



BUDGET SPEECH

2014-15

By

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FINANCE MINISTER

GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA

19th February 2014

Mr. Speaker Sir,

With your kind permission, I rise to present the Budget for the year 2014-15.

2. I express my deep sense of grief and pay homage to the security personnel, who lost their lives in defence of the unity and integrity of the country. I also pay homage to the peace loving innocent citizens who lost their lives in the disturbances caused by fundamentalist and secessionist forces.

3. The crisis of capitalism which started in the year 2007-08 is still persisting. The reduced expenditure under social sector in these countries in the wake of this economic crisis imposed heavy burden on the common people. Majority of Latin American countries including socialist countries have rejected the policy of liberalization and by implementing alternative economic policies have shown the way.

4. Our own country is facing a deep economic crisis in the process of implementation of the policy of globalization and liberalization. The strategic alliance with United States was reflected in domestic

economic policy putting common people to innumerable hardship. We have witnessed a number of major scams in which the political leaders, high officials and corporate bodies are involved. A parallel economy is running with black money stashed in both inside and outside the country. I urge upon the Central Government to conduct enquiry into the major financial scams to punish the guilty and also take steps for unearthing the black money.

5. The countrymen in general and the working class in particular have been adversely affected by hyper inflation particularly in food prices. The country's economic progress has been weakened. Agrarian crisis continue unabated. Agriculture has become un-remunerative. The plight of agricultural workers has been deteriorating fast. The policy of the Central Government to encourage Corporate farming will further endanger the agricultural scenario. There has been tremendous reduction in the rate of employment. The policy of liberalization nurtured by the Union Government is being carried forward with disinvestments in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), opening up of Pharmaceutical Industries to the multi-national companies, opening the retail sector to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), facilitating entry of private foreign institutions / investors into insurance, university, media sectors. The policies of Central Government have been

resulting in widening gap between rich and the poor due to income disparities. Because of this policy the big business houses, corporate bodies and urban rich are becoming the major beneficiaries. Numbers of billionaires are also becoming multiple vis-à-vis numbers of poor are also showing increasing trend.

6. Hon'ble Members are aware of the fact that the award of the 13th Finance Commission had adversely impacted on the salaries of employees DA, pension etc. which resulted in deprivation of getting their rightful dues. I have earlier drawn the attention of this House about the financial problem caused due to the Award of the 13th Finance Commission. This year (2014-15) is the last year of the 13th Finance Commission award period. Comparatively in last year of the previous three Finance Commissions, we never came across such low allocation of fund. State Government had already submitted its memorandum to the 14th Finance Commission indicating the flawed recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission and urged to redress the same during next award period so that State Government employees are not deprived of salary and allowances on par with Central Government employees.

7. Our Government has enacted the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act 2005 and has consistently been achieving the targets under the FRBM Act during the 13th Finance Commission award period.

8. The Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of the banks in Tripura State has been continued to be very low. The CD Ratio upto the end of December, 2013 stands at 39% as against 76% at national level though it has improved over corresponding period of last year. The Central Government has taken unilateral decision to provide the direct benefit transfer to the beneficiaries of different social assistance programmes linked with the Adhar and Bank Account. The banks of the Tripura States are lacking proper infrastructure to take up such huge programme. The banks have been requested to open 82 new bank branches and 170 Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) so as to reach the goal of one branch for two thousand people in rural areas in a phased way.

9. The State Government has taken effective steps to protect the interests of the depositors in the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Chit Funds. Many of the NBFCs and Chit Funds were registered outside the State and hence beyond the regulatory powers of

the State Government. The Central Government has not responded to the State Government's request for enacting a comprehensive Central legislation for regulating the NBFCs and Chit Funds to protect the interests of the depositors and investors. After getting the request from State Government, the Central Bureau of Investigation(CBI) being a Central Government Organization has agreed to take up investigation only in few cases and primary investigation has started. The State Government has once again requested Government of India to ask CBI to take up all referred cases. The State Government is quite committed to take all possible steps to protect the interests of the investors.

10. Central Government has resorted to stopping new recruitment, abolition of vacant posts and reduction of the opportunities of employment in Government through outsourcing. Tremendous pressure is exerted to pursue the same policy by imposing different conditionalities on the State Government. Central Government is also continuing with its disinvestment policy in Central PSUs which adversely affected the employment of the jobless youth of the country. The policy of the Left Front Government is quite different. The State Government has been striving its best to expand the employment opportunities in Government sector. The major private industrial investments are not forthcoming due to problems of connectivity

and infrastructure like absence of broad-gauge railway line, poor condition of narrow national highway and absence of modern Airport in the State. Despite this, the State Government has considerable success in medium and small scale industries. The State Government has also filled up few thousand vacant posts despite its meager resources. For providing self-employment, State Government has taken number of effective steps like increased subsidy for Swavalamban.

11. The State Government has introduced the gender budget in the interest of women and girls on the state since financial year 2005-06. Seventeen Departments have been included in this and Rs.813.24 crore has been provided for the purpose as mentioned in the budget at a glance. Self Employment opportunities were provided to women by forming Self-Help Groups. Fifty percent seats have been reserved for women in the Local Bodies. I urge the Central Government to enact the Women Reservation Bill for giving one third reservation for women in the State Legislative Assembly and the Parliament.

12. The Government of Tripura took special initiative for planned development of Agriculture in the State. There have been significant achievements in the field of Agriculture. The effort of the State is

recognized at national level by award of Commendation Award during 2013-14 for the production of foodgrains in 2012-13. Foodgrain production is anticipated to be increased to 7.64 lakh tons during 2013-14 against 7.25 lakh tons during 2012-13. Productivity of Rice is anticipated to be increased to 2965 kg/ ha in 2013-14 in comparison to 2800 kg/ha (2012-13) due to adoption of System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method of Paddy cultivation, increase in fertilizer consumption and adoption of Seed Replacement Rate (SRR) at optimum level of 33%. About, one lakh hectare area is expected to be covered through System of Rice Intensification (SRI) of Paddy in 2013-14. At present, 37.2% of paddy area is cultivated by SRI method contributing 42.1% production of total Rice Production of the State.

13. To sustain the development of Agriculture in Tripura, new intervention has also been initiated to increase the productivity as well as improve net economic return of each farm household through scientific use of current seasonal fallow land and integration of several available and recently developed technologies through Crop Diversification through Pulses, Oilseeds, vegetables & other Crops , timely Sowing /transplanting of Boro Paddy, application of Lime for amelioration of Acidic Soils,

productivity enhancement through adoption of Pulse Based Crop Rotation, setting up Mini Modern Rice Mill to minimize milling loss.

14. The State has also given special thrust for issuing of Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) by the Banks and during current financial year (2013-14), about 1,00,000 nos. KCCs would be issued. The construction works of Cold Storages at Dharmanagar, Udaipur, Khowai and Belonia are in progress. Newly constructed Cold Storages of Amarpur and Ambassa will start from April, 2014.

15. I would request the Central Government to allow subsidies on agri inputs and fix remunerative support price for agricultural crops. The conditions of World Trade Organisation (WTO) on subsidies should not be allowed to come in the way of the Government in protecting the interests of our farmers.

16. In the Horticulture sector, Tripura has implemented a 10 year Perspective Plan (2002-2012) for increasing production of horticultural crops from about 6.62 lakh MT in 2001-02 to 12.00 lakh MT in 2011-12. The target set under the said Plan has already been surpassed. It is proposed to further increase the production to about 23.32 lakh MT by the

terminal year of 12th Five Year Plan and accordingly a "Road Map for Horticulture Development (2013-17)" has been chalked out. Additional area have been brought under cultivation with different fruit crops like Pine apple, Banana, Mango, Papaya, Litchi, Guava, Ber, Mosambi, Lime, Lemon and vegetable crops like Cabbage, Cauliflower, Tomato, Capsicum, hybrid TPS, Brinjal, Carrot, Bhindi, Summer Tomato and Watermelon respectively. Potato is an important crop with huge potential and hence a target of 9000 ha area has been taken to bring under cultivation with potato during 2014-15. The State Government would also promote Micro Irrigation and Protected cultivation during 2014-15 to increase productivity of crops.

17. With a view to attain sustainable growth and self sufficiency in animal origin food- milk, meat and egg, the state is likely to achieve the production level of 1,21,259 MTs in milk, 32,842 MTs in meat and 18.63 crores in the eggs which will translate into per capita availability of 93.10 gm milk per day, 8.93 kg meat per year and 48 eggs per year during 2013-14. Some of the measures envisioned for 2014-15 include artificial insemination of cattle for genetic up-gradation in 1.80 lakh cattle, supply of calf growth meal to 400 heifers, prevention and control of animal diseases and fodder development.

18. The Fishery sector of the State continued to progress in a satisfactory manner during the year 2012-13. The total fish production crossed the target 57460 MTs by achieving 58655 MT during 2012-13. It is expected that total fish production would go up to 61950 tons with per capita availability of 17 kg fish at the end of fiscal 2013-14. It is proposed to continue the efforts for further increase of fish production to ensure per capita availability of fish to 18 kg by the end of 2014-15 and ultimately to reach 20 kg by the end 12th Five Year Plan.

19. In the field of Co-operation, 268 Large Agricultural Multipurpose Society (LAMPS) & Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) will be strengthened by providing fund and managerial support. Four new district cooperative offices and 36 Cooperative circles will be made functional during 2014-15. Efforts will be made to launch Integrated Cooperative Development Project (ICDP) now in execution in South and Gomati Districts in other 3 Districts viz North, Unokoti and Dhalai. Tripura State Cooperative Bank will be Core Banking Enabled in all its branches.

20. Afforestation is an important activity for improvement of environment. Notable among the achievements made during 2013-14 are Afforestation under National Afforestation Programme(NAP) and externally

aided projects of Japan International Co-operation Agency(JICA) & Indo-German Development Co-operation(IGDC) Project. The forestry activities have been implemented through people's participation through Joint Forest Management Committees. For livelihood activities 2813 Self Help Groups (SHGs) are formed, actively involved in value addition and marketing of minor forest produce.

21. In the year 2014-15, afforestation will be done in over 17000 ha with emphasis on barren hilltops & jhum areas. Catchment area treatment of major River systems will be carried out through plantation and soil-water conservation measures.

22. The State Government has already sent a project worth Rs.440 crore to the Central Government for rehabilitation of the traditional forest dwellers who received patta under The Scheduled Tribes & Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006. I urge the Central Government to consider for according approval of the project.

23. Ensuring food security to the citizens is avowed objective of the Government. In order to provide food security to the citizens of the state especially the under-privileged section, the State Scheme for Distribution of

BPL & Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) rice @ Rs.2.00 per Kg. introduced w.e.f. 1st August, 2012 has also been continued during this year by providing subsidy from the State Exchequer benefiting 2.95 lakh BPL/AAY families. Distribution of APL rice at BPL rate @ Rs.6.15 per Kg. introduced w.e.f. 1st June, 2012 for 1.61 lakh Adhoc BPL families was continued during the year. Pursuant to decision of the Central Government for abolishing levy obligation on the Sugar Mills, the State Government has been procuring sugar from open market for distribution of sugar under PDS w.e.f. September, 2013 with State Subsidy. I urge the Government of India to reconsider the decision of Direct Transfer of Benefits for Public Distribution System (PDS) as this will weaken delivery of services under PDS and also arrange for supply of essential commodities like pulses, edible oil, iodized salt at subsidized rates through PDS without distinction between APL and BPL Cardholders.

24. I once again urge the Central Government to take steps to contain galloping inflation in the essential commodities specially medicine, fertilizer products and cooking gas etc. I would urge Government of India to consider universalization of the Public Distribution System and supply of 35 kg. of rice @ Rs.2/- per kg. per family.

25. Providing good connectivity to all the habitations of the state through all weather roads has been the priority of the state government. Under New Connectivity, out of total sanctioned length of 2997 KM, 2464 KM has been completed. In addition more than 500 KM roads have been improved under renewal programme of Bharat Nirman. New connectivity of road length of 643 KM and under up-gradation, improvement of 463 KM roads is expected to be done. Connectivity has already been extended for 6538 habitations and works for 349 habitations are in progress. During the year 2013-14, metalling and carpeting of 125 KM, 8 RCC bridges and about 11 Box/slab culverts were completed under State Plan. Works of about 110 bridges and major culverts are in progress, out of which it is targeted to complete 15 major Bridges by end of March, 2014. During this year, sanction has been accorded for improvement of road from Udaipur to Melaghar with Asian Development Bank (ADB) funding with an outlay of Rs. 80.0 Crores. During the year 2014-15, improvement of 250 KM road length, completion of 25 permanent bridges and taking up 10 new Bridges have been targeted.

26. It has been decided to take up 2-laning of the National Highway NH-44 which can be improved to 4-lane standard subsequently. The maintenance of National Highway has been entrusted to the State

Government. The state government has already issued notification to take over improvement and maintenance of a stretch of NH-44 in between Churaibari and Agartala.

27. I would request the Central Government to take necessary steps for allocation of required fund for upgradation of the existing National Highway to 4 lane and sanction of alternative National Highway from Kukital to Sabroom.

28. The State has envisioned and drawn up an Action Plan for bringing 55% of the cultivable land that is 1,40,383 hectares under irrigation of which an area of 1,12,202 hectares has been brought under irrigation coverage. It is proposed to bring 6411 hectares under irrigation during 2014-15.

29. In flood management, as per status ending March 2013, the department manages operation & maintenance of 140 Km of embankment for protecting of 26500 ha. of land and anti-erosion works for a length of 86 Km for protecting river banks. Action Plan has been drawn up for 6.0 Km New Embankment, 10 km, New Anti-erosion work, 2 Drainage Development works during 2014-15.

30. Provision of drinking water has been the focus of the Government and it achieved remarkable progress in creation of drinking water sources both in the rural and urban areas due to concerted efforts. The success of the Government in provision of drinking water is reflected in reduction of waterborne diseases. The DWS Department has achieved the coverage of drinking water sources in 286 habitations during 2013-14 so far. Drinking water facilities were provided to schools and madrasas taking the total coverage to 4576 schools and Madrassas. Water supply facilities were also provided to Anganwadi Centres taking the total coverage to 9304 Anganwadi Centres out of total 9911 centres so far. Remaining Schools and Anganwadi centres will also be covered during 2013-14. The Government is proposing to cover all habitations without a water source with drinking water source by next year.

31. Tripura has been one of the leading States to universalize the basic sanitation coverage. Action plan has been drawn up for Construction of 90,000 Individual House Hold Latrines (IHHL) for APL & BPL, construction of 1000 toilets for schools, construction of 1200 toilets for Anganwadi Centres, construction of 150 Sanitary complex and 100 Solid & liquid Waste Management Units under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan and fund available

under The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

32. Construction of new motor stand with all modern amenities are in progress at Nagerjala, Khumulwng, Sonamura, Sabroom, Kanchanpur and Kalachara. With the funding of the State Government, construction of office building for the District Transport Offices at Udaipur and Dharmanagar has been taken up. Procurement of 100 new buses under JNNURM with Rs.33.76 crore was sanctioned for Agartala.

33. Construction of railway line from Agartala to Sabroom is getting delayed for want of clearance for diversion of forest land. The State Government has provided 72 acres of land for development of Agartala Airport as an international Airport. The State Government has already urged the Airport Authority of India to take up construction of new terminal building and other infrastructural development works immediately.

34. Significant progress has been made in developing the industrial infrastructure. A Bamboo park is now being established in Bodhjungnagar. Industrial areas are also being developed in different districts. Tripura Bamboo Mission is working for integrated development of Bamboo sector

in Tripura. Tripura State Food Processing Mission has been set up to implement the schemes under National Mission on Food Processing.

35. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) and Swabalamban (State scheme) are being implemented for providing incentives and supportive financial measures to offset limitations of first generation entrepreneurs and promotion of self-employment. It is targeted to cover 1500 beneficiaries under PMEGP and 2500 Nos. under Swabalamban. An Urea Fertilizer Plant would be set up as a joint venture of the State Government, ONGC and Chambal Fertilizer and Chemicals for which MOU was entered. Already 13 (thirteen) Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) are functional in the state including one Ramakrishna Mission ITI set up with funding from State Government. In addition 4 (four) new ITIs are being set up at Kamalpur (Chulubari), Bishramganj, Teliamura and LT Valley (Nalkata). The existing ITIs are being upgraded as Centre of Excellence (CoE) in specific trades.

36. The infrastructure available at Land Customs Stations for trade with Bangladesh is also being upgraded. The Integrated Check Post, Agartala has started functioning with all modern infrastructure facilities for export and import since Nov 2013. Efforts are also on for operationalising 4 (four)

Border Haats for which consent has been received from the Bangladesh Government. Initial works have been started for Kamalasar Border Haat in Sipahijala District and Srinagar Border Haat in South Tripura District.

37. Emphasis is being given for sustainable development of the weavers, artisans and sericulture rearers. The State Govt. is setting up an Urban Haat in Agartala city, with the aim of providing a platform for regeneration of local Handloom and Handicraft products. During the year 2014-15, under Textiles promotion Scheme for North Eastern Region, an amount of Rs.35.00 crore has been projected covering the promotion of silk yarn and fabrics marketing nationally. The construction of Sericulture Training Institute at Champaknagar is in progress and expected to be completed by end of 2014-15.

38. The present peak power demand of the State is 240 MW. After commissioning of Unit – I of Palatana Project, Tripura has become a power surplus State with surplus of 50 MW in peak hours and 100 MW in off peak hours. Evacuation of power has become difficult due to transmission corridor constraints. Efforts are underway to expedite the construction of Monarchak Gas Thermal Power Plant of 104 MW capacity. North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO) has also taken up

construction of 46 MW Combined Cycle Gas Thermal Plant at Ramchandranagar. Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited with the assistance of the State Govt. has already taken up construction of 2(two) Nos. 132 KV Double Circuit transmission lines for evacuation of power from Monarchak Power Project. With a view to reduce transmission & distribution losses, 09 (nine) Extra High Tension (EHT) / High Tension (HT) Sub Stations including 33KV Sub Station at Jampui-hill have been constructed and now in operation. Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen. Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), 569 unelectrified habitations would be electrified in the next two years. Under Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (R-APDRP) scheme, TSECL has already taken up 16 projects for enabling all the consumers meter reading, collection and distribution through use of information technology. Apart from this there is provision for construction of improved new lines and sub-stations as well as renovation and up-gradation of the existing sub-station metering systems. The works are in progress.

39. The State Government attaches priority for over all development of scheduled tribes people. To accelerate the efforts of the state government towards development of scheduled tribes people, Special Package for Welfare of Scheduled Tribes (2013-14 to 2017-18) had been announced by

the Government giving emphasis on infrastructure development like roads, drinking water, irrigation and power, education, economic development and tribal culture.

40. During the year 2013-14, 1,28,592 ST students were supported under various schemes i.e. boarding house stipend, post-matric and pre-matric scholarships, free text books & merit awards etc. Provisions of Scheduled Tribes & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 were implemented successfully in Tripura. So far 1,20,686 Forest Dwellers (individual claims) have been vested with Forest Rights involving 1,69,615.22 hectares of land. The Government has also been implementing several programmes exclusively for particularly Vulnerable Primitive tribal Group – Reang communities with provision of dwelling houses, rehabilitation through rubber and bamboo plantations, livelihood schemes with assistance for rearing of pigs and goats and educational incentives to the meritorious students and coaching to the Primitive Tribal Group (PTG) students.

41. A special package has been announced by the Government for socio-economic development of SCs and OBCs for a period of 5 years from 2013-14. Under the package, all required infrastructure will be provided in

SC and OBC dominated areas in phases for welfare of SCs & OBC. Land and housing will be provided to landless as well as homeless BPL SC / OBC families. For educational development of SC and OBCs two lakh SC and OBC students will be provided with Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship in 2014-15. Vocational training and computer training will be organized for SCs & OBCs for their self-employment.

42. The State Government has been continuously endeavouring to promote economic development of persons belonging to Minorities communities. The State Government has announced 28-point Special Package for Socio- Economic Development of persons belonging to religious minorities of the State to be implemented over five year from 2013-14. Government is giving emphasis to provide adequate educational opportunities and economic development.

43. During 2014-15, the State Government has drawn up plan to ensure payment of scholarship/stipend and other incentives to all eligible Minority students, reduce dropout rates at primary, Secondary and higher secondary levels and vocational training courses for educated unemployed youth. Stipends and Scholarship are proposed to be given to about 46000 minority students. Under income generation schemes 2000 minority

families will be covered. The State Government has recently sanctioned construction of Haj House at Agartala.

44. I would request the Central Government to take suitable steps to provide scope for reservation of Other Backward Classes and religious minorities in educational institutions and jobs by suitably amending the Constitution.

45. The State Government attaches high priority to ensure welfare of children, women, destitute, physically challenged persons and senior citizens. During the 2013-14, Department is implementing 23 social security schemes through which 2,53,256 beneficiaries have been covered. A new scheme was introduced to provide pension to the deserted women under APL category. The rate of pension has been enhanced from Rs.400/- to Rs.500/- in respect of 15 pension schemes and Rs.500/- to Rs.700/- in respect of one scheme. Restructured Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) have been operationalized and the cost norm of supplementary nutrition has also been revised. The Tripura Commission for Child Rights has been constituted and Juvenile Justice Fund has been created. Under National Family Benefit Scheme, 600 families have been assisted @ Rs.20000/- per family.

46. Proper training and tool kits would be provided to the physically challenged persons through vocational rehabilitation centres. The construction of building for Institute of Visually Challenged Persons at Narshingarh would be completed.

47. The Government has made efforts to provide minimum educational infrastructure at primary and secondary levels. For the purpose, 25 new JB Schools were opened, 3 JB Schools upgraded to SB Schools, 12 SB Schools upgraded to High Schools, 13 High Schools to Higher Secondary Schools. Science stream was introduced in 9 HS Schools during the current financial year 2013-14. Total 4606 under graduate Teachers were recruited in January 2014 to remove the shortfall of primary teachers.

48. The Government is going to supply Girls' Bye-cycles to 50,000 girl students reading in Class IX to XII whose annual family income is below Rs.1.25 lakhs under a new scheme launched by the State Government during 2013-14.

49. It is also proposed to upgrade 25 JB Schools to SB Schools, 10 SB Schools to High Schools and 9 High Schools to HS Schools during 2014-15. Science stream will be introduced in 7 HS Schools during 2014-15. Opening

of new Education Inspectorates, development of infrastructure for new District Offices, State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) and 4 District Institutes for Education & Training (DIET) are also planned for next financial year. Skill Development of the neo-literate people is being emphasized. Necessary steps will be taken to further improve Madrassa Education.

50. The Government proposes to set up one State University at MBB College complex. Upgradation of 3 of the existing General Degree Colleges namely Netaji Subhas Mahavidyalaya, Udaipur, Iswarchandra Vidyasagar College, Belonia, Govt. Degree College, Dharmanagar to Model College, will be taken up under Rashtriya Uchatara Siksha Mission (RUSA). Strengthening all the existing Polytechnics with modern equipments & teaching aids is proposed in 2014-15. Khumulwng and Bagbassa Polytechnics will be operationalised in next academic session 2014-15. College of Teacher's Education at Kumarghat will be operationalized from the academic session 2014-15. Three Public Libraries will be set up availing Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation Grant.

51. Games & Sports Promotion in the State, Sports talents searching & nursing them for up gradation of their Skill to the National and

international Standards is an important goal of the State Government. During the year 2013-14, the Government has taken up Major Projects for Development of infrastructure for Games & Sports in the State such as Up-gradation of Regional College of Physical Education (RCPE), Panisagar - 1st & 2nd Phase and Development of Play Ground with Grand Stand at RCPE. Viveknanda Stadium got new shape as a developed play Ground in the State. Construction of different District & Sub Divisional Sports office Buildings & Construction of Dist Sports Complexes at Kailashahar , Udaipur & Ambassa are in progress.

52. In the coming Financial year Infrastructure related work which will be taken up include up-gradation of Netaji Subhas Regional Coaching Centre (NSRCC) – construction of Indoor and Gymnasium Hall ,construction of Turf Hockey & Football ground at Dasharatha Dev State Sports Complex, Badharghat, construction of Sports Building for different activities like Judo, Weightlifting, Yoga, Table Tennis etc, construction of Swimming Pool with diving facilities in the NSRCC complex, Agartala., construction of G(Ground)+3 storied building (combined 350 bedded Youth Hostel) in the complex of existing Shahid Bhagat Singh Youth Hostel, Khejurbagan, Agartala.

53. The goal of the Government is Health for All. More than 90% people of the State are taking Health Care Services from the Government Health Institutions. Development of infrastructure, development of human resources, and accountability of service providers would be the main approach for 2014-15. The priority areas to be addressed in the field of Health Care Services are to bridge the gap in health manpower and infrastructure.

54. During the year 2013-14, the G(Ground)+6 Building of IGM Hospital having 327 bed capacity was completed. New Doctors' Hostel with 140 seats for AGMC has started. New Teaching Hospital –Block-I of Agartala Government Medical College & G. B. Pant Hospital is nearing completion.

55. Construction for G(Ground)+7 Building on Western side of IGM Hospital, construction of Nursing Training Institute at IGM Hospital, construction of Administrative building of IGM Hospital, Construction of New Teaching Hospital–Block-II, construction of B(Basement) + G(Ground) +5 Building at Cancer Hospital, up-gradation of GBP Hospital to start Super Specialty Services, are proposed for 2014-15. It is also proposed to start generic medicine supply to patients. It is proposed to start Tripura Medical Services Corporation to procure, store and distribute medicines and

equipment for all health care institutions. It is also targeted to achieve 100% coverage of all pregnant women and lactating mothers and children with Antenatal Care (ANC), Postnatal Care (PNC) and Immunization.

56. The State Government is committed to set up 125 PHCs in the State. At present 83 PHCs are functioning, 23 PHCs are under construction and 4 more PHCs have already been taken up. It is also planned to set up 5 PHCs in 2014-2015. Five PHCs are in the process of up gradation to CHCs. State Government has decided to set up one Health Sub Centre in each GP/ADC Village. So far, 883 Sub-Centres are already completed and construction of 125 Health Sub- Centers is in progress.

57. There is a remarkable achievement in Institutional delivery which is now at 84% of total deliveries. Infant Mortality rate was 28 as per Sample Registration Survey (SRS), 2012 compared to 42 in India.

58. After creation of 13 new Blocks in the State, reorganization of the Grams have been taken up and 96 new grams have been created taking the total GPs to 591 and Villages in ADC to 527. There would be 35 Panchayat Samities, 40 Block Advisory Committee and 8 Zilla Parishads.

59. During the year 2013-14, 2 Panchayat Raj Training Institutes (PRTI) at Udaipur and Kumarghat were started. During the year 2014-15 another Panchayat Raj Training Institute would be operationalized at Ambassa. The Ordinary Residence Registers (ORR) have been computerized and final publications of the digitized records have also been made.

60. In the year 2014-15, general elections to the 3-tier Panchayats would be held. In this general election, reservation of 50% seats in posts of office bearers for women in all the 3-tier Panchayats will be effective as per amendment of the Tripura Panchayats Act. The Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) would be implemented in the State.

61. Tripura continued to perform well in generation of wage employment under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) having stood first with 87 mandays during 2012-13. I urge the Central Government to increase the number of days of employment to 200 days a year under MGNREGA. During 2013-14, 25446 houses are to be constructed under Indira Awas Yojana. During 2013-14, State Government launched Tripura State Government Housing Scheme under which 9217 houses are to be constructed for Homeless BPL families with assistance of Rs.75,000/- per house. This programme would be continued next year.

62. Considering the rapid pace of urbanisation in Tripura, State Government has constituted four new Urban Local Bodies namely Panisagar, Jirania, Mohanpur and Melagarh. On 21st January, 2014, Agartala Municipal Council has been upgraded to Agartala Municipal Corporation and 10(ten) Nagar Panchayats namely Dharmanagar, Kailashahar, Ambassa, Khowai, Teliamura, Mohanpur, Bishalgarh, Melagarh, Udaipur and Belonia have been upgraded to Municipal Council. Now, there are 20 Urban Local Bodies in the State of which one is a Municipal Corporation, ten are Municipal Councils and other nine towns namely Panisagar, Kumarghat, Kamalpur, Jirania, Ranirbazar, Sonamura, Amarpur, Santirbazar and Sabroom are Nagar Panchayats.

63. Significant progress has been made in providing housing facilities to urban poor at Teliamura, Ranirbazar, Belonia, Sonamura and Udaipur under Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme(IHSDP). Sonamura Town has been awarded by Government of India, Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation as "Best city in implementation of IHSDP for ULBs in Small & Special Category States/UTs for the year 2012-13". State Government has also launched a new scheme namely Tripura State Government Housing Scheme (TSGHS) with the aim to provide

housing assistance and cover all left out BPL homeless families under which 2000 houses are to be constructed during 2013-14.

64. The works of underground Drainage, Water Supply Scheme under Asian Development Bank (ADB) Project and work of Water Supply and Sewerage Projects in Agartala are in progress. Town Hall at Sabroom has been inaugurated. Construction of Town Hall at Kamalpur, Udaipur, Sonamura, Ambassa and Kailashahar are in good progress. Work of construction of Town Hall at Belonia will also be started. Shopping Complex near Maharani Tulshibati School has been inaugurated. Construction of Stalls near Circuit House are in progress.

65. Transportation System for Solid Waste Management in Agartala City has been improved with the procurement of modern vehicles/machineries. The State Government is implementing the Tripura Urban Employment Programme(TUEP) for the last five years to provide wage employment to the needy in the urban areas. I urge the Central Government to consider introduction of new wage employment scheme for urban areas.

66. Tourism is emerging as a vibrant Sector in the State of Tripura. Infrastructure and facilities in the tourist destinations have improved

substantially. Tourist flow, both domestic and foreign, and earning of revenue have also registered increasing trend. During the year 2013-14, a new Directorate of Tourism has been set up for focused development of the sector. During the year 2014-15, the following projects have been prioritized.

Destination Development of Neer Mahal Water Palace; Development of Infrastructure for Border Ceremony at Akhaura, Agartala; Light and Sound Show at Ujjayanta Palace, Agartala through Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC); Development of Buddhist Circuit (Manubankul, Pilak-Boxanagar etc ; Development of Way side Amenities along NH-44; Maitree Uddyan Chottakhola; Destination Development at Golaghati; and Destination Development at Chabimura-Banduar. DPR for Indo-Bangla Maitree Uddyan and Light and Sound Show at Ujjayanta Palace have already been submitted to Govt. of India.

67. Under Renewable Energy sector, remote village electrification programme, 23 villages covering 2242 families in Silacherri, Karbook, Amarpur, Mungiakami RD Block and Mandai RD Block were provided with solar Home Lighting Systems. 69 Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) Power Plants were installed in boys' hostel, girls' hostel, residential school, market sheds in different districts. The construction works for Vigyan Gram have started.

68. Under National e-Governance plan (NeGP), 145 Common Service Centers (CSCs) are established across the State which is catering to various Government to Citizen (G2C) services at their locality. Tripura is the 6th state in the country and first state in the North- East to implement State Wide Area Network. Tripura has already built State Data Center (SDC) at Agartala which offers 24x7 Service and acts as repository of various Government applications. Software Technology Park will be set up at Agartala to give a fillip to the IT Industry in the State.

69. Tripura has a good record for protection of rights and interests of the workers. During the year 2013-14, minimum wages have been revised in 21 Scheduled employments. Under Rastriya Sasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), 5,05,327 beneficiaries were enrolled from unorganized workers belonging to BPL category and 49,331 beneficiaries got the benefit under the scheme upto November, 2013.

70. During 2013-14, Government Khas land have been allotted in favour of 3133 both landless and homeless (bothless) families belonging to BPL families. Different infrastructure projects in 25 identified border Blocks in the State were taken up to fill up the critical gaps under Border Area

Development Project (BADP). More than 11,00,000 khatians are uploaded on Website for visit of citizens and operational facilities of officials. Copies of khatians are being supplied to the citizens through online system from Facilitation Centre and other Computerised Land Records Centers (CLRC). Infrastructure for setting up of State Data Centre is completed. The process for online Registration of deeds has been completed in 15 Sub-Registry offices. Total 302 Nos. old mouja records scanned and work on the remaining is in progress.

71. During the current financial year, 2013-2014, works have been under taken for construction of Police Stations. Honorarium of Special Police Officers (SPOs) has been enhanced form Rs.3656/- to Rs.5156/- per month from October, 2013. The State Government has also taken steps for recruitment of security personnel.

72. Kendriya Sansodhanagar, Tripura at Bishalgarh , was inaugurated on 1st November, 2013. Construction of Longtharai Valley and Gandacherra Sub Jails has been completed. The construction work of new Sonamura Sub jail has started. Construction of new District Jails in Unakoti and Ambassa Districts and new sub-jail at Dharmanagar will be taken up during 2014-15.

73. With the aim of improving efficiency, ensure transparency and making it dealers' friendly, the State is implementing 'Mission Mode Project for Computerisation of Tax Administration (MMPCT)' at a project cost of Rs. 730.41 lakhs. Under the project the organisation has implemented various electronic services like e-registration, e-Return, e-payment, e-permit during the year 2012-13. The e-services have been proved to be a transparent, user friendly, hassle-free means to the business community. The Taxes Organization is working on the other modules like e-Central Sales Tax (e-CST), e-refund, e-Audit which is likely to be rolled out shortly.

74. Mr. Speaker Sir, I shall now present proposals of Receipts and Expenditure in my Budget Estimates. Before proceeding further, I would like to first give details of Revised Estimates for 2013-14.

75. In the Revised Estimates of 2013-14 the State's Own Tax and Non-tax revenue has been projected at Rs.1257.30 Cr and Rs.278.00 Cr respectively. In the Budget Estimates of 2013-14, the targets for collection of State's Own Tax and Non-tax revenue were Rs.1184.00 Cr and Rs.220.00 Cr respectively.

76. Receipts from State's share of Central taxes has been kept at Rs.1775.00 Cr in RE as against the BE of Rs.1777.00 Cr for 2013-14..The total Receipts in RE has been kept at Rs.9591.61 Cr excluding adjustment of Opening Balance as against the BE of Rs.9016.68 Cr for 2013-14. The Total expenditure in RE 2013-14 will be Rs.9642.31 Cr which includes Rs.5783.55 Cr of Non Plan Expenditure and Rs.3858.76 Cr Expenditure of Plan.

77. Now, I would like to highlight about the Receipts and Expenditure projected in Budget Estimates of 2014-15. Planning Commission has intimated that funds from Government of India for 66 restructured CSS and Flagship Programmes would be routed through the State Budget from 2014-15. Accordingly, these are reflected in the budget. From the BE 2014-15, State Plan will include Block Grant, Flagship Schemes under CSS and other CSS Schemes. The funds under Flagship / Other CSS Programmes flowing outside budget earlier are reflected in the budget from this year as Central Assistance to State Plan and be part of the Consolidated Fund of the State. The collection of State's Own Tax Revenue is projected at Rs.1278.37 Cr in Budget Estimates with a growth rate of 1.68% over the Revised Estimates of last year. The collection of State's Non Tax Revenue is projected at Rs.290.00 Cr in BE 2014-15 with a growth rate of 4.32%

over Revised Estimate of last year. The Receipts from share of Central taxes have been projected at Rs.1835.00 Cr in Budget Estimates with an increase of 3.38% over the Revised Estimates of last Year.

78. State will get Rs.600.00 Cr under Non-Plan Gap Grant during 2014-15 as against the amount of Rs.835.00 Cr received during 2013-14. The reduction is due to the under assessment of state's requirement by XIII Finance Commission. The central transfers other than Share of Central Taxes under Non-Plan and Plan heads have been anticipated at Rs.7391.44 Cr in Budget Estimates 2014-15.

79. The overall Total Receipts excluding adjustment of Opening Balance in Budget Estimate 2014-15 will be Rs.12049.81 Cr. The gross borrowing is projected at Rs.1253.00 Cr in Budget Estimates which includes Open Market Borrowing of Rs.650.00 Cr and negotiated loan of Rs.200.00 Cr.

80. The Total Expenditure under Budget Estimates 2014-15 is projected at Rs.12404.77 Cr with a growth of 28.65% over the Revised Estimates of 2013-14. This includes Non Plan Expenditure of Rs.5987.77 Cr. An amount of Rs.6417.00 Cr has been kept under the Plan with an increase of 66.30% over the Revised Estimates of 2013-14.

The position in brief is:			(Amount in Rs. in Cr)
(A)	Revenue Account		
	1.	Receipts	10794.81
	2.	Expenditure	8117.47
	3.	Surplus (A1 – A2)	2677.34
(B)	Capital Account		
	1.	Receipts from loans & others (including public account & OB)	1451.30
	2.	Disbursements	4287.30
	3.	Deficit (B1 – B2)	2836.00
(C)	Total Receipts: (A1)+(B1)		12246.11
(D)	Total Expenditure: (A2)+(B2)		12404.77
Budget Deficit (C – D)			158.66

81. The Hon'ble Members will appreciate the fact that despite slowing economy and difficult financial conditions of the State, I have tried to increase the allocations. There will be a Budget Deficit of Rs.158.66 Cr which I intend to cover by means of better tax compliance, austerity measures and additional resource mobilization.

82. Hon'ble Speaker Sir, with these words I commend the Budget Proposals for 2014-15 for consideration and approval of this August House.