#### Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

- 1. With your permission, I rise to present the Budget Estimates for 2017-18. It is my proud privilege to present my 20th Budget Estimates before this August House. Before I venture to set out the Road Map for 2017-18, let me take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the people of Himachal Pradesh for overwhelmingly supporting the developmental agenda of the State Government.
- 2. My Government has completed more than four years in office. We have set the vision for Himachal Pradesh with a perspective Plan under the Sustainable Development Goals and we are hopeful to achieve them by 2022 much before the timeline of 2030. The State Government has achieved marvelous progress in core areas of health, education and balanced development of infrastructure with special focus on the poor and under privileged. Last four years have seen unparallel development in the State.

My Government had promised to catapult Himachal into the orbit of high growth on the edifice of social justice. I can humbly but surely say that we have delivered on our promises to the people of Himachal Pradesh.

- **3.** Speaker Sir, I wish to share with this August House some of the achievements made during the last four years;
- Himachal Pradesh adjudged as 'Best State' in the country in education and inclusive growth.

- Himachal declared the first ODF bigger State in the Country.
- 14 New Sub-Divisions, 16 Tehsils and 31 Sub-Tehsils opened.
- New Medical Colleges opened at Nahan and coming up at Chamba and Hamirpur. ESIC Medical College Mandi taken over by the State Government.
- 21 Civil Hospitals, 34 CHCs, 96 PHCs and 29 Health Sub-Centers opened and 5 Health institutions notified as ESI institutions. 45 Ayurvedic Health Centers opened.
- 42 new Government Colleges opened. Now Himachal has 119 Government Colleges which is highest per one lakh population in the country.
- 1328 new Government Schools opened/upgraded during this period.
- 2 Engineering Colleges, 1 Community College in Automobile Sector, 1 pharmacy College, 5 new Polytechnics, 34 ITIs, and 4 Centrally funded institutions viz. IIIT, IIM, CIPET and RVTI opened.
- 40 Veterinary Hospitals, 2 Veterinary Polyclinics, 47 Veterinary Dispensaries and 5 Panchayat Veterinary Dispensaries opened.
- Requirement of furnishing affidavit done away for public services, unless mandatory as per law.
- Minimum Daily Wages enhanced from ₹ 150 to ₹ 200.
- Social Security Pension for the Old Age, widows and disabled persons enhanced from ₹ 450 to ₹ 650 per month. Now 3 lakh 89 thousand 168 persons getting social security pension.

- Pension for persons above 80 years and 70 percent disabled persons enhanced to ₹ 1,200 per month.
- > Skill Development Allowance Scheme implemented for unemployed youth. Allowance of ₹ 1,000 per month to unemployed youth and ₹ 1,500 to youth with disabilities benefitting 1 lakh fifty five thousand youth.
- ➤ H.P. Skill Development Corporation established to provide employment oriented training to youth.
- "Rajiv Gandhi Anna Yojana" implemented to provide food security to all.
- ₹ 750 crore subsidy granted on providing pulses, edible oil and salt to the consumers under the Special Subsidy Scheme during last four years.
- More than ₹ 1,200 crore provided as subsidy to domestic consumers for providing electricity at cheaper rates.
- Free Travelling Facility to students of Government Schools and Central Schools from home to school and back in HRTC buses.
- 1989 kilometers new roads, 204 bridges constructed, 4020 kilometer roads metalled, 864 census villages/ habitations connected.
- ➤ 123 kilometers NH widened and 281 kilometers strengthened.
- New "Mukhaya Mantri Sadak Yojna" started to connect habitations.
- 32 thousand five hundred meritorious students of 10th and 12th Class given Net books/Lap-tops under "Rajiv Gandhi Digital Yojana."
- 56 Medicines and 10 consumable items being provided free of cost in hospitals.

- Assistance for marriage of poor girls under "Mukhya Mantri Kanyadan Yojana" enhanced from ₹ 25 thousand to ₹ 40 thousand.
- Assistance amount under "Beti Hai Anmol Yojna" increased from ₹ 5 thousand one hundred to ₹ 10 thousand.
- Incentive for inter-caste marriage and assistance under "Widow Re-marriage Scheme" increased from ₹ 25 thousand to ₹ 50 thousand.
- ₹ 154 crore "Rajiv Gandhi Micro-Irrigation Scheme" launched for providing drip/sprinkler irrigation facility.
- "Mukhya Mantri Khet Sanrakshan Yojna" launched in the State to protect the farms from wild animals by providing solar fencing.
- Subsidy on Anti-hail Nets increased from 50 per cent to 80 per cent.
- ➤ World Bank funded ₹ 1,134 crore "Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project" launched in the State for increasing production of quality fruits.
- Housing Subsidy under housing schemes enhanced from ₹ 48 thousand 5 hundred to ₹ 1 lakh thirty thousand. 40 thousand houses constructed in last four years.
- 13 thousand seven hundred sixteen hectare area provided irrigation facility.
- 1 lakh thirteen thousand monkeys sterilized in 8 Monkey Sterilization Centers to provide relief to the farmers from monkeys.
- > 775 villages excluded from wild life sanctuaries area which has benefited over one lakh population.

- "Chief Minister Start-up/New Industries Scheme" launched in the State.
- New Industrial investors being provided 50 percent rebate on stamp duty on sale deed and lease deed.
- Job opportunities created for thousands of youth in Government sector.
- 27 thousand youth provided employment during the Job Fairs during this period and lakhs of youth employed in Industries/ Private Sector.
- ➤ Employees were given additional financial benefits worth ₹ 2,455 crore and pensioners and family pensioners provided additional financial benefits worth ₹ 910 crore during four years.
- 58 thousand four hundred seventy Solar Street Lights installed and 15 thousand Solar lamps distributed.
- Dharamshala town selected for "Smart City Project."
- Shimla and Kullu towns brought under "AMRUT Scheme."
- Women passengers being provided 25 per cent rebate in bus fare in ordinary buses.
- Free travel facility being provided to critically ill patients.

Speaker Sir, May I say it here;

"डर मुझे भी लगा, फासला देखकर ।
पर मैं बढ़ता गया रास्ता देखकर ।।
खुद—ब—खुद मेरे नजदीक आती गई मेरी मंजिल ।
मेरा हीसला देखकर ।।"

**4.** Speaker Sir, my Government believes in good governance. Our endeavour is to provide various services

Good Governance.

without requiring the people to visit the public offices. Therefore, I propose that all the Departments of the State Government will undertake a survey that how many persons visit directorates and field offices every month and how that number could be reduced substantially by delegations, simplification of procedures or by providing on-line services. All the departments would be asked to place the action taken/ proposed to be taken for reducing the requirement to visit the Government offices, before the Council of Ministers within first two months of 2017-18.

Speaker Sir, Deputy Commissioners have been asked to hold special campaign to liquidate pending cases of mutation and demarcation and to issue certificates to eligible persons. I am happy to inform that the pendency of mutations and demarcations have reduced drastically and most of the eligible persons have been issued certificates like SC/ST/OBC and bonafide Himachali's. We will rejuvenate and make "TRING GROW more effective and DCs will hold one such camp every month in a group of interior panchayats of the District.

National Economy.

subdued despite the strength of domestic absorption. Its other macroeconomic parameters like inflation and fiscal deficit have not exhibited distinct signs of improvement. The weak growth in many sectors has taken its toll on India's exports. Saving and investment rates are showing hardly any signs of revival and the rupee has depreciated vis-a-vis the US dollar. After the demonetization, national growth in

2016-17 has declined significantly from the levels achieved in 2015-16. As per the advanced estimates released by Central Statistics Office the growth rate has declined to 7.1 percent in 2016-17 from 7.9 percent in 2015-16.

Demonetisation.

- 6. The first demonetisation happened in India in January 1946, when ₹1 thousand, ₹5 thousand and ₹10 thousand notes were taken out of circulation. These higher denomination banknotes were reintroduced in 1954 and were again demonetised in January 1978. Speaker Sir, the third demonetisation announced on 8th November, 2016 discontinuing ₹ 500 and ₹ 1,000 notes was a decision taken in haste without full preparation. This disrupted the day-today life of the people, as cash rationing was done which is continuing till today. The tremors of this ill planned demonetization are visible across all sectors of economy. Trade has declined, the manufacturing has negative growth, labourers have lost jobs, income of farmers have taken a beat. It will take a long time for the economy to come out from the shocks of poorly planned demonetisation.
- 7. Himachal is a model of hill area development and a front runner in various fields of development in the country. Despite financial constraints we have ensured that there is no slowdown in the development of the State. Due to prudent financial management, the state treasury functioned smoothly.

State Economy.

Speaker Sir, may I say it here;

"मेरा यही अन्दाज जमाने को खलता है । इतनी मुश्किलें सह कर भी यह सीधा कैसे चलता है ।।"

Speaker sir, I am happy to share that in the past four years the state economy grew at an average rate of 7.4 percent taking the GDP of the State from ₹82 thousand eight hundred twenty crore in 2012-13 to ₹ 1 lakh thirteen thousand six hundred sixty seven crore in 2015-16. As per the advance estimates for 2016-17 the gross Domestic Product of Himachal Pradesh has grown to ₹ 1 Lakh twenty four thousand five hundred seventy crore. In real terms the growth rate of the Pradesh in the last five years period has been estimated as 7.4 percent which is higher than the national growth of 6.8 percent during the same period. As a result of this pace of growth the Per Capita Income of the State has increased from ₹ 99 thousand seven hundred thirty in 2012-13 to ₹ 1 lakh thirty five thousand six hundred twenty one in 2015-16 and is expected to be ₹ 1 lakh forty seven thousand two hundred seventy seven in 2016-17.

Sustainable
Development
Goals & Policy.

Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. The member nations of the UN have decided to achieve 17 Sustainable Development Goals with the help of 169 monitorable targets. My Government in the budget for 2016-17 decided not only to achieve these targets but surpass them by 2022, much before the timeline of 2030. My Government is also in the process of preparing the Vision Document-2030 for the State, containing 7 years development strategy and 3 years action plan. This document will be ready in 2017-18.

Annual Plan.

**9.** Speaker Sir, NITI Aayog and Government of India has discontinued the process of formulation of Five Year and Annual Plans. Union Government has also done away with the plan and non-plan classification of budget from

2017-18. For the planned growth of the State, my Government has decided to continue with the present practice of formulating Annual Plan and proposes an Annual Plan of ₹ 5,700 crore for 2017-18, which is an enhancement of ₹ 500 crore over the annual plan 2016-17. Out of the proposed outlay of ₹ 5,700 crore, ₹ 1,436 crore has been proposed for Scheduled Caste Component Plan; ₹ 513 crore for Tribal Sub Plan and ₹ 70 crore for the Backward Area Sub Plan.

- **10.** Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) have always been very useful to the economy of Himachal Pradesh to supplement the State resources. At present, 8 EAPs amounting to ₹ 13,230 crore are being implemented in the State. I take this opportunity to thank the Central Government to transfer the loan under the Externally Aided projects to the State in the grant-loan ratio of 90:10.
- **11.** Speaker Sir, State has remained committed towards fiscal consolidation as a pre-requisite for good public finance management. Our huge debt burden and debt servicing has remained a matter of concern for a long time. Our debt burden on 31st March, 2016 is ₹ 38,568 crore and in 2017-18 our interest outgo is likely to be ₹ 3,500 crore. The expenditure on salaries and pension is going to increase further consequent on the ensuing liability of Pay Revision. The large debt servicing and committed liabilities are leaving a meagre amount for capital expenditure.

Despite these limitations, our Government is committed to keep the welfare of the State and the interests of its people as the top priority. We will be providing adequate financial resources for creating an economy which is Externally Aided Projects. productive, competitive, sustainable and inclusive. This will be achieved through an appropriate mix of consistent and credible strategy for resource collection and ensuring fiscal discipline.

Speaker Sir, May I say here;

#### "अपनी चलझनों में ही, अपनी मुश्किलों के हल मिलते हैं । जैसे टेढ़ी-मेढ़ी शाखाओं पर ही, रसीले फल मिलते हैं ।।"

**12.** In 2012-13, every MLA was given ₹ 50 lakh under VKVNY. In last four years, it has been increased to ₹ 1 crore. I am happy to announce to raise it to ₹ 1 crore ten lakh.

Under VKVNY, at present, mainly public building works are sanctioned. The scope of scheme will be enhanced and MLAs will be able to sanction various facilities in public offices like sitting arrangements for students in the schools, sports kits/equipments in schools, beds and blankets in the hospitals, replacement of motor pumps of water supply and grant to Mahila Mandals for purchase of utensils and furniture etc.

Speaker Sir, MLAs can also pose developmental schemes of PWD and IPH up to ₹ 70 crore for funding under RIDF loan from NABARD. I am happy to announce to raise it to ₹ 80 crore in 2017-18.

May I say here;

#### "दिनों के बदलने का इंतजार किसे है । आपके दिलों को बदल सकूँ, इंतजार उस दिन का मुझे है ।।"

Information Technoloy.

**13.** The state-of-art State Data Centre at a cost of ₹ 17 crore has been commissioned on 30th May, 2016. The State

Government has rolled out more than 89 online services. We have introduced e-procurement- an Online Tender Submission platform for transparent tendering. The State has excelled in achieving nearly 100 percent Aadhar enrolment which has facilitated Direct Benefit Transfer to beneficiaries under various welfare schemes.

I am pleased to announce to establish one more "Software Technology Park of India" in Shimla. This will give employment to nearly 400 IT professionals. Further, one STPI unit will also be opened in District Kangra near Airport.

**14.** Speaker Sir, my Government is committed to effectively implement the State food Subsidy Scheme introduced by the Congress Government in 2007 under which we are providing three daals, two liters edible oil and 1 kg iodized salt to all ration card holders.

Food Security.

There has been a persistent demand from Tibetan community to provide subsidized ration to the inmates of Tibetan Children Villages(TCVs). I accede to their demand to include TCVs under "State food subsidy Scheme."

I am making a budget provision of ₹ 220 crore for implementation of this scheme in 2017-18.

15. With a determination to make PDS more effective and to ensure that the subsidy benefit reaches the genuine beneficiary, our Government has initiated a project of automation of PDS. The department will issue digital Ration Cards to the beneficiaries in 2017-18. Supply chain automation of Himachal Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation will be implemented which will help in tracking the supplies of ration from FCI to FPS level.

Horticulture.

- 16. Speaker Sir, Horticulture plays an important role in the livelihood of the people. I am happy to inform that World Bank aided Horticulture Development Project of ₹ 1,134 crore will be made fully operational in 2017-18. Under this project, besides enhancing productivity of tropical and sub-tropical fruits and vegetables, it is proposed to invest a large sum in improving post harvest infrastructure like automatic packaging, grading lines, CA cold storage and processing plants. In addition, marketing infrastructure will be upgraded in all market yards of APMC (Agro-Produce Marketing Committee). We will set up two modern markets in Rohru and Kullu.
- 17. Fruit crops are sensitive to vagaries of nature. Because of hilly terrain, climatic conditions vary abruptly within a short span which affects accurate recording of weather data thereby denying the complete benefit under the Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme. I therefore, propose to install more weather recording systems across the State so that real time data is captured and insurance benefits flow to deserving farmers. I also announce to extend Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme to all potential blocks for Apple, Mango, Plum, Peach and citrus fruits with a budget provision of ₹ 20 crore.
- 18. The planting of Kiwi Fruit is effective in temperatures upto 35 degree Celsius and it can be grown widely in Chamba, Hamirpur, Una, Mandi, Bilaspur, Solan, Sirmaur and Kangra districts. A very interesting aspect relating to Kiwi Fruit is that monkeys do not eat it and it fetches good market price. I announce to start the new "मुख्यमञ्ज्ञी किवी प्रोत्साहन योजना" which will increase Farmers incomes substantially.

We will promote growth of Kiwi Saplings in Government and Private Nurseries. Under the scheme, 50 percent subsidy will be provided for purchase of saplings of Kiwi Fruit and iron angles. I propose a budget provision of ₹ 4 crore for this scheme in 2017-18.

19. It is seen that the field staff of Agriculture/Horticulture Departments spend lot of time on keeping record and distribution of farm inputs. We propose to try on pilot basis in selected blocks that eligible orchardists/ farmers procures quality plant protection materials on their own from companies outlets and submit the proposals online for subsidy.

I announce ₹ 12 crore under Horticulture Development Scheme to meet the requirements of Power Sprayers, Power Tillers and other equipments for Farmers/Orchardists.

Speaker Sir, orchardists use plastic crates for handling of fruits and vegetables. Farmers have requested to provide some subsidy on plastic crates. I am happy to announce that plastic crates will be supplied to the farmers at 50 percent subsidy in 2017-18. I am keeping a budget provision of ₹ 2 crore for this purpose.

I also propose to bring a new scheme for promotion of nurseries for production of quality saplings and indoor plants. The scheme will provide incentives to nursery growers.

**20.** For development of fruits like Mango, Litchi, Guava, Papaya, Sapota, Pomegranate, Clusters shall be formed in the lower areas of the State and e-Marketing will be promoted for direct marketing of produce. To protect Horticultural crops from hailstorms, 25 lakh square meters area shall be brought under Protected Cultivation, including anti-hail nets. We will

bring 2 lakh square meters area of flowers and high value vegetables under the protected cultivation.

21. To provide employment opportunities to youth, we will train and provide skills like soil health management, pruning and grafting, tissue culture and construction of poly houses etc. We will prepare short training courses for the rural youth. I propose an outlay of ₹ 3 crore for this purpose.

May I quote here Broker T. Washington;

"No race can prosper, till it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling a field, as in writing a poem."

I propose ₹ 424 crore for the Horticulture Department for 2017-18.

Agriculture.

- 22. Speaker Sir, Agriculture plays vital role and is the back bone of the rural economy. My Government is committed to promote balanced use of nutrients. Over Four lakh Soil Health Cards have been distributed to farmers. We will ensure distribution of Soil Health Cards to remaining farmers in 2017-18. Hamirpur District was awarded by the Hon'ble Prime Minister for being the best district in the country for the successful implementation of this scheme.
- 23. To provide self employment opportunities to youth, they will be encouraged to establish Soil Testing Laboratories. I announce to provide 40 percent subsidy upto a maximum project cost of ₹ 25 lakh for establishment of such labs.
- 24. My Government had introduced "Mukhya Mantri Khet Sanrakshana Yojana" in the current financial year with a subsidy of 60 percent to save farmers from the menace

of abandoned cattle, wild animals and monkeys. The members of this August House have requested to increase the subsidy. I accede to their request and announce that subsidy under "Mukhya Mantri Khet Sanrakshan Yojna" for solar/electric fencing will be enhanced from 60 percent to 80 percent. The farmers will be given option for installation of solar fencing by themselves, provided that the technical specifications are fulfilled. I propose ₹ 30 crore for this purpose.

Speaker Sir, may I say here;

## "हवा से कह दो कि, खुद को आजमा के दिखाए । बहुत चिराग बुझाती है, एक जला के तो दिखाए ।।"

**25.** My Government is implementing "**Dr. Y.S. Parmar Kisan Swarojgar Yojna**" for construction of Poly houses. The farmers have requested to increase the maximum limit of covered area under Poly House scheme. I accede to their demand and raise the limit of covered area for subsidy from existing 2,000 square meters to 4,000 square meters. I propose to provide ₹ 15 crore for this purpose.

Farmers have demanded that there should be a scheme to replace the poly sheets. I am happy to announce to provide 50 percent subsidy for replacement of poly sheet after 5 years of setting up of poly house or damage due to natural calamities under the new "Mukhya Mantri Green House Renovation Scheme".

Presently Agriculture department empanels suppliers for setting up poly houses. Now, farmers will be given option to get poly houses constructed from non empanelled suppliers also, provided technical specifications are fulfilled. The subsidy will be released to farmers directly into their bank accounts after verifying the quality of installation of the poly house.

26. To promote organic farming, my Government has encouraged Bio-fertilizers and Bio-pesticides use and discouraged use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. About 36 thousand farmers have adopted organic farming in the State. We will lay emphasis on certification and marketing of organic products. I propose to cover 2,000 hectare additional area under organic farming and we will develop 200 bio-villages in 2017-18. For meeting the requirement of organic manure, I propose to set up 20 thousand vermicompost units with 50 percent assistance to the farmers.

To promote organic farming in the State, I announce that the best organic farmers in the State will be given an award of ₹ 3 lakh, the 2nd best ₹ 2 lakh the 3rd best ₹ 1 lakh, under the new "मुख्यमन्त्री जैविक खेती पुरस्कार योजना"

**27.** Speaker Sir, My Government launched "**Uttam Chaara Utpadan Yojna**" to increase the improved fodder production. We will promote cultivation of indigenous fodder plants. I propose an outlay of ₹ 7 crore for this scheme in 2017-18.

My Government has started construction of Bore wells, and shallow Bore wells for increasing irrigation potential in the State. We will provide water storage tanks, sprinklers and water carrying pipes also under this scheme. I propose an outlay of ₹10 crore for this scheme in 2017-18.

- **28.** Keeping in view the congenial agro-climatic conditions of the State, My Government is committed to promote crop diversification with high value crops. I propose ₹ 50 crore for promotion of exotic and offseason vegetables in 2017-18.
- **29.** We are providing top priority to creation and strengthening of Market Yards. I propose an additional assistance of ₹ 10 crore for construction of Market Yards to the Marketing Board for 2017-18.

I propose overall outlay of ₹ 484 crore for the Department of Agriculture.

May I say it here;

## "मेडनत से उठा हूँ, मेडनत का दर्द जानता हूँ । " आसमों से ज्यादा जमीं की कदर जानता हूँ ।।"

**30.** Animal Husbandry plays an important role in upliftment of rural economy. The success of livestock rearing depends on its health. We will start "State level helpline" for cattle diseases at State Veterinary Hospital, so that farmers can get prescription for diseases, without bringing the cattle to the veterinary hospitals.

Animal Husbandry.

Quick and correct diagnosis of diseases is essential for animal rearing. We will setup veterinary diagnostic facilities at polyclinics and Sub-Divisional veterinary hospitals. I propose ₹ 7 crore for this purpose.

31. I propose organization of Animal Mandis on pre-planned dates, monthly, at districts/block levels in

2017-18. Grant to dairy societies and Farmer Produce Organizations will also be given for the organization of such Mandis.

I also propose an award of ₹ 1,000 to all the owners of best reared cows/buffaloes, which give more than 15 litres milk per day, under the new "उत्तम पशु पुरस्कार योजना"

**32.** Our Government is committed to protect the interest of the sheep breeders. The Quality Linked Wool Pricing Scheme is benefitting approximately 10 thousand sheep breeders. I am happy to increase the procurement price of wool by 10 percent in 2017-18, which will benefit thousands of sheep breeders.

Artificial Insemination facility for Goat and Sheep will be started with laboratories for Goats in Palampur and for Sheep in Jeori.

Due to inbreeding, wool production in the State has almost become static. In order to boost the economy of the tribal sheep breeders, it is proposed to provide 800 breeding Rams with a subsidy of 60 percent. I propose ₹ 1 crore for this purpose.

Goat farming is a traditional occupation of economically weaker segments of the society. Goats are reared as a source of additional income. We will provide unit of goats of Himalayan breeds on 60 percent subsidy to farmers to increase their income under new "240 401"

**33.** The Backyard Poultry Scheme has been very popular and successful. We have been awarded "Best State Awards" during the last three years by the Government of India.

To focus on commercial broiler and to provide employment to rural youth, I propose to introduce "5000-Broiler Scheme". We will provide 60 percent subsidy for setting up of 100 units under this new poultry promotion scheme.

Speaker Sir, It is rightly said that;

"Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains un-awakened."

- **34.** Veterinary Polyclinics will be equipped with ambulatory vehicles under RKVY for providing emergency and mobile veterinary services.
- **35.** The problem of abandoned cattle continues in the State. Various technological options like Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), Iris etc will be explored, so that the owner can be identified. The registration and tattooing of stray animals will also be strictly implemented to identify owners.

A scheme to provide sex semen straws will be introduced to increase the number of female cattle, thus reducing the stray cattle menace. "Panchayat Pashudhan Puruskar Yojna" will be continued in 2017-18 to reward panchayats free from stray cattle. I propose ₹ 7.80 crore for this scheme.

**36.** My Government is implementing a scheme under which 60 per cent subsidy is being provided for setting up of Milk Processing & Chilling facilities to the Dairy Co-operative Societies. I propose to enhance the subsidy to 75 percent and include Farmer Produce Organizations under the scheme.

Himachal Pradesh Milk Federation will collect approximately 250 lakh Liters of milk during the year. To supplement the income of milk producers of the State, I announce enhancement of Milk Procurement Price by ₹ 1 per Litre in 2017-18. The MILKFED will be provided a Grant-in-Aid of ₹ 16 crore in 2017-18.

I propose a budget outlay of ₹ 374 crore for Animal Husbandry Department.

Fisheries.

- 37. Speaker Sir, there is a vast potential for Fisheries development in Himachal Pradesh. More than 12 thousand fishermen are engaged in fishing occupation. Under Blue Revolution, Fisheries Department has envisaged construction of 1,000 hectare new ponds and 1,000 trout units in the State by 2020. For integrated development of reservoirs-Gobindsagar, Koldam and Pong Dam, four carp hatcheries will be established in the private sector, in Bilaspur, Una, Kangra and Sirmour districts.
- **38.** We have 600 kilometers of trout streams in the State and there is a good potential of trout farming in high altitude areas. Over 611 trout units have already been established. Trout culture will be introduced in Dodra Kwar during this year. I announce to provide financial assistance for the construction of 100 trout units during 2017-18.
- **39.** Our Government has started commercial fishing in Koldam reservoir where over 340 fishermen are involved in fishing occupation. It is a matter of great appreciation that Department of Fisheries has been successful in captive breeding of Golden Mahaseer at its Machial Farm in Mandi District. Establishment of a Mahaseer Hatchery cum Carp

Breeding unit is at an advanced stage of implementation at Nagar in Tehsil Sunni in Shimla.

**40.** Speaker Sir, my Government remains committed for efficient management of forests. The forest area of the State has shown an increase of 13 square kilometers as per State of Forests Report, 2015 of Forest Survey of India, which is testimony to these efforts. I propose a target of 15 thousand hectare of forest land for raising plantation for 2017-18.

Forest & Wild Life.

My Government has launched a new scheme namely "Sub- Mission on Agro Forestry" with the objective to increase tree plantation in an integrated manner along with crops and livestock to improve employment opportunities of small farmers.

41. I am happy to inform this August house that due to sincere efforts of my Government, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has agreed to extend financial assistance of ₹800 crore under "H.P. Forest Eco-System Management and Livelihood Project". This project will focus on institutional strengthening, improved Eco-System Services, increase in area under tree cover and meet the livelihood needs of the people. Another project namely, "H.P. Forests for Prosperity" amounting to ₹1,300 crore has been approved for funding from World Bank. This project will cover major activities like fuel wood plantations, improving pasture and grazing land, income generation from non-timber forest products and participatory forests management.

We will also establish a Project Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary for effective implementation of the Externally Aided Projects.

- 42. My Government has decided to set up a fenced '**वानर**' (Rescue centre for life care of Rhesus Monkeys) during 2017-18 at Tara Devi, Shimla to house 1,000 sterilized monkeys. The monkeys which have a tendency to attack human beings will be captured and kept in this Vatika.
- 43. We will develop Bio-diversity tourism Parks at Kanlog and Sarahan in District Shimla, Kasol in District Kullu, Dharamsala in District Kangra, Paonta Sahib in District Sirmour and Mandi in District Mandi. These parks will harbor natural heritage and enhance the quality of life of people in the cities.

The Pong Dam was declared as Wildlife Sanctuary in 1999 and Ramsar Wetland site in 2002. This lake attracts large number of migratory birds from all over the World. I propose to establish a permanent **Avian Monitoring and Bird Ringing Station** at Pong Dam. This will enable identification, study of movement, migratory routes and habitats of birds.

I propose a budget of ₹ 530 crore for Forest Department for 2017-18.

Environment Science & Technology. **44.** I am happy to announce introduction of "**Himachal Pradesh Environment Leadership Award**" to institutions/ individuals of the State who excel in promotion of environmental conservation and sustainable development by taking successful initiatives. The Award will have citation, trophy and prize of ₹ 1 lakh as first and ₹ 50 thousand as second and ₹ 25 thousand as third prize.

We will develop five model eco-villages to start with which will focus on low impact lifestyle to reduce the

ecological footprints.

The HP Pollution Control Board will establish a Regional Laboratory in Shimla to address water pollution problems of Shimla town and adjoining areas. Real-time Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station will be established at Shimla and Baddi at a cost of ₹ 10 crore. HPPCB will provide financial assistance upto ₹ 3 crore to 10 Urban Local Bodies to promote robust technical solutions for Urban Solid Waste Management. The Board will also provide financial and technical support to install cutting edge Sewerage Treatment Plant Technology in Nagar Panchayats.

**45.** Co-operatives are effectively implementing Government sponsored schemes like PDS, distribution of Fertilizers and agriculture inputs through 3,135 outlets. The National Co-operative Development Corporation has approved the second phase of ICDP in Solan and Mandi Districts. The Department will diversify activities of Co-operatives in Horticulture, Agriculture, Dairy, Fisheries, Irrigation, Marketing, Processing, Packaging and Tourism sectors.

Co-operation.

**46.** Speaker Sir, Himachal Pradesh has made great achievement in making the State Open Defecation Free(ODF). Government of India has declared Himachal Pradesh as ODF on 28th October, 2016. Thus Himachal Pradesh becomes the first bigger State in the Country to get this distinction.

Rural Development & Panchayati Raj.

There is a need for the sustainability of this achievement for which behavioural changes among the masses is must and this will be done through IEC. The State Government will now concentrate on implementation of Solid and Liquid waste management in the rural areas.

**47.** Under National Rural Livelihood Mission, self helpgroups are provided interest subsidy to provide loan at 7 percent per annum. Further, 3 percent interest subsidy is given on prompt repayment. The individual beneficiaries are not covered under this scheme. I announce to start new "**Mukhya Mantri Rural Livelihood Scheme**" under which individual beneficiaries will be provided interest subsidy on loan on the same pattern as of NRLM. I propose a budget of ₹ 10 crore for this scheme for 2017-18.

May I say here;

# "मैं किसी से बेहतर करूँ क्या फर्क पड़ता है । मैं किसी का बेहतर करूँ, बहुत फर्क पड़ता है ।।"

- **48.** The 13th Finance Commission grant was allotted to Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti as well as to Gram Panchayats. However, the 14th Finance Commission discontinued the grant to ZP and Panchayat samiti. I am pleased to announce that the State Government will provide additional budget of ₹ 42 crore, in 2017-18 so that the Zila Parishads and Panchayat Samities could undertake development activities in their areas.
- **49.** Speaker Sir, water harvesting structures will be constructed near roads under MGNREGA and Watershed Programmes to collect the water flowing from these roads. These water structures will be utilized for irrigating the nearby farm lands.
- **50.** Large number of assets are being created under MGNREGA. To maintain and update information of MGNREGA assets, Geographical Information System (GIS)

has been started with Geo-tagging of images and integrating with respective assets. Kangra is the first district to complete Geo tagging. In 2017-18, all assets created under MGNREGA will be Geo-tagged in other districts. We will accord first priority for construction of water tanks under MGNREGA scheme.

"Rajeev Aawas Yojna," "Pradhan Manntri Aawas Yojana" etc. It has been observed that it takes a long time to release instalments to the beneficiaries, as the technical person has to visit the site, before release of next instalment. In future, all houses built under various housing schemes will be geotagged. The beneficiary will upload the photograph of the stage of the construction of house. The Department will release the payment in the bank account of the beneficiary directly.

In the MLAs meeting, many members of this August House had raised the issue of maintenance of roads constructed by development blocks. The roads constructed by Blocks can be maintained under MGNREGA. However, there is restriction of material component under this scheme, therefore I announce that ₹ 20 crore would be provided to the Development Blocks under the new "Mukhya Mantri Rural Road Repair Scheme."

May I say here;

# "अन्दाज कुछ अलग ही हैं मेरे सोचने का । सबको मंजिल का शौक है, मुझे रास्ते का ।।"

**51.** Under HP Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, powers are vested in Gram Panchayats to penalize the owners of animals

who abandon their animals. However, these powers have been sparingly used. In view of this, I propose to make amendment in Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 to vest powers in concerned BDO, Tehsildar and Naib Tehsildar of the area for effective compliance.

- **52.** Speaker Sir, in last year's budget speech I had announced that BPL families will be required to put a sign board prominently of BPL status on his house to get various benefits. Now, I announce that such BPL families will be given two months time to put such sign boards. If they do not put the sign boards or remove the sign board later on, their name will be deleted from the list of BPL families.
- 53. I had announced in MLA meetings that social audit of various schemes will be done. I announce that all the Government departments will send the progress of development works pertaining to a Panchayat along with expenditure undertaken every month, for social audit.
- **54.** We started a new scheme called "**Mukhya Mantri Awaas Yojna**" under which BPL families of general categories have been covered. I propose to continue this scheme during 2017-18 with a budget provision of ₹30 crore.

The State Government has enhanced the housing subsidy under "Rajeev Awas Yojana" and "Mukhya Mantri Aawas Yojna" to ₹ 1lakh thirty thousand. Now I announce that the housing subsidy of welfare department scheme will also be raised from ₹ 75 thousand to ₹ 1 lakh thirty thousand. I propose a budget provision of ₹ 115 crore under various housing schemes during 2017-18.

Speaker Sir, may I say here;

### "अन्दाजे से ना नापिये, किसी इन्सान की इस्ती । ठहरे हुए दरिया, अक्सर गहरे हुआ करते हैं ।।"

- **55.** Under "Matri Shakti Bima Yojna," BPL Girls/ Women in the age group of 10-75 years are provided insurance cover for disability and death. I announce doubling the financial assistance under this scheme from ₹ 1 lakh to ₹ 2 lakh, in case of death of the Girl/woman, death of husband or permanent disablement. In case of loss of limb, financial assistance will be increased to ₹ 1 lakh.
- **56.** My Government is committed to strengthen the democracy at all levels. The State Government will release ₹ 270 crore to Zila Parishad, Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayats from the State Budget. Further, ₹ 352 crore will be released as per the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission in 2017-18.
- **57.** With a view to strengthen the training facilities for PRIs, new complexes have been developed at Baijnath, Thunag and Mashobra. The construction work of Panchayati Raj Training Institute Baijnath and Thunag has been completed with an expenditure of ₹15.51 crore. PRTI Building at Mashobra is near completion with a cost of ₹ 10.88 crore. I also propose to start training programmes on financial literacy for the elected local representatives.

I propose a budget allocation of ₹ 1,627 crore for the department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj.

**58.** Speaker Sir, I am happy to inform this August House that the Government of India has approved a project proposal

Urban Development.

- of ₹ 2,109 crore for Dharamsala city under the 'Smart City Mission.' The Government of India has released the first instalment of ₹ 186 crore.
- 59. Speaker Sir, it is seen that haphazard construction take place near the urban areas or along the road side in the State. Earlier the State Government has launched a scheme called 'Land owners become partners with HIMUDA'. On the same analogy, a new scheme will be launched under which land owners of the area may voluntary join hands together, through a private developer, who will offer them developed plots by making necessary infrastructure like roads, parking etc. in the pooled land. This will ensure planned growth of habitations in the State.
- **60.** "Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation" (AMRUT) a new scheme was launched last year by Government of India. For the year 2017-18, State Annual Action Plan amounting to ₹ 115 crore (81 crore for Shimla, 34 crore for Kullu) has been submitted to Government of India. I propose to make a budget provision of ₹ 50 crore for this purpose during 2017-18.
- **61.** My Government is aware of the parking problems and traffic congestion due to rapid urbanization. To solve the parking problems in the urban areas of the Pradesh, we will provide 50 percent grant to Urban Local Bodies who intends to construct parking. I propose to make a budget provision of ₹ 10 crore for this purpose. We will also provide sufficient budget for widening of the circular road in Shimla to reduce the traffic congestion.

- **62.** Speaker Sir, the Urban Development Department in association with IPH has improved the functioning of all 49 Sewerage Treatment Plants in the State. I propose an outlay of ₹ 10 crore for maintenance of Sewerage Schemes in 2017-18.
- **63.** There is a need to develop parks in Urban areas for better living. I announce that 60 percent grant would be provided to the Urban Local Bodies for development of parks in the Municipal areas. I propose a budget provision of ₹ 10 crore for this purpose.

We launched a Scheme named "LAKSHYA" in all merged wards of Nagar Panchayats and newly merged areas (Wards) of Municipal Councils/Municipal Corporations in the Pradesh. I propose a budget provision of ₹ 1 crore fifty lakh for wage employment under this scheme during 2017-18.

I propose an additional Capital Grant of ₹ 3 crore for Municipal Corporation Shimla for widening of internal roads, creation of parkings and development of playgrounds in Shimla.

I propose a budget allocation of ₹403 crore for Urban Development Department for 2017-18.

**64.** Speaker Sir, My Government's aim is to constantly encourage e-Governance and reduce interface with public servants. Therefore, electronic interaction for online map approval/ planning permission has been introduced. The TCP web portal has been launched to ensure accountability, transparency and to improve the service delivery mechanism to general public in all planning and special areas in the State. Department launched Him TCP Mobile App during the year 2016-17 with a vision to expand digital governance to

Town & Country Planning.

M-Governance, so that people can get various approvals on their mobile itself.

Land Administration.

**65.** Land Administration is an area in which people have regular interaction. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to bring out improvements in the policies and procedures governing this interaction.

Our Government has re-framed a policy for grant of ownership rights in favour of possessors of Government land and built up structures in Shimla Town since the British regime on charging of land value @ ₹ 1,000 ₹ 900 and ₹ 800 per square meter in public interest. The State Government has formulated Model Rehabilitation and Resettlements Schemes for Hydro Electrical Projects and Cement projects and the affected families are being resettled as per provisions of these schemes.

State Government has also decided on 22nd March 2016 to remit the entire stamp duty as well as registration fee in respect of gift deed executed by any individual in favour of the Urban Local Bodies and Panchayats on the analogy of Government Departments.

66. The work of Digitization of Cadastral Maps has been started in all the Districts. The Cadastral Maps of all the Tehsils of District Chamba, 6 Tehsils of District Hamirpur and 6 Tehsils of District Mandi have been linked with Record of Rights and available on the website of the Revenue Department. All Cadastral Maps of District Shimla, Mandi, Hamirpur and Lahaul & Spiti will be digitized and linked with Record of Rights during 2017-18.

67. Disaster Risk Management is an area of vital importance to our State. Himachal Pradesh is vulnerable to large number of natural and human-induced disasters. My Government has constituted a State Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction (SPDRR) to evolve participatory process of decision making in Disaster Management, implementation Monitoring and reviewing of the Sendai Frame work for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-30) to achieves its goals. The Government has included death caused by electrocution and injuries caused by dog bite, stray and domestic animals in the relief manual. I also propose to reimburse the transportation charges of carrying of deceased from accident site/Hospital to home.

I propose a budget provision of ₹ 260 crore for Disaster Relief for 2017-18.

**68.** Speaker Sir, the Government is committed to provide quality drinking water in the State. We are providing Water Treatment Plants(WTPs) in all the drinking water supply schemes in the State. I had announced construction of 512 filtration units for those schemes where these units were not there. We will complete filtration of all these schemes by 31st March, 2017. I propose a budget of ₹ 20 crore for 38 new filtration units and repair of 83 existing units in 2017-18.

Irrigatgion & Public Health.

**69.** The storage tanks of IPH Department have been protected by providing locking facilities for the first time in all the non-tribal area. Tribal areas will be covered in coming summer. It is proposed to establish two tier monitoring system for departmental schemes to ensure quality. First monitoring shall be at departmental level and second from a

third party. Representatives of concerned Local Body and Community would also be involved and made part of inspection teams.

- **70.** My Government is committed to complete the ongoing schemes in a time bound manner. We provided an additional amount of ₹ 25 crore to complete 166 ongoing water supply schemes in 2016-17. This has resulted in water supply to 1,277 habitations. It is further proposed to complete about 160 water supply and 70 irrigation schemes in 2017-18 with a budget provision of ₹ 100 crore and ₹ 60 crore respectively.
- **71.** I am happy to say that we will augment and deliver 24×7 water to Shimla city from Kol Dam through a World Bank assisted project of a total amount of ₹ 837 crore.

A new drinking water project would be started in 2017-18 to gradually cover all partially covered habitations in the State through assistance from the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) for a total amount of ₹ 670 crore.

72. The IPH Department has created a huge irrigation potential but there is a gap between the irrigation potential created and utilized. The department proposes to start outcome based, Command Area Development under the State Sector together with Agriculture, Rural Development Department and Farmer participation. The participatory irrigation management through Krishi Vikas Sangh/Water Users Association would be implemented in the State. This would entail field channels and better water conservation, crop diversification and integrated farming. In Himachal Pradesh 2 lakh sixty seven thousand hectares of CCA has been created, However, net irrigated area is only 1 lakh ten thousand hectares.

I propose an outlay of ₹ 75 crore for Command Area Development Works to ensure full utilization of already created potential, for the benefit of farmers.

- 73. To ensure reliability of operation of water supply schemes, the department will move to automation of schemes to make water usage efficient. We will take steps to reduce costs on electricity. The department will start few schemes which will be operated through Solar Technology enabled pumping.
- **74.** To ensure that people of Himachal Pradesh continue to get drinking water and irrigation facilities at an affordable cost, I propose to provide ₹ 450 crore to IPH Department for meeting out the energy charges for water supply and irrigation schemes.

I propose a total budget outlay of ₹ 2,238 crore for Department of Irrigation and Public Health.

**75.** Speaker Sir, Himachal Pradesh has so far harnessed 10 thousand 351 MW power. Kashang Hydel Project was commissioned this year. In 2017-18, Sainj and Uhal projects will be commissioned bringing an additional capacity of 200 MW in the State Sector.

MPP & Power.

The State Government is facilitating timely Environmental and FRA Clearances to the Private Power Projects. It will be ensured that power evacuation transmission lines are completed in time for evacuation of power from all the upcoming hydro projects.

The State Government has taken several steps to improve the financial health of the HP State Electricity Board

Limited. The State Government has joined the UDAY Scheme. We have borrowed ₹ 2,890 crore from the open market through Reserve Bank of India, to repay the high cost debt of HPSEBL. The loan amount has been released to the HPSEBL on 28th February, 2017. This will reduce the interest burden of HPSEBL to the tune of ₹ 90 crore per annum. The HPSEBL will start repaying loans to State Government after five years, thus improving their liquidity.

**76.** I also propose an Equity contribution of ₹ 50 Crore to HPSEBL for upgrading the rural lines. Old and outdated transformers will be replaced by the HPSEBL to ensure uninterrupted supply to rural areas. I am also happy to provide ₹ 450 crore in 2017-18 for subsidizing electricity to the domestic consumers of the State.

I propose a total budget of ₹ 1,178 crore for the MPP and Power Department.

Industries

- 77. Speaker Sir, The State Government has accorded top priority for Industrialization in the State. To facilitate Industries, the State Government has made sincere efforts to create an investment friendly climate which attracts new industries and also helps existing industry to run smoothly. A number of incentives such as reduction in CST rates, entry tax, electricity duty, change of land use charges, stamp duty and increase in Floor Area Ratio etc. have been notified.
- **78.** The State Government has taken a large number of steps to promote 'Ease of Doing Business' in the State by introducing online registration, renewal and payments under various Central/State Acts. To further strengthen this, a single

point registration portal for setting up of Industries will be operationalized during 2017-18. This will enable the entrepreneurs to obtain requisite multi departmental approvals in a time bound transparent manner on single online portal.

I am also happy to announce that Change of Land Use for service industries will also be allowed in all the industrial areas of the State.

- 79. My Government has fulfilled its commitment of introducing new "Chief Ministers Start up/Innovation Projects/New Industries Scheme" which was formally launched on 17th December, 2016. This scheme provides incentives for reimbursing eligible Patent Filing Cost, Concession in Stamp Duty, provision of land at concessional rates, VAT Concessions, Concession in Fee for obtaining consent from Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board and Interest subvention.
- **80.** The State Government realizes the importance of development of infrastructure for setting up of Industries. Two State of Art Industrial Areas in Pandoga and Kandrori will become partly functional in 2017-18. The Bulk Drug Park is also proposed to be set up in Baddi Barotiwala Nalagarh (BBN) area.

The local roads in Parwanoo Industrial Area, Road to Naryal (Old Kasauli road) and Road between Barotiwala-Mandhala to Parwanoo will be widened and improved. I provide a budget provision of ₹ 3 crore for this purpose.

**81.** The State Government has started the State Mission on Food Processing for giving boost to the food processing

sector. My Government has decided to continue this mission for next financial year also in view of the huge potential for the growth of Food Processing in rural areas. The vegetable canning units and fish canning units will be funded on priority under this scheme. I propose an outlay of ₹ 10 crore for this Mission.

- **82.** My Government has initiated many measures for checking illegal mining. The penalty provisions and enforcement mechanism have been made more stringent for illegal mining, and transportation of illegal material. The process has been started to auction all mineral locations in a transparent manner and on long term basis in Hamirpur, Kangra and Sirmour Districts. The auction will also be completed in all other districts within three months.
- 83. My Government proposes to start a new scheme namely "Integrated Scheme for Development of Handloom and Handicrafts." to rejuvenate and develop this sector in the State. This scheme will aim at modernizing the sector, providing adequate training, product development, design and marketing support to the weavers and artisans in the State.

I propose an outlay of ₹ 193 crore for the Industries Department for 2017-18.

Skill Development.

**84.** Speaker Sir,

"खैरात में धन मिले तो इन्सान आरामपरस्त हो जाता है । जीवन में कुछ कर गुज़रने का जज्बा खत्म हो जाता है ।। इसलिए खुद्दार बन निखार हुनर खुद का । क्योंकि, हुनरमंद के कदमों में जहां होता है ।।"

Speaker Sir, for improving employment opportunities for youth in the State, I announced ADB funded Skill Development Project amounting to ₹ 640 crore in 2016-17 Budget. The same has been started.

To enhance learning and lifelong employment opportunities and to provide qualitative skill training to the youth of the State it is proposed to spend ₹ 53 crore on modern training equipments in 50 ITIs, upgrading them, as per national norms.

**85.** Vocational education courses have been started in 850 Senior Secondary Schools and 57 thousand students are being given trainings in vocational courses. To improve the quality of vocational training my Government proposes to upgrade vocational laboratories in additional 650 Schools.

It is proposed to start B.Voc. Course in 12 colleges, which will benefit 2,800 youth. ₹ 39 crore will be spent on this programme. This will provide vertical mobility to students who pass out from Senior Secondary Schools with vocational subject.

Government will start a skill based "Graduate Addon Program" in 2017-18, to enhance the employability of the college students. Under the programme 3rd year undergraduate students will be given a choice to select one skill based course, in addition to regular academic subjects.

**86.** To promote self employment skills to the youth my Government will provide package of training-cum-business development support to urban and rural youth. It is proposed to establish 6 City Livelihood Centres (CLCs) and 4 Rural Livelihood Centres (RLCs) with a budget provision of ₹ 52 crore.

**87.** My Government is implementing Skill Development Allowance Scheme successfully, in the State from last four years, which has benefitted over one lakh 55 thousand youths in the State.

Unemployment Allowance.

88. Speaker Sir, there has been demand for the unemployment allowance from various quarters. I have considered the demand and pleased to announce that unemployed youth having 10+2 qualifications or above would be granted Unemployment Allowance at the rate of ₹ 1,000 per month by the Government of Himachal Pradesh. The disabled unemployed youth would be given ₹ 1,500 per month. The detailed guidelines about the eligibility will be issued soon by the State Government. I propose a budget of ₹ 150 crore for this purpose, in addition to ₹ 100 crore for the Skill Development Allowance in 2017-18.

Speaker Sir, may I say it here;

#### "ऐ परिन्दे !

## यूं जमीं पर बैठकर क्यों आसमों देखता है । पंखों को खोल क्योंकि जमाना सिर्फ उड़ान देखता है ॥"

Labour & Employment.

- **89.** Speaker Sir, the Labour and Employment Department is implementing 25 Central and 2 State Acts to secure rights of workers and to ensure industrial peace in the State. We have made registration and licensing under various Labour Laws online in 2016-17.
- **90.** Sir, My Government understands that counselling of unemployed youth will enhance employment and placement avenues. The process to convert all District level Employment

Exchanges into Model Career Guidance Centres with funding of Asian Development Bank has been started.

**91.** Sir, Job fairs and campus interviews play a major role to enhance placement opportunities of the skilled workforce. We propose to organize more such job fairs in every district and block.

I am happy to inform that The Himachal Pradesh Building and Construction Welfare Board will provide scholarship of ₹ 20 thousand to the children of registered workers pursuing professional courses. In case, the registered workers are not having LPG connection, the Board will bear the initial cost of LPG connection including cost of Gas Stove.

A multi skill Institute for providing skill to youth is being set up at Palakvah, District Una with a cost of ₹ 16 crore.

I propose a total budget outlay of ₹ 269 crore for the Labour and Employment Department for 2017-18.

**92.** Speaker Sir, Safe reliable and comfortable transportation facility to the public is the top priority of the State Government.

Transport.

HRTC will upgrade 5 driving training schools (Mandi, Kullu, Taradevi, Bilaspur and Jassur) with the latest technology by investing ₹ 5 crore. A State of the Art Centre for inspection and certification will be set up at Baddi at the cost of ₹ 14 crore.

The HRTC provides transport facilities in remotes parts of the State. I propose to provide ₹ 215 crore as grant

and ₹ 50 crore as equity for purchase of small buses to be plied on hilly roads to HRTC in 2017-18.

**93.** We are committed to provide best possible facilities at all bus stands. I propose an additional budget of ₹ 10 crore for construction of Bus Stands, in addition to the resources of Bus Stand Management and Development Authority.

I announce to shift the Lakkar Bazaar bus stand to Dhali by reallocating the existing HRTC workshop at Dhalli to Hiranagar, to decongest the circular road.

- **94.** In last year's budget, I had provided a seed money of ₹ 8 crore for four Transport Nagars for further development in PPP mode. I propose an additional ₹ 4 crore in 2017-18 to develop 2 more Transport Nagars in the State.
- **95.** To provide employment opportunity to youth of the State at least 1000 new Bus Permits will be given to the unemployed youth of the State in 2017. Bus permits will also be given to unemployed youth in Baddi Barotiwala Nalagarh area and other industrial areas for local routes.
- 96. Speaker Sir, my Government has exempted Tractors being used by farmers for agriculture purposes from levy of tax under Motor Vehicle Taxation Act, 1972, vide notification dated 30th January, 2014. The conditions to grant exemptions would be simplified for the benefit of farmers. In addition to this, tractors used for commercial purposes, a policy of onetime(lumpsum) tax will be notified. This will provide ease of operation for large number of tractor owners.

Roads & Bridges.

- **97.** Speaker Sir, Roads are vital means of communication for a State like Himachal Pradesh. As of today, we have a network of 35 thousand and eleven kilometres of motorable roads in the State which has opened new vistas for development. The State Government has connected 3,138 out of 3,226 panchayats by motorable roads. Out of the remaining 88 panchayats, works in 74 panchayats are in various stages of progress.
- My Government, is grateful to the Union Government 98. for the 'in-principle' approval for declaration of 61 roads as National Highways with certain conditionalities. However, there is disinformation by certain quarters about the alleged delay in preparation of DPRs. Speaker sir, I want to inform the House that 'in principle' declaration of National Highways was finally notified by the Government of India on 14th September, 2016. The State Government took proactive action and initiated the process of inviting tenders for DPRs. Government of India also revised new guidelines of tender process, with effect from 22nd August 2016, which meant that the State Government had to again recall all the tenders. The State Government took up with Government of India, the requirements for allocation of funds and ₹ 299 crore has been allocated by Government of India. However, this money is yet to be sanctioned and paid by Government of India. The State Government has started the process of evaluating technical and financial bids of 28 roads and tenders for 31 roads have been re-invited the third time. The status of these tenders is to be sent to Government of India for approval and then a revised estimate is also to be sent to Government of India, involving finalizing of the Consultant and payment

involved. I am hopeful that the entire process of finalizing tenders for DPRs would be completed in the next two months.

99. The "Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna" (PMGSY) has shown remarkable progress, in last four years, due to sincere efforts made by the State Government. Out of 2,872 road works with a cumulative sanctioned amount of ₹ 4,670 crore, we have completed 2,121 roads. We have connected 3,444 habitations out of the total sanctioned habitations of 3,830. The State Government has released ₹ 62 crore thirty five lakh from the State Funds to meet the additional cost involved in completion of works.

During the year, my Government has received sanction for 520 projects (477 roads and 43 bridges) amounting to ₹ 1,710 crore. Further, as a special incentive to the State Government for maintenance of PMGSY roads, an incentive grant of ₹ 86 crore has been received and every constituency will be allocated a minimum of ₹ 1 crore for periodic maintenance.

- **100.** Under the World Bank State Road Project involving 10 packages ( 435 kilometres length ), 9 packages have been completed. I am happy to announce that the World Bank has also approved the second phase of the State Road Project of ₹ 750 crore.
- **101.** My Government accords high priority to National Highways. The four-laning of two National Highways from Parwanoo-Shimla, and Kiratpur to Manali is in progress involving a cost of ₹ 9,040 crore. Land involving 709 hectares has been acquired. Award for acquisition has been announced for ₹ 2,075 crore. The State Government has

taken up with the Government of India to start work on fourlaning of Pathankot-Chakki Mandi, Baddi-Nalagarh and Shimla- Mataur National Highway which would be entrusted to NHAI.

- **102.** My Government accords utmost priority for road safety. 3,735 black spots have been identified out of which 2,530 have been improved. I propose a budget provision of ₹ 50 crore for 2017-18 for installation of steel crash barriers, installation of convex mirrors in PPP mode on U-turns and cat's eye on both edges of the road and road signages on the accident prone sites.
- **103.** During 2017-18, we propose construction of 380 kilometres of motorable roads and 30 bridges. The metalling and tarring of 500 kilometers new roads would also be carried out. Besides carrying out the cross drainage of 520 kilometres.

I am also pleased to provide ₹ 50 Crore under "Mukhya Mantri Sadak Yojana." to provide last mile connectivity to villages/habitations.

I propose a budget outlay of ₹ 3,394 crore for the Public Works Department for the year 2017-18.

104. Speaker Sir, the Goods and Services Tax will be implemented in the Country in 2017-18. This will bring uniformity of tax rates all over the country and create a common market. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has supported the introduction of GST. The SGST bill will be introduced in this August House, once the model bill is approved by the GST Council. The Excise and Taxation Department will organize awareness programme for dealers

Excise & Taxation.

all over the state to educate them about the provisions of the new proposed GST/ IGST bills.

With a view to strengthen the department for smooth switchover to GST as well as to provide support to the dealers of the State, I propose to open 5 new Excise and Taxation Officer circles in the State. I also propose to establish a Large Taxpayers Unit(LTU) under Joint/Deputy Excise and Taxation Commissioner to provide adequate support to large industrial units having turnover above ₹ 100 crore.

- **105.** The deemed Assessment Scheme will be further liberalised to cover dealers having turnover of ₹ 1 crore seventy five lakh per annum. The Dealers falling under deemed assessment as identified by IT System shall be considered as deemed assessed within 60 days of such identification.
- **106.** A large number of cases are pending for finalization of assessment under HP Value Added Tax Act, 2005, therefore to help the dealers and getting their assessment finalized, I propose to frame a "Self Assessment Scheme" for dealers having turnover upto ₹ 2 crore.
- **107.** Small Traders with a turnover of ₹ 30 lakh per annum are covered under lump-sum tax payment scheme at the rate of one percent. I propose to increase the coverage for traders upto the turnover of ₹ 40 lakh per annum.

We will simplify the procedure and strengthen the regular monitoring to ensure timely VAT refunds to industries.

In order to provide proper help and support to the dealers, I propose to establish an assessee room in each district office equipped with all necessary IT facilities.

In the last year's budget, I reduced the entry tax for the existing industries from two percent to one percent and for the new industries from one percent to half percent. I propose to reduce the entry tax to the existing industries also from one percent to half percent.

Speaker Sir, additional Goods Tax (AGT) is levied on Iron and Steel and Plastic goods on raw material as well as on the finished goods. The representatives of Industries have requested to reduce this tax. I accede to their demand and announce that the AGT will be reduced appropriately on these goods.

**108.** Speaker Sir, the State Government is promoting Sustainable Tourism in the State. The endeavour of the State Government is to extend all modern facilities to the tourists for making their visit to the State memorable.

Tourism.

Our strategy is to give a holistic experience to the tourists visiting in the State. Package tours shall be developed and focus would be kept on the adventure, religious, heritage, winter sports, tracking and outdoor activities. We will lay stress on providing basic infrastructure and facilities like clean toilets at bus stands, restaurants and petrol pumps.

We have received about 1 crore eighty five lakh tourists in 2016 with a growth rate of about 5.24 percent over the preceding year. Presently, tourism contributes 6.8 percent to State GDP and by 2020 endeavour will be to increase it to 10 percent.

**109.** To give boost to the growth of tourist infrastructure in the State, the Department submitted a DPR of 14 projects with an outlay of ₹ 100 crore under Himalayan Circuit to

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India which has been approved.

I am pleased to announce that incentive of revised rates of Electricity Duty given to the new industries in the State will also be extended to the new Tourism Industry.

110. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved loan assistance worth ₹ 640 crore. Development of tourist infrastructure at Dharamsala-McLeodganj, restoration of Christ Church at Shimla, restoration of temples in Rampur area, development of Naldehra and improvement of Chamunda-Brijeshwari temples etc. have been awarded in current financial year.

Education.

111. Speaker Sir, my Government is according top priority to Education Sector. The State has achieved remarkable progress in this sector as the literacy rate has reached at 82.80 percent. The State is at number one in the country in enrolment and quality education of children in the age group of 6-14 years. Achievements of the State Government have also been highlighted by "ASER" in report of 2016. According to this report, there is a significant improvement in arithmetic level of the students in the State.

May I say it here;

#### "A child without education is like a bird without wings."

112. The Department is providing top class infrastructure in all the educational institutions and appointing qualified teachers. We propose to install bio-metric machines in the offices of Deputy Directors, BEEOs and schools for better time management. I propose to start "Prerna Plus" for 1st

to 5th class for enhancement of learning ability and to start "**Prayas Plus**" for 6th to 8th Class students for enhancement of learning ability in Science and Maths.

**113.** The Government has successfully implemented ICT @ school in 2,142 Government Senior Secondary and High Schools upto 2016-17 and remaining 506 Schools will be covered in 2017-18. This will improve and strengthen teaching learning activities, using smart classrooms and multimedia teaching aids.

I am also happy to announce that 10 thousand netbooks/ laptops will be provided to meritorious students of 10th and 12th class under the "Rajiv Gandhi Digital Yojna" in 2017-18. I am proposing a budget provision of ₹ 25 crore for this purpose.

114. Government of Himachal Pradesh is very serious to curb the menace of drugs. We have created three Regional Narcotic Drugs Crime Control Units headed by DSP at Kullu, Shimla and Kangra, to take strict measures against the production and distribution of Narcotics drugs and psychotropic substances in the State. De-addiction Centres and Yuva Paramarsh Kendras are functioning in various health institutions and Tele-counselling is being provided through 104 Call Centre.

We have also decided to cancel the retail/whole sale/ manufacturing licenses, if found contravening the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act. The State Vidhan Sabha has passed State Amendment to Drugs and Cosmetics Act, making the offence cognizable and non-bailable.

**115.** The State Government has constituted State Higher Education Council(SHEC) to implement quality improvement

system properly in the State. We have notified 42 Degree Colleges during last four years to enhance GER in Higher Education. Our aim is to increase enrolment ratio in colleges from existing 29 percent to 36 percent by the year 2022. I am also happy to announce that the State Government will provide ₹ 100 crore to the H.P. University as grant-in-aid. This is one of the highest grant to any State University in the country.

Speaker Sir, Mr. Nelson Mandela has rightly said;

# "Education is the most powerful weapon, we can use to change the world."

I propose a total budget outlay of ₹ 6,204 crore for the Department of Education for 2017-18.

Technical Education.

**116.** Speaker Sir, My Government is committed to provide quality education in the fields of vocational education, and industrial training. We have reached a stage where all interested students of the State can get admission in Engineering, Vocational and Industrial training to get degree, diploma or certificate courses through 344 institutions. My Government has opened 34 ITI's during the last four years with intake capacity of 3,446.

The ITIs, Polytechnics and Engineering Colleges are being upgraded by providing infrastructure and procurement of machinery and equipments. The present intake capacity in the existing institutions is 61 thousand six hundred sixteen and in respect of the ITIs it is the highest in the Country in relation to per lakh population. A new Polytechnic for women at Rahan and another Polytechnic at Basantpur are being

set up and shall be made operational from the next academic session.

Speaker Sir;

#### "तराशने वाले पत्थरों को भी तराश देते हैं । नासमझ तो डीरे को भी पत्थर करार देते हैं ।।"

I propose to provide a total budget outlay of ₹ 220 crore for the Department of Technical Education.

**117.** Speaker Sir, My Government is committed to preserve and promote the rich cultural heritage of our State. We are committed for propagation of languages, Dialects, Archival possessions and preservation of Archaeological sites in the State. Himachal Pradesh and Shimla in particular has long lasting association with the Indian Army. To commemorate this historical bond, a Military Gallery has been set up in the State Museum on 26.1.2017.

Language, Art & Culture.

- 118. An additional block will be constructed in Himachal Pradesh State Museum, Shimla to showcase more art objects for visitors and art lovers. Numismatic and Anthropological gallery is proposed to be established in Bhuri Singh Museum Chamba. The exploration and excavation work in the Spiti region will be started in 2017-18 to uncover our archaeological past. Writer's home will be started at Longwood Shimla.
- **119.** Special Scheme will be started to document and encourage the preservation of local music of Himachal Pradesh, in particular instrumental music.

The Government has recently acquired the Bantony Castle by spending ₹ 27.84 crore. We will now develop this as a Cultural Centre for tourists.

- **120.** We are committed to provide one indoor auditorium at all District Headquarters. The work is in progress at Kullu, Solan, Mandi and Una. I propose to provide ₹ 15 crore to start construction of auditoria in the remaining Districts in 2017-18.
- **121.** A Scholarship Scheme for the talented students of Himachal Pradesh in the field of Fine/Visual art will be introduced to provide them incentive and encouragement in this field. An online portal for Himachali Artists would also be developed. A Book of Himachali Poets on representative poetry will be published in 2017-18 alongwith revised directory of Himachali Poets, Writers and Artists.
- **122.** Various voluntary organizations are working for the preservation of our cultural heritage. Such organizations exhibit the folklore and culture of the State in various fairs and festivals organized in the State and other parts of the Country. I propose to enhance the limit of grant-in-aid from ₹ 15 thousand to ₹ 40 thousand for cultural activities and from ₹ 1 thousand to ₹ 10 thousand for traditional costumes, musical instruments and jewellery in the year 2017-18.

Youth Services & Sports.

- **123.** Speaker Sir, My Government is committed to promote Youth Services and Sports in the State. We are providing National/International level sports infrastructure in the State. To empower the youth activities in the State, Nodal Youth Clubs are being strengthened. I propose to enhance grants to Nodal Youth Clubs from existing ₹ 25 thousand to ₹ 35 thousand.
- **124.** We are committed to construct one multipurpose indoor sports complex at District level. These have been constructed at Shimla, Una, Bilaspur and Dharamshala.

I propose ₹ 15 crore to start construction of Multipurpose Indoor complex in the remaining Districts.

- 125. To promote sports, I announce that one big play field will be developed in each Vidhan Sabha Constituency, near an educational institute. For this purpose ₹ 10 lakh will be provided for each play field under new "मुख्यमन्त्री खेल विकास योजना." I am making a budget provision of ₹ 6 crore 80 lakh for this purpose.
- **126.** Speaker Sir, Print and Electronic Media play an important role in disseminating the policies, programmes and important decisions of the Government and we are committed to facilitate them. Our Government has brought 390 accreditated press personnel under insurance cover under Swasthya Bima Yojna.

Information & Public Relations.

I am happy to announce to exempt the levy of entry tax on all types of advertisements/publicity material in 2017-18.

- **127.** We will establish Film Facilitation Wing which will work as single window mechanism for granting all permissions relating to film shooting in the State.
- I propose a budget provision of ₹ 1 crore for "Himachal Pradesh Patrakar Kalyan Yojna" for 2017-18.
- **128.** Speaker Sir, My Government is committed to provide affordable, quality and equitable health care services to our people. Health expenditure as per percentage of GSDP is 1.43 percent which is second highest in the Country only

Health & Medical Education.

after Delhi. It is my pleasure to inform this August House that Infant Mortality Rate(IMR) has been reduced from 35 to 28 per thousand live births as per Sample Registration Survey Report 2016 and we are committed to reduce it to 20 by 2022.

**129.** Besides Medical Colleges, my Government is continuously upgrading District Hospitals by equipping them with best facilities. We have spent ₹ 28 crore on new building of Deen Dayal Upadhaya Hospital at Shimla which will be ready for use very shortly. This Hospital has been provided with modern and modular accessories. The complex will further be provided with infection controlled operation theatres and bedside oxygen gas points at an approximate cost of ₹ 7 crore during 2017-18.

Dialysis services are being provided at Dharamsala, Mandi, Solan and Kullu and will be extended to other districts.

Level-1 Trauma Centre facilities will be established at IGMC Shimla. This Centre will have 40 beds and 2 fully functional operation theatres with CT, MRI and other related facilities. This Centre will be made functional in 2017-18.

- **130.** A Super Speciality block will be established at Shurala (Chamyana) Shimla with a cost of ₹ 290 crore. This Block will have 283 beds (including 50 ICUs) and 9 Operation Theatres. This Block will have Super Speciality services under one roof.
- **131.** Under the National Mental Health Programme, a Centre of Excellence for mental health at Dr. Rajinder Prasad

Government Medical College Tanda will be made operational. This will help in treatment of mentally challenged patients within State, who are getting treatment outside the State. A sum of ₹ 32 crore has been approved for this purpose. This Centre will also have a dedicated De-addiction Centre.

I am also happy to announce that a Medical University will be opened in District Mandi. This University will conduct exams of medical colleges and nursing colleges etc. in the State.

- **132.** The Children are our future and their health is of paramount importance. Anaemia is prevalent in children which affects their physical as well as mental development. We are providing Iron Folic Acid tablets to all the children of age group 6 to 18 years studying in Government and Government aided schools. In 2017-18, we will provide in private schools also.
- disease and is a major global public health problem. I propose to start "governal are via france" to more or less eradicate this disease by 2021 in the State. This will put Himachal Pradesh on the path to total TB elimination. Himachal Pradesh will become the first State in India to achieve this distinction. The objective of this scheme will be to detect every T.B. patient and provide high quality treatment to every patient. We will be taking preventive, investigative and curative measures on a campaign mode by extensive IEC activities, active case findings, door to door case follow ups and nutritional support to the patients to enhance their immunity. The State Government will stress upon mobile text messaging and biometric based system to improve

adherence to Tuberculosis treatment. We will also take support of experts from outside.

May I say Here,

## "यदि अन्धकार से लड़ने का, संकल्प कोई कर लेता है । तो एक अकेला जुगनू भी, सब अन्धकार हर लेता है ।।"

**134.** Speaker Sir, over the years the non-communicable diseases of which Cancer is considered to be the most serious has increased tremendously. Cancer treatment especially chemo-therapy is quite costly and unaffordable to economically poor and marginalized population. There is a need to provide cancer care treatment to all citizens in the State through Public Health Institutions. We wish to start radiation treatment at RPGMC Tanda, which is currently available only at IGMC Shimla. We will set up tertiary Cancer Care Centre in Shimla and Mandi Districts at the cost of ₹ 45 crore.

Recently we have established Chemo-therapy services in five Districts i.e. Mandi, Dharamsala, Hamirpur, Solan and Una. The similar facilities will be extended to all District Hospitals in phased manner. I am happy to announce to increase the critical care package for Cancer patients from ₹ 1 lakh 75 thousand to ₹ 2 lakh 25 thousand under "Swasthya Bima Yojna."

Speaker Sir, May say here;

"ये राहें ले ही जाएंगी मंजिल तक हीसला रख । कभी सुना है कि अन्धेरे ने सवेरा होने ना दिया ॥" **135.** Online Patient Registration System on the analogy of IGMC will be introduced in all major hospitals in the State.

It is proposed that the Contractual General Duty Officers (Doctors) pursuing PG courses will be given allowances/ emoluments at par with the stipend of the direct candidates.

We will be providing free treatment to Haemophilic patients by providing free Anti Haemophilic Factor (AHF) at designated free centre in Hospitals.

Speaker Sir, Diabetes is spreading very fast. Type-I diabetes affect children, mostly from low socio-economic background. Insulin for these Type-I children is like oxygen for human beings as they cannot survive without it. Therefore, I announce that free of cost, Insulin to Type-I diabetes patients upto the age of 18 years, will be provided in Government Hospitals.

To provide Affordable Medicines & Reliable Implants for Treatment to general public, AMRIT Pharmacy will be started at Indira Gandhi Medical College Shimla, Dr. RP Govt. Medical College Tanda Distt. Kangra and Dr.Y.S.P.G.Medical College Nahan. The new medical colleges and district Hospital will also be covered.

I propose an outlay of ₹ 1,720 crore for Health and Medical Education Department.

**136.** Speaker Sir, Ayurveda Department is playing an important role in providing better health services in far flung areas through its wide institutional network. Government has opened 38 new Ayurvedic Health Centres.

School adoption programme will be implemented in different phases. In first phase, the Ayurveda experts will

Ayurveda.

sensitize the students in every District by delivering lectures on the healthy life style and focus on Health Management rather than on Disease Management. In the second phase, the medicinal plants will be cultivated on the vacant land available in the Schools.

I propose a budget allocation of ₹ 244 crore for Ayurveda during 2017-18.

Women & Child Development.

**137.** Speaker Sir, on 8th of March was International Women's Day and I take this opportunity to extend my warm greetings and good wishes to all women in the State.

May I say here;

"नारी के बिना देश का उत्थान कहाँ।।
पड़चान कहां और है सम्मान कहाँ।।
नारी की महता को समझना होगा ।
नारी के बिना पूर्ण है इन्सान कहाँ।।"

My Government is committed to provide an environment of dignity, equality, safety and security to women in the State. The Department is working for the social and economical upliftment of women and children for their physical and mental growth in a conducive atmosphere and for protection of their rights.

138. The State Government has reduced stamp duty on 21st June.2016 from 6 percent for males to 3 percent for females for purchase of built up house for residential purpose. Now, I am happy to announce that 3 percent stamp duty will be charged in favour of women for even purchase of land for residential purpose upto 500 square metres.

I am also pleased to announce to provide 25 thousand induction plates to the BPL women under the new "गृह कर्जा द्वाता योजना" with the objective of energy conservation.

The State Government is providing an assistance of ₹ 3,000 per annum per child to destitute/ widow women upto two children under "Mother Teresa Matri Ashraya Sambal Yojna." I am happy to raise it to ₹ 4,000 per annum with a budget provision of ₹ 9 crore.

139. Under "Beti Hai Anmol Yojna," BPL families with two girls are provided a scholarship up to school level. I announce to extend the scholarship scheme up to graduation level.

The Government has launched Muskan Campaign in the State to tackle the issue of female foeticide and low sex ratio at birth alongwith all issues related to the life cycle of a girl child. We will continue a special drive to effectively implement the Pre-natal Diagnostic Technique Act. I announce to provide ₹ 10 lakh additional grant to 15 Panchayats in the State having the best female birth rate relative to male birth rate under "Panchayat Balika Gaurav Puruskar" scheme.

- **140.** We have amended the "**Mukhya Mantri Bal Udhar Yojna-2016**" by making a provision for career counselling, higher education and after care services to supplementing centrally sponsored integrated child protection schemes (ICPS).
- **141.** Most of the adolescent girls are facing problems like mainstreaming into formal/informal education system,

eradication of iron deficiency, anaemia and malnourishment, skill upgradation and orientation to self employment. I announce a new comprehensive "मुख्यमन्त्री किशोरी समग्र विकास योजना" to eradicate the multidimensional problems of adolescent girls in the State.

**142.** I also propose to increase the authorized share capital of Himachal Mahila Vikas Nigam from present ₹10 crore to ₹ 15 crore, so that women can get liberal credit for various avocations.

I propose a total budget outlay of ₹ 418 crore for Women and Child Development Department in 2017-18.

SC/OBC & Minorities Affairs.

**143.** Speaker Sir, the well being and empowerment of the deprived classes is of utmost importance to this Government. Priority has been given to schemes addressing their basic needs.

The Himachal Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation provides loan at a concessional rate of interest to eligible beneficiaries for approved schemes. I announce the enhancement of limit of Block Government Guarantee from ₹ 20 crore to ₹ 30 crore for cheaper loan provision.

- **144.** Under disability marriage scheme, marriage grant is given only when both the spouses are permanent resident of Himachal Pradesh. The scheme will be liberalized to provide the benefit to a disabled person of Himachal Pradesh, if he or she marries with person from outside the State also.
- **145.** State Government is providing social security pension to 3 lakh 89 thousand 168 persons under various pension

schemes. In our manifesto, we promised to raise the social security pension to ₹ 600 in five years. We achieved this milestone in three years. I raised social security pension from ₹ 600 to ₹ 650 per month in the last budget. Thus in the last four years my Government has increased the social security pension from ₹ 450 to ₹ 650 per month. Now, I am happy announce to increase it further to ₹ 700 per month.

We are providing pension to mentally retarded persons with income limit of ₹ 35 thousand per annum. Speaker sir, Mentally retarded needs special care. Therefore, I am happy to announce that pension to all the mentally retarded persons will be provided without any income limit. This will benefit nearly 9 thousand such persons in the State.

The pension to the persons having disabilities 70 percent and above and persons aged 80 years and above without any income criteria who are not getting any type of pension was increased from ₹ 450 to ₹ 1,200 per month. I announce to increase it further to ₹ 1,250 per month. I propose a budget provision of ₹ 410 crore for social security pension in 2017-18.

Speaker Sir,

## "कैसे कह दूं कि थक गया हूँ मैं । न जाने किस-किस का हौसला हूँ मैं ।।"

**146.** We have improved skill up-gradation with placement schemes of the department and we will provide skill training to SC, OBC, Minority, Disabled, Single Woman, Widows and Deserted women for increasing their employability. A Skill Development Scheme on Computer Application is also running successfully. In 2017-18, we will target 2,000 youth for skilling and placement under both these schemes.

**147.** The State Government has been focusing on employment of disabled in the State. I am happy to announce to increase reservation of Persons With Disabilities from existing 3 percent to 4 percent in Government jobs in 2017-18.

We are the first State to take special action towards the rehabilitation of Persons With Disabilities in the Private Sector. The State Government will institutionalize this unique effort in 2017-18 by formulating a Comprehensive Action Plan for providing job and training opportunities in the private sector and through self employment.

I propose ₹ 498 crore for SCs, OBCs & Minority Affairs Department for 2017-18.

Tribal Development.

148. I am very pleased to announce that the applicability of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 has been suspended for a period of two years in the scheduled areas of the State for the purpose of implementation of the Himachal Pradesh Nautor Rules, 1968 and also for carrying out essential developmental activities. This will enable grant of Pattas in scheduled areas. All eligible cases of Nautor will be sanctioned in 2017-18.

Equitable and balance development of scheduled areas and welfare of tribal people continues to be top priority of the State Government. With a view to achieve this objective an outlay of ₹513 crore is being allocated under Tribal Sub-Plan during 2017-18 which is 9 percent of the total State Plan.

I propose a total budget allocation for tribal areas to be ₹ 1,440 crore including the Non-Plan.

Welfare of Ex-Servicemen & Freedom Fighters.

**149.** The Government has enhanced the one time lumpsum grant to the recipients of Gallantry Award Winners. Exgratia grant has been enhanced from ₹ 3 lakh to ₹ 5 lakh. ₹ 8 crore has been provided for the construction of War Memorial Museum at Dharamshala.

Speaker Sir, we owe our freedom to our freedom fighters. I therefore propose to enhance the Samman Rashi of Freedom Fighters from ₹ 10 thousand to ₹ 15 thousand per month and grant for performing the last rites of freedom fighters from ₹ 15 thousand to ₹ 25 thousand. I also propose to enhance Samman Rashi to widows of freedom fighters from ₹ 5 thousand to ₹ 15 thousand per month. I also propose to increase the marriage grant of the daughters of the freedom fighters from ₹ 21 thousand to ₹ 31 thousand.

Speaker Sir, may I say it here;

"हुनर अपना दिखाने का सदा अवसर नहीं आता । लहू अपना बहाने का सदा अवसर नहीं आता ।। बहुत आते हैं यूँ अवसर जवां मरदी दिखाने के । वतन पर जान लुटाने का सदा अवसर नहीं आता ।।"

**150.** Speaker Sir, maintenance of Law and Order in the State is one of our prime concerns. Law and Order situation remained peaceful during 2016-17.

Home/Law & Order.

My Government is determined to make use of technology for crime investigation to match with modern methods. We will be providing lie detector /brain mapping equipments in the Directorate of Forensic Science Junga.

I propose to establish a Technical Training Centre at Shimla with a cost of ₹ 5 crore.

We are implementing Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) in all police stations.

- **151.** Speaker Sir, Our Government is committed to the safety and security of women. Women Police Stations at Baddi and Kullu have been made functional during 2016-17. Three more Women Police Stations will be established at Nahan, Una and Bilaspur during 2017-18.
- **152.** I propose to establish Fire Posts at Karsog in Mandi District and Shillai in Sirmour District during 2017-18.

The State Government will provide ₹ 10 crore for construction of building of National Law University in 2017-18.

I propose to provide ₹ 30 crore for Police Housing in 2017-18. Further ₹ 6 crore is proposed for construction/renovation of Police Stations.

I propose to provide ₹ 1 crore for construction of Advocate's /Bar Rooms.

I propose a total budget outlay of ₹ 1,239 crore for the Department of Home i.e. Police, Home Guards, Fire Services and Prisons.

Treasuries.

**153.** The State Government is committed to welfare of pensioners of the State. AADHAR linked e-pension verification system will be rolled out to facilitate annual verification of the pensioners. The department will also roll out e-Bill system in all treasuries covering all DDOs of the State. This will make interaction of all DDOs with treasuries

completely online. The interface with banks will also be online thereby ensuring electronic fund transfer.

I am also pleased to inform that the World Bank has agreed to finance "Public Financial Management Capacity Building Project" to improve the efficiency of public expenditure management and tax administration in the state with an outlay of ₹ 240 crore.

**154.** My Government is very keen to provide social security net to the economically weaker sections as MNREGA workers, farm labourers, farmers horticulturists, shopkeepers, shop workers, Anganwari workers and other un-organized sector workers etc. With an objective to encourage enrolment under Atal Pension Yojna, my Government was one of the frontline States in the country which decided to co-contribute 50 percent contribution made by a subscriber upto ₹ 1,000 per annum, to eligible account holders in 2015-16.

Social Security for Unorganized Sectors.

Under this scheme, 16 thousand 119 subscribers had been enrolled upto March, 2016 in the State. Himachal Pradesh Government co-contribution was over ₹ 1 crore in the Accounts of Subscribers under Atal Pension Yojna.

To encourage more people to open pension accounts under this scheme, I announce the increase in upper ceiling of Himachal Pradesh Government co-contribution from ₹ 1,000 to ₹ 2,000 per subscriber. The State Government will contribute upto 50 percent of subscribers contribution of his pension account upto ₹ 2,000. I propose a budget provision of ₹ 10 crore for this purpose.

**155.** Speaker Sir, employees are a very important instrument of Governance.

Employees' Welfare Pensioners' Welfare.

We will fill up more than 19 thousand functional posts namely; Assistant Professors(Colleges) 200, PGTs 500, TGTs 1,700, C&V(i.e. OT, LT, DM, PET) 1,500, Part-time Water Carriers 3000, Patwari candidates 1,100, Doctors 300, Nurses 400, paramedics/FHW 1,000 (including 75 Radiographers), Ayurvedic Doctors 100, Ayurvedic Pharmacists 100, Veterinary Doctors 100, Veterinary Pharmacists 200, Animal Husbandry Attendants 250, Assistant Engineers 100, Junior Engineers 400, Surveyors 200, Junior Draftsman 200, Pump Operators 250, Fitters 210, Horticulture/ Agriculture Development Officers 150, Horticulture/Agriculture Extension Officer- 250 Police Constables 1,200, Range Forest Officers, 50, Forest Guards 465, Panchayat Sahayaks 200 Junior Office Assistants(IT) 2000, Coaches 30, Firemen 35, Driver-cum-Pump Operators 15, Water Guards 1000, Part-time Sweepers 500 and 1,500 other posts in various departments.

**156.** Despite financial constraints, we have been extending due benefits to our employees from time to time. My Government has always been sympathetic to employees and pensioners.

In the previous budget, I had announced enhancement of emoluments by 50 percent of the Grade Pay of the contract employees, which was a substantial relief. Now, I am happy to raise it to 75 percent of Grade pay in 2017-18 for the contract employees. This involves an outgo of ₹ 40 crore per annum. Contract employees completing 5 years on 31st March, 2017 will be regularised. Further, contract employees who complete 5 years service on 30th September, 2017 will also be regularized in due course. Cut-

off date for regularization will also be revised for the daily wagers and part timers to March and September 2017. The Tailoring Teachers appointed by the Rural Development Department will be regularized.

During the tenure of my Government, as per our election manifesto, daily wage has been increased from ₹ 150 to ₹ 200. The daily wage will now be increased to ₹ 210, giving benefit of ₹ 300 per month to such workers.

Honorarium of Water Guards will be increased from ₹ 1,500 to ₹ 1,700 per month. I propose to increase Grant-in-aid for Panchayat Chowkidars from ₹ 2,050 to ₹ 2,350 and Tailoring Teachers of Gram Panchayats from ₹ 2,300 to ₹ 2,600 per month. The ASHA workers who are provided incentives, based on activities would be provided at least ₹ 1,000 per month.

The remuneration of SMC Teachers will also be enhanced by 30 percent.

The Cook-cum-helpers engaged under Mid-day-meal scheme are being paid ₹ 1,000 per month as fixed by Government of India. I propose to provide an additional ₹ 200 Per month from the State Government funds, benefitting 22,500 such persons.

The Anganwari Workers and helpers are being provided additional honorarium by the State Government, in addition to the honorarium fixed by the Government of India under ICDS scheme. This additional honorarium was increased by the State Government in 2014-15 from ₹ 300 to ₹ 450 per month for Anganwari workers and from ₹ 200 to ₹ 300 for Anganwari Helpers. I am happy to announce that

this additional honorarium of Anganwari Workers will be increased from ₹ 450 to ₹ 1,000 and for Helper from ₹ 300 to ₹ 600 per month benefitting 36 thousand 800 such workers.

I also announce that suitable policy will be prepared for Computer Teachers and Outsourced employees within a month.

The State Government recognizes the need for adequate residential accommodation for Government employees. Existing houses also need maintenance. I propose to provide ₹ 45 crore for construction of new residences for the Government employees. I also propose to provide ₹ 20 crore budget for repair of Government residences. I propose an outlay of ₹10 crore for construction of Tehsil/Sub-Tehsil and Revenue Housing.

My Government accords top priority to employees and pensioners benefits. I am happy to announce an additional Dearness Allowance of 3 percent to regular employees in the pre revised scales, from July, 2016, in addition to the 2 percent DA already released from July, 2016 This increase will be paid with the salary of April 2017. Increased Dearness Relief of 3 percent will also be released to the State Government pensioners. Government will bear an additional expenditure of ₹ 180 crore on this account.

I am happy to announce additional Interim Relief of 4 percent on basic pay/basic pension to Regular State Employees/pensioners from 1st August, 2017. This will benefit employees/ pensioners to the tune of ₹ 260 crore per annum. This Interim Relief will be absorbed in future

pay/pension revision. I am sure this decision will cheer up all the employees and pensioners.

Fixed Medical Allowance of employees/pensioners is proposed to be increased from ₹ 350 to ₹ 400 per month. Capital Allowance will be increased from ₹ 275 to ₹ 400 per month. Tribal Allowance of employees will be increased from ₹ 300 to ₹ 450 per month. I also announce increase in Ration Allowance of Police personnel from ₹ 180 to ₹ 210 per month.

There are thousands of Class-IV employees in the State. I am happy to announce to increase the washing allowance from ₹ 30 per month to ₹ 60 per month.

Speaker Sir,

# "मैंने समन्दर से सीखा है, जीने का सलीका । चुपचाप से बहना, और अपनी मौज में रहना ।।"

157. Speaker Sir, now I come to the Macro Budget Estimates for 2017-18 and Revised Estimates for 2016-17. As per the Revised Estimates for 2016-17, the Revenue Deficit will be 0.75 per cent and Fiscal Deficit will be 4.23 per cent of GSDP. In 2017-18, the Revenue Deficit will be 0.73 percent and Fiscal Deficit will be 3.50 percent of GSDP. As required by the FRBM Act, I am separately presenting the Medium Term Fiscal Plan of the State Government for the period-2017-18 to 2020-21. The full details of the next year's budget are available in the comprehensive budget documents being tabled in this August House.

**158.** The Total Budget Expenditure estimated for 2017-18 is ₹ 35,783 crore, out of which Estimated Expenditure on

Budget Estimates.

Salaries is ₹ 9,628 crore, on Pensions it would be ₹ 4,950 crore, Estimated Interest Payments would be ₹ 3,500 crore, and Loan Repayments are expected to be ₹ 3,105 crore apart from ₹ 448 crore on other Loans and ₹ 2,311 crore on Maintenance.

- **159.** As per Budget Estimates for 2017-18, the Total Revenue Receipts are estimated at ₹27,714 crore and the Total Revenue Expenditure is estimated to be ₹28,755 crore with a Revenue Deficit of ₹1,041 crore. The Expected Receipts in capital Account of the Government are ₹6,164 crore apart from ₹1,200 crore in Public Account including Provident Fund, etc. Capital Expenditure including Loan Repayments is estimated to be ₹7,028 crore. The fiscal deficit for 2017-18 is likely to be ₹4,946 crore.
- **160.** Thus, as per the Budget Estimates, against an expenditure of every 100 rupees, the State will have ₹ 77.45, as the Total Receipts including Transfers from the Central Government excluding Loans. The gap of ₹ 22.55 will be met by borrowings. Out of every 100 rupees of State revenue receipts, ₹ 28.67 will accrue from Own Tax Revenues, ₹ 5.78 from Non-Tax Revenues, ₹ 17.39 from Share in Central Taxes and ₹ 48.16 from Central Grants. Out of every 100 rupees spent, Salaries will account for ₹ 26.91, Pensions for ₹ 13.83, Interest Payments for ₹ 9.78, Loan Repayments for ₹ 9.93 and the remaining ₹ 39.55 will be spent on Developmental Works.

Highlights

- **161.** Speaker Sir, I would like to summarise the main highlights of this budget :—
- All Departments will continue to undertake exercise to delegate and simplify procedures to reduce the requirement of people to visit Government offices.

- MLAs can pose developmental schemes under RIDF upto 80 crore to NABARD.
- \* "Vidhayak Kshetriya Vikas Nidhi" increased to ₹ 1crore 10 lakh.
- "Software Technology Park" to be set up in Shimla and in Kangra District.
- ❖ ₹ 220 crore proposed for State Food Subsidy scheme.
- World Bank aided Horticulture Development Project of ₹ 1,134 crore will be made operational in 2017-18.
- New "मुख्यमन्त्री किवी प्रोत्साहन योजना" launched with provision of ₹ 4 crore.
- ❖ ₹ 12 crore provided to orchardists/farmers for subsidy on power sprayers, power tillers and other equipments.
- New scheme launched to provide subsidy on plastic crates.
- New Nursery promotion scheme launched.
- 40 percent subsidy to youth for establishing Soil Testing Labs.
- The Subsidy under "Mukhya Mantri Khet Sanrakshan Yojna" enhanced from 60 percent to 80 percent with a budget provision of ₹ 30 crore.
- Covered area for construction of poly houses raised from 2,000 to 4,000 square meters for subsidy purpose.

- New "Mukhya Mantri Green House Renovation Scheme" launched for replacement of polysheets.
- New "मुख्यमन्त्री जैविक खेती पुरस्कार योजना" proposed.
- ❖ ₹ 7 crore provided for "Uttam Chara Utpadan Yojna."
- ₹ 10 crore earmarked for bore well etc. with 50 percent subsidy.
- ❖ ₹ 50 crore provided for promotion of offseason and exotic vegetables.
- Veterinary Diagnostic facilities to be provided at poly clinics and Sub-Divisional veterinary hospitals.
- ❖ New "उत्तम पशु पुरस्कार योजना" launched.
- New scheme to provide 60 percent Subsidy on Breeding Rams.
- Procurement price of wool increased by 10 percent.
- New "कृषक वकरी पालन योजना" launched with a provision of 60 percent subsidy.
- ❖ 60 percent subsidy under New "5,000 -Broiler Scheme."
- \* "Panchayat Pashudhan Purskar Yojna" with a budget provision of ₹ 7.80 crore.
- Milk procurement price enhanced by ₹ 1 per litre.

- ❖ 75 percent subsidy for setting up of Milk Processing and Chilling Plants by Dairy Co-operative Societies.
- 100 trout units to be constructed.
- ❖ ₹ 800 crore new H.P. Forest Eco-System Management and Livelihood Project and new ₹ 1,300 crore H.P. Forests for Prosperity to be started.
- A permanent bird ringing station to be established at Ramsar Wetland site, Pong Dam.
- Six Bio-diversity tourism parks will be developed at Kanlog, Sarahan, Kasol, Dharamshala, Paonta Sahib and Mandi.
- Pollution Control Board to support 10 Municipal Committees/Nagar Panchayats in Urban Solid Waste Management.
- Regional Laboratory will be established in Shimla to check water and air quality and District level in Districts.
- New "Mukhya Mantri Rural Livelihood Scheme" started to provide livelihood to rural youth.
- Additional ₹ 42 crore will be provided to Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samitis for development.
- New "Mukhya Mantri Rural Road Repair Scheme" with a budget provision of ₹ 20 crore.
- ❖ 115 crore provided for various housing schemes.
- ❖ ₹ 50 crore earmarked under AMRUT scheme.

- 50 percent grant to Urban Local Bodies for construction of parking and 60 percent subsidy for development of public parks.
- Online map approval/planning permission introduced.
- ₹ 260 crore kept for Disaster Management.
- ❖ ₹ 160 crore kept for completion of 160 Drinking Water Supply and 70 Irrigation Schemes in 2017-18.
- ❖ ₹ 670 crore new project to cover leftout habitation with assistance of BRICS Bank.
- ❖ ₹ 75 crore kept for Command Area Development works.
- ❖ ₹ 450 crore of energy charges to be borne by the State Government for drinking water and irrigation facilities.
- Government has provided ₹ 2,890 crore of loan to HPSEBL to repay high cost debts, which will save ₹ 90 crore of interest payment per annum to HPSEBL.
- ❖ ₹ 450 crore provided for subsidizing electricity to domestic consumers.
- Change of land use for service industries to be allowed in all industrial areas.

- Two State of Art Industrial areas in Pandoga and Kandrori will be made functional.
- ❖ ₹ 10 crore provided for "State Mission on Food Processing."
- New "Integrated Scheme for Development of Handloom and Handicraft" scheme started.
- ₹ 53 crore earmarked for modern training equipments
   for 50 ITIs.
- ❖ ₹ 52 crore proposed to establish 6 City Livelihood
  Centres and 4 Rural Livelihood Centres.
- "Graduate Ad-on Programme" will be started to improve the employment potential of the youth.
- Unemployment Allowance to be given to the youth having 10+2 and above qualifications at the rate of ₹ 1,000 and ₹ 1,500 for disabled per month with a budget provision of ₹150 crore.
- ❖ 100 crore kept for "Skill Development Allowance
  Scheme."
- Construction workers to be provided grant for LPG connections and scholarship for children for professional courses.
- ❖ ₹ 265 crore equity and grant-in-aid to HRTC.
- Lakkar Bazar Bus Stand to be re-allocated to Dhalli.

- ❖ ₹ 4 crore will be provided to develop two more Transport Nagars.
- 1,000 new bus permits will be given to unemployed youth.
- Second phase of State Road Project of ₹ 750 crore to be started.
- ₹ 50 crore for road safety.
- ❖ 380 kilometre motorable roads and 30 bridges will be constructed and 500 kilometre of new roads will be metalled and tarred in 2017-18.
- ❖ ₹ 50 crore will be provided under "Mukhya Mantri Sadak Yojna."
- A self assessment scheme for dealers having turnover of ₹ 2 crore to be framed.
- Lump-sum tax payment scheme for traders upto a turnover of ₹ 40 lakh.
- Entry Tax to be reduced from 1 percent to half percent for existing industries also.
- Additional Good Tax on iron, steel and plastic goods will be reduced.
- The revised rates of electricity duty for new industries will also be extended to new Hotels.
- For enhancement of learning ability, New "Prerna Plus" and "Prayas Plus" schemes for students.

- Government Polytechnics at Rehan and Basantpur to be made operational in 2017-18.
- Cultural Centre for Tourists will be developed at Bantony Castle.
- ❖ ₹ 15 crore provided for the construction of Indoor Auditorium.
- Grant-in-aid to voluntary organizations for cultural activities raised to ₹ 40 thousand.
- Grant for youth Clubs enhanced from ₹ 25 thousand to ₹ 35 thousand.
- ❖ 15 crore provided for construction of Multipurpose Indoor Complexes.
- New "मुख्यमन्त्री खेल विकास योजना" launched to develop 68 playgrounds in the State.
- ❖ 1 crore provided for "Patrakar Kalyan Yojna."
- Super Speciality Block will be established at Shurala (Chamayana) with a cost of ₹ 290 crore.
- Medical University to be set up in District Mandi.
- Iron folic acid tablets to be provided in private schools also.
- New scheme to provide free Insulin to Type-I diabetes patients upto 18 years of age.
- New "मुख्यमन्त्री क्षय रोग निवारण योजना" launched to eradicate this disease by 2021.

- Special efforts to develop cancer treatment facility in the State. Critical Care Package for cancer patients enhanced from ₹ 1 lakh 75 thousand to ₹ 2 lakh 25 thousand.
- AMRIT pharmacy to be opened in Medical Colleges and District Hospitals.
- ❖ 25 thousand Induction plates will be provided to BPL women under New "गृह ऊर्जा द्वता योजना".
- Assistance per child raised to ₹ 4,000 under "Mother Teresa Matri Ashraya Sambal Yojna"
- \* "Panchayat Balika Gaurav Purskar Yojna" with a budget provision of ₹ 1 crore 50 lakh.
- A new "मुख्यमन्त्री किशोरी समग्र विकास योजना" launched to eradicate the multidimensional problems of adolescent girls.
- Stamp duty reduced from 6 percent to 3 percent for the purchase of land for residential purpose by women.
- Social Security pension to be enhanced from ₹ 650 per month to ₹ 700 per month.
- Pension to be provided to all mentally retarded children /adults without any income limit.
- The pension of persons aged 80 years and above increased from ₹ 1,200 to ₹ 1,250 per month.

- Reservation quota for Persons with Disabilities proposed to be increased from 3 percent to 4 percent in Government jobs.
- Nautor to be sanctioned in all the scheduled areas of the State.
- Samman Rashi of freedom fighters increased from ₹
   10, 000 to ₹ 15,000.
- Samman Rashi to widows of freedom fighters increased from ₹ 5,000 to ₹ 15,000.
- Marriage grant for the daughters of freedom fighters enhanced from ₹ 21,000 to ₹ 31,000.
- Women police stations will be established at Una, Nahan and Bilaspur.
- Fire posts in Karsog and Shillai to be established during the year.
- ❖ 10 crore will be provided for construction of building
  of National Law University.
- ₹ 30 crore for police housing and ₹ 6 crore for repair.
- ❖ 1 crore for construction of Advocate's /Bar Rooms.
- ₹ 2,000 co-contribution under "Atal Pension Yojna."
- More than 19 thousand functional posts to be filled up in various departments.
- Emoluments of contract employees enhanced from
   50 percent to 75 percent of grade pay.

- Cut off date for regularization for contract, Daily wagers and part timers will be revised to March and September, 2017.
- Daily wages increased to ₹ 210.
- Output
   Output
   Honorarium of Water Guards will be increased from
   ₹ 1,500 to ₹ 1,700 per month.
- Grant-in-aid of Panchayat Chowkidars will be increased from ₹ 2,050 to ₹ 2,350 per month.
- Grant-in-aid of Panchayat Tailoring Teachers will be increased from ₹ 2,300 to ₹ 2,600 per month.
- MDM cook-cum-helpers will be paid ₹ 200 per month extra from State Exchequer.
- Additional State Honorarium of Anganwari workers will be increased from ₹ 450 to ₹ 1,000 per month.
- Additional State Honorarium of Anganwari helpers will be increased from ₹ 300 to ₹ 600 per month.
- Policy for Computer Teachers and Outsourced employees within a month.
- 3 percent Dearness Allowance will be provided to regular employees and pensioners of State Government from July, 2016.
- Additional Interim Relief 4 percent of the basic pay will be provided for regular Government Employees and pensioners from August, 2017.

- Fixed Medical Allowance of regular Government Employees will be increased from ₹ 350 to ₹ 400 per month.
- Capital Allowance will be increased from ₹ 275 to
   ₹ 400 per month.
- ❖ Tribal Allowance will be increased from ₹ 300 to ₹ 450 per month.
- Ration Allowance of Police personnel will be increased from ₹ 180 to ₹ 210 per month.
- Washing Allowance of Class-IV Employees will be increased from ₹ 30 per month to ₹ 60 per month.
- ❖ ₹ 10 crore for construction of Tehsil/ Sub-Tehsil and Revenue Housing.
- ₹ 45 crore provided for construction of new residences
   for the Government employees and ₹ 20 crore for repair.
- The budget for 2017-18 proposed for ₹ 35,783 crore.

162. Speaker Sir, I have briefly touched upon the major developmental initiatives proposed in 2017-18. The complete details of all these schemes are mentioned in the budget documents presented in this August House. The vision of my Government has been undeniably clear. We have been true to our motto of development with care and compassion. We have tirelessly pursued the goal of balanced growth of economy by simultaneously widening the social safety net and significantly boosting public and private

Conclusion.

investment. The Budget 2017-18 has a dream, vision and roadmap to take Himachal Pradesh to further heights of glory and growth with equity. Despite the overall financial constraints, the four years of this Government will be recorded in the History of our State as an era of unprecedented achievements.

This Budget reflects our priorities. It expresses our aspirations. I am confident that this Budget will herald greater prosperity and all round progress for the people, making the State the most forward-looking, innovative and progressive in the Country.

With the following lines, Speaker Sir, I commend this Budget to this August House.

"रास्ते कहां खत्म होते हैं, जिन्दगी के सफर में । मंजिल तो वहीं है, जहां ख्वाहिशें थम जाएं ।।"

Jai Hind

Jai Himachal.