

Respected Speaker Sir,

1. With your permission, I present the budget estimates for the year 2010-2011.

Our Government has completed more than two years in office and it has several creditable achievements. Our Government's vision is that Himachal Pradesh should attain new landmarks in social and economic development ensuring the twin objectives of high growth and equity.

2. It is a matter of pride for Himachal Pradesh to have been adjudged as the best State in several fields and to be awarded the '**State of the States Awards**' by the 'India Today–Aaj Tak' group. Another media group, 'Outlook-IBN-7', had awarded the '**Diamond State Awards**' to the State for its achievements. It is indeed a matter of great satisfaction for the State to have been adjudged as the best State in diverse fields by two reputed media groups at the national level.
3. Not only this, as per the latest available evaluation of 20 point programme implementation by Government of India up to November 2009, during the current year, Himachal Pradesh has been ranked as Number One State in the whole country.

**Economic  
Scenario**

4. I would request for the support of this august House to sustain the high growth levels attained in different sectors so that we can strive for even better performance in the coming years.
5. Hon'ble members are aware that the global economy has seen great turbulence in the last about two years. The global down-turn has also impacted our national economy. The signs of recovery in the recent past have been encouraging.
6. While the fiscal stimulus measures initiated by the Union Government seem to have helped in economic recovery, they have adversely impacted the finances of the Government of India. The fiscal deficit of Government of India for 2009-10 is estimated as 6.9 % of GDP.
7. The Government of India had allowed additional borrowings of 0.5% of GSDP to all States during 2009-10 as a part of fiscal stimulus measures. The devolution of States' share of Central taxes to the States has been relatively less this year on account of less buoyancy in Central taxes. During the current year, Himachal Pradesh is expected to get about Rs. 175 crore less on account of the State's share of Central taxes, from the Central Government. Further, the implementation of Pay Commission

recommendations has impacted the finances of all the States, including our State.

8. Though the above factors have definitely put pressure on our State finances, I am happy to inform this august House that in this year, the State Government has consistently ensured that cash balances with the Reserve Bank of India have remained positive and no recourse has been made to any Ways & Means advance or overdraft with the Reserve Bank. In fact the growth in our own tax revenues during the period April-December 2009 has been over 18% as compared to 13.61% during the corresponding period of the previous year. Our fiscal deficit for the year ending 2009-10 is likely to be around 5.42% of our GSDP. Against the National GDP growth estimates of 7.2%, our GSDP is estimated to grow by 7.5% in 2009-10. This is an indication of efficient management of the State's economy despite the severe fiscal constraints, as mentioned by me. Prudent financial management and judicious use of scarce funds has enabled the State Government to access the 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of the Development Policy Loan from the World Bank, to the tune of Rs. 471 crore.

9. The 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission recommendations were recently tabled in the Parliament by the Union Finance Minister along with the action taken report. The recommendations as accepted by Government of India involve an increase of 126% in the total devolution to all the States compared to the transfers recommended by the 12<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission. Unfortunately, for Himachal Pradesh, the proposed increase is only 50%, which is the lowest. The 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has recommended Rs. 21,691 crore as the total fiscal transfers to Himachal Pradesh for the next five years as against the 12<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission recommendation of Rs. 14,450 crore for the 2005-10 period. As a result of the under-estimation of our expenditure and the over estimation of the receipts by the 13th Finance Commission, the revenue deficit grant recommended by them is even less than the grant recommended by the 12<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission. The 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has recommended revenue deficit grant of Rs. 7,888 crore as against the 12<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission recommendation of revenue deficit grant of Rs. 10,202 crore. This will have adverse impact on the finances of the State in the coming years.

10. Our Government is fully prepared to face the fiscal challenges of 2010-11. The process of creating fiscal space to ensure stimulus to the economy through continued emphasis on budgetary outlays on capital expenditure and maintenance expenditure shall continue with prudent expenditure management and emphasis on outlay outcomes.

**Inflation & State  
Food Subsidy**

11. An increase in the WPI based inflation figures in the recent months has been a cause of concern. It stood at 8.56% in January 2010. Even more worrying factor has been the volatility in prices of essential commodities, especially the food items. The food inflation which almost touched the record level of 20% in December, 2009 continues to be quite high. The spectre of inflation and spiralling prices threatens the household budgets with the common man facing the maximum brunt. Hon'ble Members are aware that in a State like Himachal Pradesh, inflation is an imported phenomenon, since we are an importing State with respect to most essential commodities. Thus, the Central Government policies are solely affecting the price situation in our State. To make the matters worse, the prices of petroleum products have further increased w.e.f. the midnight of 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February 2010 as a result of

increase in Central taxes in the recent Union Budget. This would further increase the inflation.

12. Our Government is committed to insulate to the extent possible the masses from the capricious effects of rising prices. The State Government is committed to implement the State subsidy scheme on 3 dals, 2 edible oils and salt. Even though the State has 10.88 Above Poverty Line (APL) Cards, the Union Government has been releasing the rice and wheat quota to the State on the basis of only 7.43 lakh ration card holders, despite repeatedly taking up the matter with them. The step-motherly attitude of the Central Government towards Himachal Pradesh is also obvious from the fact that we are being allotted relatively less food grains as compared to the other Special Category States. This has been affecting the availability of ration items under the Public Distribution System (PDS). For better targeting under the PDS, a pilot with Biometrics based Smart Cards is proposed in two blocks of Shimla district in the coming year. The State Government is strictly monitoring the price trends of essential commodities.

Annual Plan  
2010-11

13. Speaker Sir, I wish to reiterate our Government's commitment to ensure that the weak financial

position inherited from the previous Government does not obstruct our vision for faster development. We are committed to achieve our vision in areas of **‘Sadak, Shiksha, Swasthya, Swarojgar, Swavlamban and Swabhiman’**. The fast pace of ongoing projects in different sectors is a proof that our Government is committed to implement the promises made to the people of this State.

14. Despite the fiscal pressures, we have provided for an Annual Plan outlay of Rs. 3000 crore for 2010-11 as against the current year's approved outlay of Rs. 2700 crore. We have allocated 64% of the Plan outlay on capital works.
15. Sector-wise priorities have been decided for the next year based on the consultations held on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 with the Hon'ble members of this august House.
16. The thrust of the 2010-11 Annual Plan will be on consolidating the foundation laid by our Government in the last two years. While laying emphasis on quicker completion of ongoing capital works, the concerned departments will lay greater stress on maintenance of existing assets.
17. Hon'ble Speaker, I would now outline our achievements and strategies in important sectors.

18. For the people of Himachal Pradesh, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery related activities continue to be the mainstay of livelihood and almost 70% of the working population is dependent on these sectors. **‘Pandit Deen Dayal Kisan Bagwaan Samridhi’** Yojana, our flagship programme for the up-liftment of the farmers in the State, provides for 80% subsidy to the farmers for developing poly-houses and for micro irrigation in the open fields. In the coming year, 4.90 lakh square metre area would be brought under the poly-house programme and 8000 hectares would be covered through micro irrigation facilities under this scheme. **For the BPL families constructing Bamboo based Poly Houses, our Government has decided to reduce the beneficiary share from 20 to 10%. As a result, such families will get 90% subsidy.** Further, with a view to strengthen the post-harvest marketing infrastructure, the State Agriculture Marketing Board will develop collection centres, adopting a cluster approach, for marketing the farm produce.
19. Our Government has prepared a Rs. 372 crore Scheme to promote diversification of crops, with special focus on organic farming and water



harvesting so as to increase farm incomes. We have taken up with the Government of India for funding this Scheme through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). **This Scheme has been included by the Government of India in the Rolling Plan and the implementation is likely to begin in 2010-11.**

20. In the horticulture sector, apart from promoting diversification under the ongoing Horticulture Technology Mission and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), our Government has implemented the **'Crop Insurance'** scheme on pilot basis, so as to protect the farmers from increasing weather uncertainties. In the coming year, this scheme will be widely publicized and the State Government will bear 50% of the premium amount under the scheme. **We will be soon installing Anti-Hail Radar and Guns based crop defensive umbrella in Shimla district, on a pilot basis.**
21. To make apple cultivation viable in the face of growing environmental and global challenges, our Government will soon implement a Rs. 85 crore **'Apple Rejuvenation Project'**. The project envisages replacing the old and low yielding variety trees with more productive varieties of apple root-

stocks over an area of 12,500 acres in the next five years.

22. One major issue which has been engaging our attention is the need to strengthen the veterinary services in the rural areas. We have therefore decided to start the '**Mukhya Mantri Arogya Pashudhan**' Yojana in the next financial year. Under this Yojana, we have taken a policy decision to open veterinary dispensaries in all Panchayats of the State, in the next three years, where no such facilities exist at present. We will need to open veterinary dispensaries in about 1150 Panchayats. In the first phase, 800 veterinary assistants will be trained in the coming year, who will be deployed after training in the proposed new dispensaries under the control of Panchayats. Initially under this Yojana, the services of the retired veterinary pharmacists can also be taken by the Panchayats. The Panchayats will be empowered to hire veterinary assistants and the Government will provide the necessary grants to the Panchayats in this regard. Preference in opening new veterinary dispensaries will be given to such Panchayats where necessary accommodation is made available by them and where the services of retired

pharmacists are available at the local level.

23. The Government has taken steps to rehabilitate the helpless cows through Gau Sadans being run by voluntary organisations in Suni, Lehri Barota, Banoori and Khajian. To further this cause, we propose the opening of Gau Sadans with the assistance of prominent Temple Trusts. The Trusts will provide the necessary financial and other assistance for such Gau Sadans. The Animal Husbandry Department will provide the necessary technical and other assistance. The Department will also take necessary steps to strengthen the Gau Sadans being run by the social bodies and religious institutions.
24. In order to improve the economic conditions of the fishermen, 6560 active fishermen have been given higher insurance cover in case of accidents, which has been increased to Rs. 1 lakh from the previous amount of Rs. 50,000. The Government also proposes to involve the private sector in trout farming to boost the incomes of fish farmers.
25. Our Government's vision is to conserve the water flowing in each and every river and stream in the State by constructing check dams and other water harvesting projects so as to ensure that every drop

of water is utilised for agriculture and other activities. The Himachal Pradesh Water Management Board has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister to ensure better coordination between the activities of different departments involved in watershed development programmes. 12 chronically water stressed Blocks would be given priority for watershed works.

26. In 1999, our Government had made it mandatory for the buildings in urban areas and commercial/institutional buildings in other areas to have water harvesting systems in place. We will ensure the implementation of this policy and in case of any laxity in compliance, effective action will be taken.
27. Under the Watershed Development Programme, a Perspective and Strategic Plan of Rs. 4668 crore for 31 lakh hectare area of the State has been sent to the Government of India. 36 new Projects costing Rs. 306 crore for development of more than 2 lakh hectare area in all the districts have been approved by the Government of India during 2009-10. Under this programme, activities linked to livelihood enhancement and natural resource management would be given priority.

28. A proper Irrigation System is very important to support our agricultural based economy and in improving production of cash and staple crops, as well as in addressing the impact of climatic variations. A Plan outlay of Rs. 141.48 crore has been proposed for allocation for minor irrigation schemes under AIBP and NABARD, and an outlay of Rs. 62 crore is proposed for the ongoing Shahnehar, Changer and Sidhatha irrigation projects. This outlay will achieve a CCA of 6500 hectare during 2010-11.
29. It is proposed that during 2010-11, the work on Rs. 147 crore Phina Singh medium irrigation project would commence, for which an outlay of Rs. 10 crore is proposed. The project involves creation of a CCA of 4025 hectare. Under Flood Management Programme, two projects namely Swan channelization Phase-II in district Una and channelization of Giri Bata River in district Sirmour are under execution for which outlays of Rs. 75 crore and Rs. 15 crore respectively are proposed for the year 2010-11. The channelization of Seer Khad in Mandi, Hamirpur and Bilaspur districts is also under active consideration of the Government and necessary funds would be made available to the

Irrigation and Public Health Department on approval by Government of India. A total of Rs. 105 crore has been earmarked for flood protection works.

30. Speaker Sir, our Government is convinced that the road to all round prosperity is possible only through increasing farm productivity so that disposable incomes of farm workers and land owners increase substantially. Towards this objective, in the coming year, I propose to make a total plan provision of Rs. 427 crore for the agriculture and allied sector, including the provision for irrigation services.

Rural  
Development /  
Panchayats

31. The Rural Development department will focus on generating self employment opportunities. Training programmes would be held to equip rural Below Poverty Line (BPL) youth with marketable skills to enhance their capacity to secure employment in the private sector and to set up micro-enterprises under self-employment. An action plan for the period 2010-11 to 2021-22 has been drawn up for this purpose. The Government has got approved two Skill Development Projects from Government of India under '**Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar**' Yojana (SGSY) Special project component. Under both these projects, Rs. 3.5 crore will be spent for imparting demand driven training to 3700 rural BPL

youth. Rural Self Employment Training Institutes are being established in ten districts of the State for imparting training to rural BPL youth in collaboration with lead district banks.

32. Under the '**Atal Awas**' Yojana and '**Indira Awas**' Yojana, we had fixed a target of constructing 13,387 houses in 2009-10, which will be fully achieved. The assistance for constructing new houses under both these Yojanas will be increased from Rs. 38,500 to Rs 48,500 per unit, from the next year.
33. Under '**Guru Ravi Dass Civic Amenities Improvement Scheme**', the allocation for the year 2009-10 was Rs. 13.65 crore, which is being enhanced to Rs. 22.40 crore for 2010-11.
34. During 2009-10, we had laid emphasis on gearing up '**Total Sanitation Campaign**' (TSC) in the rural areas. In this year, Rs. 1.44 crore was released as award money under the **Maharishi Valmiki Sampoorn Swachhta Purskar** to winner Panchayats. Till 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2010, out of 3243 Gram Panchayats, 2260 Gram Panchayats had claimed Open Defecation Free (ODF) status. We will implement the programme more effectively to achieve the target of 100% ODF Gram Panchayats, by the end of next year.

35. Under the MNREGA scheme, our Government will be spending Rs. 525 crore during the current year which will provide employment to over 4.5 lakh households. With a view to increase the scope of permissible works under MNREGA, the small and marginal farmers will also be allowed to take up irrigation, land development and horticulture development works on their lands. In 2010-11, such works on private lands will be taken up on a large scale to increase farm productivity and to promote water conservation activities. While the Government of India allows only Rs. 100 as daily wage under this scheme, we give a daily wage of Rs. 110. Thus, the balance amount of Rs 10 of daily wage is being met from the State resources. In this year, there would be a net out go of Rs 40 crore from the State budget on this count. It is a matter of pride for us that Kangra district is among the 25 districts of the country which have been conferred the National award for excellence in the implementation of this programme. We are fully geared up to successfully implement this program during the next year also.
36. Our government is committed to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions. We have already taken the decision to reserve 50% seats for the women in



the Panchayati Raj Institutions. We have amended the relevant law so as to provide for direct elections to the post of Up Pradhan in Panchayats. Role of Gram Sabha in social audit of various schemes in general and MNREGA in particular will be made more effective through simple manuals and guidelines. I propose to allocate Rs. 168.66 crore for rural development activities in the coming year.

37. With a view to encourage competition among districts in the implementation of the 20-Point Programme, we have decided that from next year onwards, the first three districts in the State will get prize of Rs 50, Rs 30 and Rs 20 lakh per year respectively, for developmental works.

Power

38. Speaker Sir, Himachal Pradesh has a power potential of about 23,000MW. About 6480 MW has been harnessed till now of which almost 44% is in the control of BBMB and Punjab, which yields negligible returns to the State. Our priority is to expeditiously harness the balance potential in a manner that optimizes returns to the State. Towards this end, we began the process of involving both the Central Government PSUs and the private sector in a big way in hydel power development during the period of our last Government. Those efforts are

now bearing the fruit. In the coming financial year, we expect to add more than 600 MW in the system with the commissioning of Allain Duhangan, Malana-II, Budhil, Chamera-III and some other small hydel projects. These projects will add more than 2700 million units per year in the system. Our emphasis shall be on close monitoring of all hydel projects so that out of the total hydel potential, 17,000 MW is operationalised by the end of 12<sup>th</sup> plan.

39. The Government is pursuing the policy of a judicious mix of public and private sector participation in hydel power development. Competitive bidding process will enable the State Government to obtain maximum return from 4300 MW projects allotted to private sector. At the same time, an additional 3800 MW is likely to be harnessed by the Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation and HPSEB. Overall, more than 9000 MW capacity will be controlled by the Central public sector.
40. Our Government will continue to pursue with the Government of India the issue of allowing the State to levy generation tax in order to access financial resources on a sustainable basis.
41. Government recognizes that small hydro projects play an important role in harnessing the natural

resources. The Government has allotted 618 projects of upto 5 MW capacity since 1995-96. Out of these, only 26 have been commissioned so far. There is an urgent need to rationalize the small hydro policy to facilitate faster development of such projects. We will bring about required policy changes after appropriate consultations with all stakeholders. The construction of the transmission lines is very important to evacuate the power. Towards this end, a transmission master plan is being prepared which will be finalised within 6 months.

42. As a measure of our commitment towards clean energy and to save power, our Government has successfully completed the '**Atal Bijli Bachat**' Yojana. Four Compact Fluorescent Lamps were distributed free of cost to each household in the State which have resulted in a saving of 270 million units of power per annum, i.e. a saving of over Rs. 100 crore per annum.
43. Our Government is taking all necessary steps to harness solar energy with the assistance of Central Government. Towards this end, it has been decided to develop Shimla and Hamirpur as '**Solar Cities**'. We propose to install solar energy harnessing

equipments on important heritage buildings in the State. Two State level Energy Parks are proposed to be developed at Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar Horticulture University, Solan and National Institute of Technology, Hamirpur.

**Roads**

44. Speaker Sir, on different forums including the floor of this august House, I have emphasised the State Government's topmost commitment to the three sectors of Roads, Education and Health. As compared to 2008-09, an additional Plan outlay of 42% will be spent on roads in 2009-10, which underlies the Government's commitment to expand and maintain the road infrastructure. During the last two years of our Government, 2103km road length and 121 bridges were constructed, tarring was completed on 1655 km road length, annual surfacing was done for 3091 km road length and cross drainage was provided for 3327 km road length. This has been possible due to the provisioning of higher financial outlays for building new roads and maintenance under NABARD schemes, PMGSY and State schemes.
45. I am sure that the Hon'ble members would agree that construction and maintenance of road network should continue to be given top priority not only in

the next Annual Plan but also in the coming many years. In 2009-10, for maintenance of roads, an amount of Rs.147 crore under plan and Rs. 186 crore under non-plan was provided. We will continue to provide adequate funds for maintenance of roads in the next year. For PMGSY roads, we will provide Rs. 18 crore as NPV cost from State budget during the coming year as Government of India has not yet agreed to our request for inclusion of NPV cost in project costing. **I am happy to share with the Hon'ble Members that NABARD has agreed to include NPV cost in project cost under RIDF road projects.**

46. Our Government has taken up with the Government of India the matter of declaring 7 more roads, with a total length of 890 km, as National highways. DPRs are being prepared for the construction of 3 tunnels in the State at a cost of Rs. 270 crore. The bidding process for their construction will be started once the DPRs are finalised. I propose a total plan outlay of Rs. 530 crore for the road sector for 2010-11.

47. **Due to financial constraints, inadequate availability of Government land and because of maintenance problems relating to Government buildings, it has become necessary to involve**

private sector in meeting the requirements of Government office buildings. For this purpose, apart from the present practice of hiring private buildings, the Government proposes to frame a transparent policy whereby the buildings constructed in the private sector could be hired for the Government offices on a long term lease basis. The Government will prescribe standard designs and specifications for such office buildings. This will not only pave the way for attracting private sector investment in building construction activities but will also ensure that scarce financial resources of the State Government are gainfully utilised in other developmental works.

Road Transport/  
Railway

48. Our Government is committed to provide safe and comfortable public transport services by involving both the Himachal Road Transport Corporation and private transport operators. We propose to install steel crash barriers at accident prone road sites to reduce fatalities and provide safety to the travelling public. Construction of bus stands in Ani, Jubbal and Rohru would be completed in the coming year.
49. To facilitate the process of land acquisition and construction of Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri railway line,

a provision of Rs. 25 crore as the State share is proposed in the next year's plan. We will continue to pursue with the Union Government the matter of extending the proposed Bhanupali–Bilaspur-Beri railway line to Leh via Mandi–Kullu–Manali-Lahaul because of its strategic importance. We have also taken up with the Union Government the matter of laying a broad gauge railway line between Pathankot and Leh, via Jogindernagar, Mandi and Manali on strategic considerations. The State Government is also making efforts for the Ghanauli-Baddi-KalaAmb-Paonta Sahib-Dehradun railway line and will provide all necessary assistance to the Ministry of Railways for the survey and other related matters.

**Water supply &  
Sewerage**

50. Speaker Sir, providing safe and adequate drinking water is high on the agenda of our Government. During 2009-10, upto December 2009, 758 habitations under the State sector and 3096 habitations under the Central Sector have been covered for supply of water. By the end of the current year, 2500 hand pumps would be installed with a focus on the regions facing water scarcity during the summer season. Water Supply Schemes of Sundernagar and Dharamshala are targeted for

completion in the current year and Shri Naina Devi Water Supply Scheme is proposed to be completed in 2010-11.

51. In 2010-11, it is proposed to cover 5000 slipped back habitations for supply of potable water as per norms of National Rural Drinking Water Programme. 785 Rural Schools will be provided with Water Purification System under the Jalmani Programme to improve drinking water quality. Work on 24 sewerage schemes is in progress and an outlay of Rs. 40 crore is proposed for them. Sewerage Schemes for Sujampur and Sarkaghat towns are proposed to be completed in the next financial year. A plan outlay of Rs. 260 crore is proposed for drinking water and sewerage schemes during the coming year.
52. In the next financial year, under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP), the infrastructural facilities would be extended to the villages with concentration of Scheduled Caste population of 40% or more. We have provided for an enhanced outlay of Rs. 742 crore for the SCSP to enable continuation of existing schemes and flow of extra funds for new schemes.
53. The Government proposes to bring out a State Policy for Persons with Disabilities to provide equal

Social Justice  
and Empower-  
ment



opportunities to Disabled persons to ensure their full participation in the society.

54. Speaker Sir, all members are aware that our Government is committed to the uplift of the disadvantaged sections of the society. **We have expanded the social security pension network by covering an additional 15,234 persons under the scheme in this year. We have decided to increase the annual eligibility income limit from Rs 6,000 to Rs 9,000 in case of a sole beneficiary, and for the beneficiary living in an extended family, the annual eligibility income limit has been revised from Rs 11,000 to Rs 15,000.** To streamline the disbursement of the social security pension, we propose to extend the IT enabled Biometric Smart Card scheme, already under implementation in Una district through banks, to the other districts, in the coming year.

Beti Hai Anmol  
Yojana 55.

To empower the girls and to eliminate the prevalent gender bias in the society, our Government has decided to start the **'Beti Hai Anmol' Yojana** for the BPL families. **Under this Yojana, for upto two girls in each BPL family, the Government will deposit an amount of Rs. 5100 in the Post Office in the name of each girl at the time of her birth.**

**This amount will get compounded over the period and will become a respectable amount by the time these girls attain adulthood. This amount could then be used by them to further their career prospects and to lead a life of dignity. At present, the girls from BPL families are getting scholarships till 10<sup>th</sup> class in the schools. The scholarship will now be also given for plus two classes to these girls. For plus two classes, the annual scholarship would be Rs 1500.**

**Tribal  
Development**

56. The State Government is committed to speedy economic development of the tribal areas for which 9% outlay of the Annual State Plan has been earmarked for implementation of the Tribal Sub Plan. For better implementation of the Tribal Sub Plan and to ensure accountability, the Tribal budget has been computerised and made on-line. An outlay of Rs. 270 crore is proposed during 2010-11 under the Tribal Sub Plan.

**Education &  
Technical  
Education**

57. Education is one of the three top priorities of our Government. We shall endeavour to make the State a '**Knowledge Hub**' of the country. We have opened several private Universities in the State to attract private investment and to provide better

educational opportunities to the youth of the Pradesh. '**Atal Shiksha Kunj**' has been established in district Solan to attract reputed educational institutions and develop it as a world class '**Education Hub**'.

58. Our Government proposes to allocate Rs. 265 crore in 2010-11 on education in the Plan outlay apart from an allocation of Rs 2302 crore on the non-plan side. **Thus, for the education sector, a total of Rs. 2567 crore has been allocated in the next year, which is by far the highest ever annual budget allocation for this sector.** In order to further strengthen the education structure, it is important to improve teaching quality in schools, bridge gender gaps in enrolment, reduce drop-out rates, increase gross enrolment in higher education and improve IT and English language skills. Our Government is committed to fill in the gaps in the existing infrastructure and resources in the schools.
59. The Government of India has enacted the 'Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009'. This Act will come in force with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2010. Our Government will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to implement the new Act in the State. In order to facilitate the participation of

the community and the parents in the functioning of schools, school management and development committees would be constituted and empowered as per the provisions under the Act. This will help improve the accountability of the schools to local community.

60. We have decided that the H.P. Board of Secondary Education will not conduct the exams for the 8<sup>th</sup> Class from 2011 onwards so as to reduce the stress and anxiety in the mind of young students. The Board exam for 8<sup>th</sup> Class will be replaced by the school tests which will be based on the principles of continuous comprehensive evaluation. We also propose to open a State Open School under the aegis of H.P. Board of Secondary Education. This school would provide educational facilities to such children and people of remote areas, who could not complete their studies for whatsoever reason.
61. The State Government intends to strengthen the core competence of High schools and Sr. Secondary Schools in 2010-11 under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. **The State Government will open 5 Model Schools in educationally backward blocks - 4 in Chamba & 1 in Sirmour district. Government will open 5**

**girls' hostels in educationally backward blocks to increase enrolment of girls in the high and senior secondary schools.**

62. **We have decided to increase the honorarium amount of Gram Vidya Upasaks, Para teachers and PAT teachers.** It has been decided to offer appointments to 194 JBT trained persons, who had signed bonds with the Government, against vacant posts.
63. Technical Education has received a major boost during the last two years. Classes for IIT Mandi were started in IIT Roorkee for the academic year 2009-10. It will be our endeavour to start the classes at Mandi itself for the academic year 2010-11. Work at the National Institute of Fashion Technology in Kangra district is going on at a fast pace. In order to streamline the curriculum and admissions process in the engineering and other technical institutions, we have decided to open a new Technical University at Hamirpur.
64. Speaker Sir, our Government has taken several steps to upgrade existing health institutions and Medical Colleges. At present 806 Health Sub-Centres and 102 Primary Health Centres are functioning in private buildings. In the next three

years, we propose to construct Sub–Centre and Primary Health Centre buildings at all such places where there are no Government buildings and where land is available.

65. In addition to providing health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000 per family to families living below the poverty line under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, the State Government has also provided additional insurance coverage for critical care of up to Rs 1.75 lakh to each BPL family. With free OPD treatment and coverage of indoor treatment under the Yojana, the Government has been able to provide a substantial health safety cover to the BPL families.
66. We will improve the diagnostic facilities in 10 more hospitals by installing CT Scans in the PPP mode. The Government will operationalise a network of ambulances under a state of the art Emergency Medical Response and Transportation System in the next financial year to meet the medical emergencies at very short notice. **This will be a free facility under which the people will be able to access a toll free telephone number, round the clock and this facility will provide immense relief to the patients, pregnant women and accident victims.**

67. Government proposes to expedite opening of Medical Colleges in Mandi, Hamirpur, Sirmour and Una districts with private sector participation. To promote Nursing education, the State Government has permitted the establishment of 17 new GNM schools and 4 B.Sc. Nursing institutes. The Government has also decided to start Graduate and post graduate nursing classes in IGMC.
68. The construction of ESI Medical College in Mandi and new medical colleges in Solan and Palampur has also been started.
69. It is proposed to strengthen the existing infrastructure in Ayurvedic College, Paprola and open an Ayurvedic Pharmacy College with private sector participation in Joginder Nagar. In order to encourage Yoga and Ayurveda related tourism, the Government has provided land at Kandaghat to Patanjali Yogpeeth. I propose a Plan outlay of Rs 144.19 crore for the Health and Ayurveda sector in the next year.
- Tourism 70. Tourism continues to be an important sector in the State for economic growth and employment generation. With a view to popularise Himachal Pradesh as a tourist State, we propose to launch **'Unforgettable Himachal Brand'**. The Government

is formulating a long term tourism master plan with a view to give a new direction to the tourism industry, to help in increasing the duration of stay of the tourists in the State, to make tourism an all year activity and to promote tourism in the interior areas.

71. On the pattern of the '**Har Ghar Kuch Kehta Hai**' scheme launched in Shimla, the tourism department is working on a similar scheme for the other areas of the State, whereby the local folklore of the villages in the form of **Har Gaon Ki Kahani** would be documented and extensively published so that tourists are attracted towards the rich cultural heritage and historical folklore of the State and the tourism becomes an all year activity in the State.
72. Our Government is making earnest efforts to actively encourage the setting up of hotels by leading and reputed hotel chains in the State. Medical and Educational tourism would be encouraged with the assistance of the upcoming Universities in the State. In order to increase the availability of qualified and trained professionals, it is proposed to start graduate level classes in the State Universities in the field of tourism/hospitality. We are exploring the possibility of establishing an international level airport in the State. In addition,



the private sector will be encouraged to build airports at places where there is minimum requirement of land.

73. It is proposed to upgrade the basic infrastructure at important tourist places by formulating specific plans in coordination with the Public Works and Irrigation & Public Health Departments. The environment conservation, agriculture and forestry sectors would be associated with the tourism sector and rural tourism would be given a new direction by linking schemes under MNREGA.

74. Himachali cuisine, handicrafts and culture have an intrinsic link with the tourism sector. In order to show case these activities, we propose to establish a '**Himachal Hat**' in the PPP mode. The Geo-fossil heritage of the State will be developed at Kasauli, with the assistance of Museum Art Gallery, Chandigarh, wherein this aspect of the State's rich heritage will be preserved and demonstrated.

Forest, Wild life  
and  
Environment

75. Our Government is extremely sensitive and sincere towards maintaining ecological balance through appropriate and innovative conservation measures in the catchment areas of Satluj, Beas, Ravi, Chenab and Yamuna basins. Due to continuous efforts of our Government, the Compensatory

Afforestation Management & Planning Authority (CAMPA) at the Centre has released Rs. 36 crore to the State in the current year. The State level CAMPA headed by the Chief Secretary will ensure proper implementation of catchment treatment and compensatory afforestation works in those areas of these river basins which were previously neglected or where there has been substantial ecological degradation.

76. In Kol dam catchment area, the Eco Batallion has done a commendable job. In this catchment area, the Batallion has ensured 90 to 100 per cent survival of the planted trees. **We are considering to establish four more Eco Battalions through CAMPA funding** . These Eco Batallions will not only provide employment to 500 ex-servicemen but will also help in better conservation of trees planted in the catchment areas.
77. A special programme '**Apna Van Apna Dhan**' envisages providing plants free of cost to the private land owners to encourage them to bring their fallow lands under tree cover. Under this scheme, over 18 lakh plants have been distributed to 18,791 private land owners, organisations, schools, etc. during 2009-10. Our Government has also launched a

**‘Sanjha Van Sanjeevni Van’** programme towards developing Himachal Pradesh as ‘Herbal State’. Under this programme, 51 lakh medicinal plants have been planted during the current financial year. The plantation target for 2010-11 is 60 lakhs medicinal plants.

78. To tackle the monkey menace, three monkey sterilization centres at Tutikandi in Shimla, Sastar in Hamirpur and Gopalpur in Kangra have been established. One more such centre will be opened in district Una next year. During 2009-10, 15,100 monkeys have been sterilized till January, 2010. Target for 2010-11 has been kept at 25,000 sterilizations.
79. After the rationalisation of the protected area under the 2 national parks and 33 wildlife sanctuaries, while the net protected area has increased, the rationalisation has provided immense relief to the villagers and livestock of the areas excluded from these protected areas.
80. My Government is fully seized of the problem of illicit felling of trees and smuggling of timber. In order to protect forest wealth of Himachal Pradesh, 5 Van Thanas have been put in operation during the current year and 11 new Thanas are planned to be

established in sensitive areas in 2010-11. The Plan outlay in Forestry and Wild Life sector for the year 2010-11 has been kept at Rs. 119.41 crore.

81. Our vision is to conserve the pristine Himalayan environment and yet keep the wheels of progress moving. To carry forward the environment agenda, the State recently hosted the first Himalayan Chief Ministers Conclave – ‘Indian Himalayas: Glaciers, Climate change and Livelihoods’ at Shimla which resulted in the ‘Shimla Declaration on Sustainable Himalayan Development’. The Declaration emphasised initiatives including establishment of a Himalayan Sustainable Development Forum, setting up of State Councils for Climate change, catalysing research for policy action and payment for ecosystem services, etc.
82. We intend to establish the State Centre for Glacial Studies, Climate change & Disaster Management in order to cater to the need for chalking out climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and to enhance state’s preparedness for natural disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, glacial lake outbursts, flash floods, etc. We are also planning to establish a State Resource Information Centre, which would serve as a central repository for all

databases on environment, natural resources and climate change.

83. We were the first State in the country to ban the use of recycled polythene in 1999. With effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009, we have completely banned the use of plastic carry bags. At the same time, we also intend to strengthen the solid waste management systems in the urban areas. We have promoted the co-processing of plastic waste in the cement kilns and use of plastic waste in road construction. We had undertaken '**Polythene Hatao-Paryavaran Bachao**' Abhiyan in December, 2009 and collected about 138 tons of polythene waste which would be used by the State PWD for road construction activities.

**Industries**

84. Speaker Sir, the special package of incentives given by the Central Government in January, 2003, during the tenure of Hon'ble Sh. Atal Behari Vajpayee as the Prime Minister, had accelerated the industrial development in Himachal Pradesh. These incentives were valid for ten years, i.e. till 2013. However, later on, the incentives were curtailed by the Government of India upto March, 2010. In its last session at Dharamshala, this august House had passed a resolution seeking the extension of the industrial

package up to 2020, which is critical for attracting new industrial units to the State. The State Government has taken up this matter very strongly with the Government of India. We are disappointed that the recent Union Budget has failed to address the genuine demand of our State regarding extending the industrial package.

85. For accelerating the pace of industrial development, a land bank has been created which includes about 7464 bighas of land so that land is readily available for setting up of industrial units. Nearly 50% of the work of setting up of an Inland Container Depot (ICD) at a cost of Rs. 58 crore at Baddi, by the Container Corporation of India has been completed.
86. In order to create a pool of skilled man power suited for various job opportunities arising in pharmaceutical and food processing sectors, the Himachal Pradesh Drug Manufacturers Association has been encouraged to set up a training institution which is expected to start by April, 2010. This will cost Rs. 1.55 crore and is expected to train about 800 trainees every year.
87. Encouraging the setting up of industries, increasing productivity in the agriculture sector, and increasing investments in the hydro and tourism sectors are the

cornerstones of the Government's policy to ensure employment opportunities for the youth and unemployed. The State Government has got conducted an Evaluation Study of the existing skill levels of the employable youth and the skill gaps, through an expert agency. On the basis of these findings, an Action Plan will be prepared by the concerned departments to increase the employment skills of the youth in different sectors of the economy.

88. To ensure 70% employment to Himachali youths in different enterprises, the policy would be implemented in letter and spirit. Job fairs and campus interviews would be organised on a large scale to meet this objective. All the employment exchanges will be made online to enable the unemployed youth to register on the online live register. Potential employers would be in a position to access the data base and do the recruitment. All notified vacancies will also be uploaded on the web site of Labour & Employment department enabling the unemployed persons to directly apply for jobs. **The daily wage rate of the industrial and allied sector workers has been increased from Rs. 100 to Rs. 110, from 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2010.**

89. Our Government has also not shirked from its responsibility to provide employment in the Government sector. We will continue to fill up more functional posts in the next year so as to provide a responsive administration and to provide greater employment opportunities.
90. Though the law and order situation continues to be good, constant vigil is necessary to ensure that the peaceful atmosphere is sustained in the State. Increasing industrialization, influx of migrant labour and the security situation in neighbouring States put stress on our police forces. The Himachal Pradesh Armed Police and ITBP continues to remain deployed in Chamba district along the Jammu and Kashmir border to prevent infiltration of terrorists. To meet the residential housing needs of the police force, a sum of Rs.16.40 crore has been earmarked in the next year Plan.
91. The State Government is committed to modernize the State Police force and to make it more efficient, effective and people friendly. With these objectives in view, greater emphasis is being laid on community policing. During 2009-10, an amount of Rs. 6.10 crore has been allocated for the modernization of Police force. A modernization Plan



for Rs. 13.10 crore has been prepared for 2010-11 to equip the police forces to meet the emerging challenges in a competent manner.

92. A provision of Rs. 20 crore is proposed during 2010-11 for the building works of judiciary. To ensure clean administration, our Government is committed to the policy of zero tolerance towards corruption in public services.

**Revenue  
Administration/  
Rehabilitation**

93. Hon'ble Members are aware that the revenue administration works at the cutting edge level. The Revenue department would be modernised by laying greater emphasis on computerisation of records, digitization of cadastral maps using latest survey techniques and computerisation of registration work. We propose to spend Rs. 17.60 crore for this purpose.

94. The State Government is concerned about the welfare and rehabilitation of oustees, including Bhakra Dam and Pong Dam oustees, and the effort of the State Government would be to ensure that their interests are protected while rehabilitating them. The Government has approved a Model Rehabilitation Scheme for both hydel & cement projects, based on National Rehabilitation Policy.

95. We have decided to hold direct elections to the posts of President/Vice President in Municipal councils and Nagar Panchayats. Besides, direct elections will also be held for the posts of Mayor and Deputy Mayor in Shimla Municipal Corporation. For this, the relevant statute will be amended. In order to maintain and improve the infrastructure and civic amenities in urban areas, Rs. 41.77 crore has been provided to the urban local bodies in 2009-10, as per the recommendations of the 3<sup>rd</sup> State Finance Commission. This amount is proposed to be increased to Rs. 46 crore in 2010-11. Under the Integrated Housing and Slum Development (IHSDP) sub mission of JNNURM, an amount of Rs. 4.50 crore has been provided to HIMUDA in 2009-10 for construction of 800 dwelling units at Baddi, Nalagarh and Parwanoo. The total Plan outlay for Urban Development in the next year is proposed as Rs.62 crore.
96. In our election manifesto, we had promised to carry out amendments in the Town and Country Planning Act, to make it people friendly and capable of coping up with contemporary urban problems. Keeping in view the present urban scenario and future requirements, a new H.P. Town and Country

Planning Bill, has been prepared which will be introduced during the current Vidhan Sabha session. The Bill will take care of the eco-sensitive environment and unique heritage of the State and pave way for the constitution of an integrated Town and Country Development Authority, to ensure effective implementation of the Development Plans of various towns in the State.

**Information  
Technology**

97. The Government sees IT application in public administration as an important instrument in delivering Government to citizen services. A State Data Centre at a cost of Rs. 44 crore is being set up to host departmental applications at a single place which would be accessed by the user departments across the State using HIMSWAN connectivity. A State Service Delivery Gateway would be established in the coming year for the delivery of IT enabled Government services to the people. We would also establish a State payment gateway facility to facilitate the payment of Government dues/fees/taxes in different departments by the citizens.

**Youth Services  
and Sports**

98. In order to develop sports talent among the youth, our Government will continue to lay emphasis on developing the sport infrastructure, encouraging

participation of talented sportspersons in national and international events and providing job opportunities to the outstanding sportspersons. Apart from expediting the construction of synthetic tracks in Dharamsala and Hamirpur, we will develop modern courts and facilities to promote volleyball and badminton sports. The State Government will provide the necessary support to the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association to develop a modern cricket stadium in all the districts of the State. We will assist the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association to host the upcoming IPL international cricket matches at Dharamshala, which will help in boosting the tourism activities and the local economy.

Language Art  
and Culture

99. Our Government has been giving high priority to the promotion of art and culture of the State. Renowned shaktisthals of the State are the main attraction for the pilgrims throughout the world. On the pattern of Shri Vaishno Devi and Tirumala Tirupati temples, our Government will provide on line facilities to the pilgrims and religious tourists to enable them to offer their prayers from any part of the world. It will be ensured that Himachali artists are given priority in performing in the State and district level fairs and festivals. We will take steps to promote Pahari

Miniature Art form. Construction of Cultural Complex at Una will also be started in the coming year.

**Sainik Welfare**

100. The welfare of Ex-Servicemen, serving soldiers, war widows and gallantry award winners has always been our priority. We have increased the pension of Second World War veterans and their widows from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 per month. The War Jagir to the parents whose sons fought during the wars of 1962 and 1971 has been increased from Rs. 900 per annum to Rs. 2000 per annum.
101. In recognition of the exceptional courage and devotion shown by the soldiers of Himachal Pradesh, we have decided to grant monetary benefits to the 'Bar' Awardees of Distinguished Services Awards, at par with the 'Bar' Awardees of Gallantry Awards of the Armed Forces, in the form of one time cash award and annuity. A new office of the Ex-Servicemen Corporation would be constructed at Barmana at a cost of Rs. 1.35 crore.
102. Our Government remains committed to increasing the employment avenues for Ex-servicemen, both in the Government and Private Sector. Our Government shall continue to pursue the case with the Government of India to increase the recruitment quota in the Armed Forces for Himachal Pradesh.

Employees and  
Civil Service  
Pensioners  
Welfare

103. Our Government has shown its commitment to the employees and pensioners by promptly implementing the 5<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission recommendations. In our tenure, we have given financial benefits worth several thousand crore rupees to the employees and the pensioners. Regularisation of contractual and daily waged employees is being done as per a fair and transparent policy. **In the next year, contract employees and daily wagers who have completed eight years service as on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010, would be regularised.** Our Government has also increased the emoluments of the contract employees, which has benefited them substantially.

104. The policy of providing better promotional avenues to Class-IV employees, which was announced in the last budget, has been operationalised with the advertisement of over 800 posts to be filled up through Subordinate Services Board by limited direct recruitment. These posts would be filled up by the Government in the next 6 months.

Administrative  
Reforms &  
Grievances  
Redressal

105. We are committed to provide a clean, transparent and responsive administration. We have started the e-Samadhan facility, an online public grievance redressal system, whereby any citizen can submit

his grievance online and monitor the action being taken on his application. We will further strengthen this facility so as to redress the public grievances more effectively.

**Resource  
Mobilisation  
Measures**

106. In order to curb tax evasion and leakages, the Excise and Taxation Department would be computerised at a cost of Rs. 21 crore. As has been done by some other States, we propose that the items presently being taxed at 4% under the VAT Act, will now be taxed at 5% rate. However, there will be no increase in the VAT rate on edible oils and food grains. The Government also proposes to introduce the Himachal Pradesh Tax on Entry of Goods into Local Area Bill, 2010 in the current session of Vidhan Sabha with a view to generate additional tax revenues. This entry tax is proposed to be levied on goods used by industries/projects, goods being imported for turn key projects, pan masala, tobacco, cigarettes etc. Our Government is also committed to curtail non-essential expenditure and enforce economy measures.

**Budget  
Estimates**

107. Speaker Sir, I now come to the macro budget estimates. As required under the FRBM Act, I am separately presenting the Medium Term Fiscal Plan of the State Government for the period from 2009-10

to 2012-13.

108. As per budget estimates for 2010-11, the total revenue receipts are estimated at Rs.11,588.55 crore and the total revenue expenditure is estimated at Rs. 12,093.42 crore, leaving a deficit of Rs.504.87 crore on the revenue account. On the capital account, the total expected receipts are Rs. 2,798.77 crore and the total capital expenditure, including loan repayments, is estimated at Rs. 2,985.50 crore. The fiscal deficit for 2010-11 is expected to be 5.08% of the Gross State Domestic Product.
109. Total expenditure estimate for 2010-11 is Rs. 15,078.92 crore. The estimated expenditure on salaries is Rs. 4,454.59 crore, estimated interest payments are Rs. 2,236.30 crore, loan repayments are expected to be Rs. 1,026.04 crore and pension expenditure is estimated at Rs. 1,850 crore.
110. As per the budget estimates, against an expenditure of every 100 rupees, the State will have 77 rupees as total revenue receipts, including transfers from the Centre. The gap of 23 rupees will have to be met by borrowings. Out of every 100 rupees of State revenue receipts, 26 rupees will accrue from own tax revenues, 15 rupees from non-tax



revenues, 14 rupees from share in Central taxes and 45 rupees from Central grants. Out of every 100 rupees spent, salaries will account for 30 rupees, interest payments 15 rupees, loan repayments 8 rupees, pensions 12 rupees, maintenance 8 rupees and the remaining 27 rupees will be spent on all other activities including major developmental works.

Conclusion

111. The full details of the next year's budget are available in the comprehensive budgetary documents being tabled in this august House.

I would now like to summarise the main highlights of this Budget and our Government's achievements and initiatives:

- **Himachal Pradesh adjudged as the best State at the national level in different fields by two independent and renowned media groups.**
- **State has the distinction of being adjudged as the Number One State in the country in implementation of the 20 Point programme during the current year up to November 2009.**
- **Against the estimated national GDP growth rate of 7.2 % during 2009-10, the State's GSDP growth rate is estimated at 7.5 %.**
- **Total Budget outlay for next year is Rs.**

**15,078.92 crore.**

- **Annual Plan 2010-11 is proposed for Rs. 3000 crore. 64% plan outlay will be on capital works.**
- **Rs 471 crore additional World Bank tranche received in this year for development activities.**
- **To contain the impact of rising food prices, State subsidy scheme on 3 dals, 2 edible oils and salt to continue.**
- **Agriculture and Horticulture oriented budget. Rs. 353 crore “Pandit Deen Dayal Kisan Bagwaan Samridhi” Yojana being implemented successfully.**
- **BPL families will get 90% subsidy instead of 80% subsidy for construction of Bamboo based Poly Houses under “Pandit Deen Dayal Kisan Bagwaan Samridhi” Yojana.**
- **Rs 372 crore plan formulated to diversify agricultural activities and increase farm incomes.**
- **Rs 85 crore “Apple Rejuvenation project”**

- proposed to replace old apple root –stocks and increase apple yields.
- Each and every drop of water flowing in the rivers and streams to be fully utilised .Greater emphasis on integrated water conservation and harvesting projects by synergising activities of different departments.
  - “Mukhya Mantri Arogya Pashu Dhan” Yojana started. Veterinary services to be strengthened by opening new dispensary in every Panchayat in the next 3 years. Training to be given to 800 Veterinary Assistants in the next year.
  - Rs 427 crore outlay for agriculture and irrigation in next year.
  - 3700 Below poverty line rural youth to be provided with modern skills under “Swaran Jayanti Gram Swarozgar” Yojana to increase their employability.
  - Financial assistance under “Atal Awas” Yojana and “Indira Awas” Yojana increased from Rs 38,500 to Rs 48,500 per unit in the next year.
  - 100% Open Defecation Free (ODF) Panchayats

**target to be achieved by the end of the next year.**

- **Direct election to the posts of Up-Pradhan in Panchayats and President /Vice President in Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats. Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Municipal Corporation, Shimla also to be directly elected.**
- **Greater role for Gram Panchayats in social audit of MNREGA and other schemes.**
- **Successful distribution of 4 free CFLs to each domestic consumer under “Atal Bijli Bachat” Yojana. Estimated savings of 270 million units power worth over Rs 100 crore per annum.**
- **600 MW hydro power generation capacity to be added in the next year.**
- **Small hydro policy will be rationalised to give boost to micro and small hydel projects. Transmission master plan to facilitate power evacuation will be finalised in six months.**
- **Rs. 530 crore Plan outlay for roads.**
- **Continued priority to maintenance of roads.**
- **Three tunnels to be built at a cost of Rs. 270 crore.**

- **A new policy proposed for long term lease of private sector buildings to meet requirements of Government office buildings.**
- **Budgetary allocation of Rs. 25 crore for Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri railway line. Given the strategic importance, Government pursuing with the Government of India to extend the rail line via Mandi-Kullu-Manali-Lahaul upto Leh.**
- **State Government has taken up with the Union Government the issue of laying a broad gauge rail line between Pathankot to Leh via Jogindernagar, Mandi and Manali. The State Government is also making efforts for Ghanauli-Baddi-Kala Amb-Paonta Sahib-Dehradun new railway line.**
- **Rs. 260 crore plan outlay for drinking water and sewerage schemes.**
- **5000 slipped back habitations for supply of potable water to be taken up in 2010-11.**
- **2500 hand pumps to be installed this year.**
- **Scheduled Caste Sub Plan increased to Rs. 742 crore and Tribal Sub Plan to Rs 270 crore for next year.**

- **Infrastructure facilities under SCSP to be extended to villages with concentration of Scheduled Caste population of 40%.**
- **State Policy for Persons with Disabilities will be announced in next year.**
- **15,234 new social security pensioners added this year.**
- **Income ceiling limits enhanced for eligibility for social security pension.**
- **“Beti Hai Anmol” Yojana started for BPL families.**
- **The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 to be implemented in the State. Community and parents to have greater say in school management.**
- **Open School proposed to be started in the State.**
- **No Board exams for class 8 students from 2011.**
- **Facilities in High Schools and Senior Secondary Schools to be strengthened under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. 5 Model Schools to be opened in Chamba and Sirmour districts.**

- **IIT Mandi to start classes at Mandi in the coming year.**
- **Comprehensive health insurance scheme in all districts for BPL families.**
- **Medical colleges in private sector being facilitated in Kangra, Mandi, Solan, Hamirpur, Sirmour and Una districts.**
- **4 B.Sc. nursing colleges and 17 nursing schools being set up in public private partnership.**
- **Free Ambulance facility under Emergency Medical Response and Transportation System to be started in next financial year.**
- **Brand Himachal to be strengthened under the caption “Unforgettable Himachal”.**
- **Leading and reputed hotel chains to be invited to invest in the State.**
- **‘Himachal Hat’ to be established. Geo fossil gallery to be established at Kasauli.**
- **Linkages of tourism to be developed with heritage, environment protection and rural development to develop new tourist places and make it an all year economic activity.**
- **Better coordination to be ensured among**

departments responsible for providing basic infrastructure for tourism sector.

- **New agenda set for conserving Himalayan environment at the Shimla Declaration on Sustainable Himalayan Development.**
- **Protected area under National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries rationalised giving relief to people of the area.**
- **4 new Eco Battalions proposed.**
- **Daily wage of industrial and allied workers increased from Rs 100 to Rs 110 from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010.**
- **Town and Country planning law to be amended to check haphazard construction.**
- **Employment exchanges to be computerised and made online to provide greater access and information relating to job opportunities in the private and Government sectors.**
- **Pay Scales of employees and pensions revised as per the Punjab Pay Commission recommendations.**
- **Policy for providing more promotional opportunities for Class- IV employees through limited direct recruitment operationalised.**



- **Remuneration of the contract employees increased.**
- **Contract/Daily Wage employees completing 8 years service as on 31.3.2010 to be regularised in the next year.**
- **Honorarium of Gram Vidya Upasak, Para and PAT teachers increased.**
- **194 trained JBTs who had signed bond with State Government to be offered appointment.**
- **Monetary benefits to the Bar Awardees of Distinguished Services Awards to be given at par with the 'Bar' Awardees of Gallantry Awards of the Armed Forces.**

112. Speaker Sir, while concluding I would like to state that in my budget speech I have outlined our developmental priorities and the Government's vision to strengthen the economic progress and development of Himachal Pradesh. The progress made in the two years of our Government is visible to all sections and has received national acclaim. 2010-11 budget shall further consolidate the previous achievements. The next financial year will be a difficult one due to the liabilities on account of pay and pension revisions. By adopting the right policies at appropriate times, we will be able to

successfully meet the challenges of the next year.

113. With the cooperation of the people of the State, we intend to make Himachal Pradesh a State where the people have ample opportunities for employment and self employment, and where they can live with dignity and honour. Our motto shall remain **“Himachal at the Top”**.
114. This budget must be seen as the continuation of our Government’s effort to provide for a better future for the people of Himachal Pradesh. I dedicate this budget to the hard working people of the State.
115. With these words Mr. Speaker Sir, I commend this budget to this august House.

**Jai Hind.**  
**Jai Himachal.**

\*\*\*