterbeds will also be reduced to 5%.
- 443.** Refund of VAT is granted to UN and other similar international bodies. Such a provision will be incorporated in the Kerala Tax on Luxuries Act to exempt these bodies from Luxury Tax.
- 444.** 'Theeramythri' is a welfare program of Fisheries Department, Government of Kerala, meant for the upliftment of fisher women. To promote this endeavour, products manufactured and sold by

'Theeramythri' units under its brand name on the point of sale by them would be exempted from VAT.

- 445.** House boat owners who opted for compounded tax under Luxuries Tax Act were exempted from payment of VAT on cooked food served in house boats with effect from 1-4-2011. Their request is to give retrospective effect to the provision from 1-4-2006 onwards, the date on which compounding was introduced to house boats under luxury tax. Food served in a house boat is a part of composite service; hence the request of house boat owners deserves consideration. It is therefore proposed that the exemption from cooked food under VAT will be given retrospective effect from 2006.
- 446.** Presently, municipal plastic waste attracts 13.5% VAT. To facilitate the disposal and recycling of this environmentally hazardous waste, it is proposed to reduce the rate of tax on this commodity to 5%.
- 447.** The rate of tax of lead oxide, which is an industrial input, will be reduced from 13.5% to 5%.
- 448.** Acceding to the long standing demand of fisherman and SSI units, tax rate on ice will be reduced from 5% to 1%.
- 449.** Footwear manufacturing is a developing industry in the State. At present footwear priced up to ₹ 200 is taxable at 5%, beyond

which it is taxable at 13.5%. It is proposed to hike this limit to ₹ 500.

- 450.** All renewable energy devices are taxable at 5%. In order to promote non conventional energy sources, it is proposed to reduce the tax rate on solar energy devices and spare parts from existing 5% to 1%.
- 451.** Presently rubber latex dipped goods namely; industrial gloves, agricultural gloves and finger caps are taxable at 5%. House hold gloves will also be included in this category.
- 452.** HDPE woven fabrics commonly called 'agro-shade net' are used for making shade-net house for protecting crops and plants and for packing goods for covering. The tax rate of the same was clarified by the Department as 12.5% in 2009, since it was not included in the Third Schedule goods. Considering its uses, I propose to reduce the tax rate of this item from 13.5% to 5%.
- 453.** Cooked food and beverages sold in the canteen of Milk Supplier's Cooperative Societies will be exempted from tax with effect from 1-4-2011.

Simplification of procedures and procedural safe guards

- 454.** At present dealers can acquire delivery notes in Form No.15 either online or manually. Considering the demands raised by many trade organisations, this practice will be continued.

- 455.** Transit passes are issued at the entry check post to vehicles carrying goods destined to other States but passing through our State and are surrendered at the exit check post within a prescribed time limit. For better tracking of these goods and vehicles, this process would be computerized and a nominal fee of ₹ 100 will be charged for issuance of transit pass.
- 456.** After the introduction of e-filing, under Luxury Tax Act and Kerala Money Lenders Act last year, provision for revision of electronically filed returns could not be incorporated in the Act. An enabling provision will be brought in the Acts, to remove the difficulty faced by the dealers.
- 457.** At present, dealers are permitted to switch over from Presumptive category to regular category by filing 25A declaration within 15 days of reaching the turnover limit, so as to get the benefit of input tax credit. This short time span is creating difficulty to small traders. To remove their difficulty, the period will be extended to 30 days.
- 458.** Application for amendment of Registration Certificate, including addition of new items will be made online. The option to view the dealer details online will also be allowed to the dealers. Submission of registration application under CST Act will also be made online.
- 459.** Last date for filing Annual Return along with enclosures will be extended up to May, 31st from the present April 30th.

- 460.** Period of filing audited statement of accounts for dealers other than companies will be extended up to 31st December and for Companies, up to 31st January.
- 461.** In KGST Act, Deputy Commissioners are competent to extend the period for completion of assessments recording reasons for the same. Such a provision could not be incorporated in KVAT Act when it was introduced. This necessitates extension of period of all pending assessments so as to cover limited number of assessments pending to be completed due to reason such as inter-state investigation etc. As such, an amendment provision identical to that of KGST Act, conferring powers to the Deputy Commissioners for extension of time limit, will be introduced in the KVAT Act and Kerala Tax on Luxuries Act.
- 462.** Commercial Taxes Department has implemented mandatory e-Payment of taxes. The natural corollary is to implement electronic refunds also. As a step in this direction, it is proposed to implement online submission of refund application and issuance of refund orders. Actual payments of refunds to the dealer's bank account will be implemented as and when the treasury systems are made online. Till that time credit of the refundable amount will be made in the subsequent return of the dealer.
- 463.** Commercial Taxes Department has already implemented online e-payment for major type of remittances. As a further step in this direction, online e-payment facility will be extended for the

payment of security deposits demanded by intelligence squads and check posts and for payment of tax deducted by Awarders.

- 464.** In line with KVAT Act, the maximum fee for compounding of offences under KGST Act and Kerala Tax on Luxury Act will be increased to ₹ 8 lakh.
- 465.** Inter-state investigation regarding the use of bogus statutory forms with regard to certain commodities is progressing. Therefore in order to protect, the revenue, including CST, the period for completion of all pending assessments and re-assessment as on 31-3-2013 under KGST and KVAT Acts will be extended by one year. Considering the pendency of large number of assessments under Kerala Luxuries Tax Act, its period of completion also will be extended by one year.

Infrastructure

- 466.** Recognizing the need to reform the check-posts by increasing transparency and efficiency, the Government had integrated the check-post functions at Amaravila and constituted a team to study the integrated check-posts at Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat with a view to adopt the best practices. The team had recommended some short term and long term measures. Steps for land acquisition are in progress, for a well planned integrated check-post at Walayar. Since, it is felt that land acquisition and construction may take some time; the functioning of an integrated check-post utilizing the existing infrastructure will be made

operational at Walayar immediately with facilities for simultaneous checking by all departments at a time. Intelligent IT enabled systems for automatic data transfer with the usage of sophisticated devices, will be implemented. This will considerably reduce vehicle checking time, increase transparency, efficiency and reduce evasion.

- 467.** When GST is implemented, we must be equipped fully for taxing the vast base including the service sector also. In the preceding years to the implementation of GST we must take intense steps to increase the revenue. It will also help the State in getting due compensation for any loss against the initial uncertainties in revenue base of GST. So a major overhaul in the tax machinery with complete revamping, restructuring and training of human resources is necessary. Steps will be taken in this direction.
- 468.** Considering the geographical nature of the high ranges, a Commercial Tax Circle Office will be established at Cheruthoni in Idukki. This will considerably reduce the hardships faced by the dealers of surrounding areas.
- 469.** For land acquisition and construction of a Commercial Tax Complex at Kannur, ₹ 5 crore is earmarked.
- 470.** From Commercial Taxes Department, after adjusting the concession granted amounting to ₹ 67.78 crore, from the revenue mobilization steps stated above for ₹ 1138.33 crore, the actual additional revenue mobilization will be ₹ 1070.55 crore.

CONCLUSION

472. The year passed by was activity filled with the motto 'development and care'. I conclude this speech with gratification of having provided financial stability for the developmental surge of the state and strengthened State's financials.
473. I present this budget which aims to spend the plan outlay in full, which is higher by 21.34 per cent than the current year's outlay. I hope that the shortfall of ₹ 241.56 crore in share of central taxes in this year will get compensated in the coming year.
474. Now, let me present the abstract of the Revised Estimates for 2012-13 and the Budget Estimates for the year 2013-14.

Revised Estimate for 2012-13 (₹ in crore)

Revenue Receipts	48269.21
Revenue Expenditure	51675.65
Grants for creation of capital assets	2797.30
Revenue Deficit	(-)3406.44
Actual Revenue Deficit	(-)609.14

Capital expenditure	6882.21
Loans & Advances(Net)	(-)1056.68
Public debt(Net)	10753.94
Public account (Net)	482.29
Overall Surplus/Deficit	(-)109.10
Opening balance at the beginning of the year	(-)529.23
Closing balance at the end of the year	(-)638.33

Budget Estimate for 2013-14 (₹ in crore)

Revenue receipts	58057.88
Revenue expenditure	60327.85
Grants for creation of capital assets	3472.06
Revenue deficit	(-)2269.97
Actual revenue deficit	1202.09

Capital Expenditure	8613.00
Loans & advances (Net)	(-)989.66
Public debt(Net)	11844.38
Public accounts (Net)	470.04
Overall Surplus	441.79
Carry over Surplus/Deficit	(-)638.33
Closing Balance	(-) 196.54
Additional expenditure announced	1400.58
Concessions announced	67.78
Additional Resource Mobilisation	1138.33
Cumulative Deficit at the end of the year	(-)526.57

Sir,

475. Despite the serious challenges and crisis it had to overcome, Government could make a giant leap in state's development and bring in fiscal stability. While sharing my gratification on such an accomplishment, I am reminded of the advice that Bhagavan Sreekrishna gave to Arjuna on the battlefield of Kurukshetra:

*uddhared atmanatmanam
natmanam avasadayet
atmaiva hy atmano bandhur
atmaiva ripur atmanah*

(A man must elevate himself by his own mind, not degrade himself. The mind is the friend of the conditioned soul, and his enemy as well)

476. One can receive support from outside; but should not depend on that alone. We should identify our resources and utilise it to its full potential. We should be able to realise the creativity within us and utilise it for the general welfare.

477. The development goals of the state should not be hindered with counterproductive actions. That will amount to weakening ourselves, making ourselves our enemies. The ruling and opposition parties should not be enemies; but should be the companions in the journey to development. This should be the 'success mathra' for a glorious future of our state. Let this inspire us and be the guiding spirit.

Jai Hind