



**ADDRESS
TO
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
KERALA**

23rd January 2023

BY
SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN
GOVERNOR OF KERALA

**Honourable Speaker, Chief Minister, Ministers,
Leader of the Opposition and Members:**

1. It is my honour and privilege to address this august body of representatives of the people of Kerala, marking the beginning of the 8th session of the 15th Kerala Legislative Assembly.
2. My Government envisions building of a modern, developed Kerala - *Navakeralam*. We focus on digital and technological progress, scientific temper, and new levels of production and decent employment, particularly for the youth who are entering the labour force. Equal emphasis is also given to provide social security to all deserving sections of our society. According to the latest report of the Reserve Bank of India on State Finances (2023), Kerala is one of the relatively better off among the States regarding Innovation Index, addressing environmental concerns and providing wide social security net. I am happy to note that Kerala has achieved remarkable economic growth – 12 percent at constant prices and 17 percent at current prices. Kerala is a pioneering

State in the country, where decentralized decision-making has catalysed developmental activities by ensuring people's participation. My Government's relentless endeavour to achieve holistic and sustainable development of the State has been recognised time and again by the Government of India and reputed international entities. Kerala has been ranked at the forefront among the States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals consistently by the Niti Aayog. In the overall Public Affairs Index also Kerala ranks forefront. Kerala won the Vayoshreshtha Samman 2021 of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India as India's best State in caring for elderly people. My Government has put in place a comprehensive medical insurance (MEDISEP) for the serving and retired employees. This is a unique with a substantial coverage of 30 lakh members.

3. My Government would vigorously pursue its development agenda with focus on the most vulnerable sections. It is with this in mind that my Government undertook a survey to identify extreme poverty in early 2022, which identified

64,006 extremely poor families across Kerala. The findings of the survey are broadly in line with the findings of the Niti Aayog Baseline Report on Multidimensional Poverty Index, which indicated that multidimensional poverty in Kerala is only 0.7 %, the lowest in the country. My Government is committed to uplifting these extremely poor and vulnerable families from their present state, for which micro-plans are being drawn up in collaboration with Kudumbashree and the Local Governments.

4. My Government is committed to Land and housing for all, in both rural and urban areas. Under the aegis of the 'LIFE' Mission (Livelihood Inclusion and Financial Empowerment Scheme) launched in 2016, 3,22,922 houses and four multi-storeyed complexes have been completed as on 15th January 2023.
5. My Government is relentlessly pursuing efforts to transform governance in the State to a people-centric, technology-driven, outcome-oriented digital governance system. All Departments and

Public Institutions transact their work through the e-office digital platform. More than 900 services have been made online. The Integrated Local Government Management System (ILGMS) has been operationalized in all the Grama Panchayats of the State. The K-SMART application for urban local bodies will be rolled out by April 1st 2023. I am happy to note that this would revolutionize service delivery in urban local bodies. Dashboards have been set up for tracking progress of applications and service delivery in Local Governments as well as all Government Departments with citizen-interface.

6. In order to address the issue of unemployment, my Government initiated a massive Programme, the Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission, with the aim of creating 20 lakh jobs in the economy within the next five years. The India Skills Report, 2022, ranks Kerala third among the States in terms of employability of its youth.
7. I am also happy to note that the concerted efforts taken by my Government in improving the

investment atmosphere of the State have started bearing fruit. My Government took several path-breaking initiatives to transform the investment atmosphere to a business friendly one. The grievance redressal mechanism, centralized inspection system, timely licence approval mechanism for MSMEs and Non-MSMEs have enabled us to make great strides in investment facilitation. Due to these progressive initiatives of the State Government, Kerala has improved its position in the 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking. My Government will continue to bring in reforms in the investment arena and modernise and amend laws, rules and regulations to facilitate and simplify approvals for investment in the State.

8. I would like to make a special mention of the role played by Kudumbashree Mission in empowering women of Kerala - socially, economically and politically. I feel happy and proud to note that Kudumbashree is celebrating its Silver Jubilee in 2023.

9. My Government is committed to protect constitutional values, which are presently facing many challenges. To defend democracy, secularism, plural values and federalism, the important foundations of our national unity and part of the basic structure of the Constitution, we need to take special efforts. Hegemonic tendencies in religious, linguistic and other arenas hamper building of a robust democracy, which respects diversity for strengthening its unity.

10. A strong nation has to have a strong Centre, empowered States and actively functioning Local Governments. For the body politic of the nation to be strong, it needs strong limbs. States have heavy responsibilities in the social sectors and their fiscal position has to be strong. Recent measures to curtail the borrowing limits of the States constrain the scope of their interventions in the health, education and infrastructural sectors. While fiscal discipline has to be enforced in right earnest, there cannot be different yardsticks for State Governments, which are not made applicable to the Union Government.

11. Our Constitution has provided legislative space for the Union and the States. Incursions into the legislative domain of the States do not augur well for a cooperative federal setup. Checks and balances in the system have to be scrupulously observed for the healthy functioning of our democratic polity. Legislative Assemblies represent the will of the people. The spirit of legislation and the intention of the legislature has to be protected. My Government is committed to the constitutional value that the intention of the legislature should take effect as law. Similarly, the freedom of the press is a cardinal feature of every strong democratic society. Free and fair media activities are to be protected. Some instances of curtailing the freedom of the press in different ways are coming up in some parts of the country. My Government is always committed to protect the freedom of the press. Here it needs to be underscored that even remotely a perception that agencies empowered to investigate matters regarding compliance to laws are acting in a manner, which deviates from the professionalism expected from them.

I. Agriculture and Allied Sectors

12. My Government is cognizant of the need for adoption of a mission-mode programme to enhance farmer incomes through value addition as well as productivity enhancement and to build resilience to Kerala's agriculture to climatic and biotic stresses. With this objective in mind, my Government has commenced a multi-departmental initiative, the Value Added Agriculture Mission (VAAM), to realize the potential for value addition in agricultural products in the State.
13. As announced in the Budget of 2022-23, the Agriculture Department is floating a Company 'Kerala Agri Business Company (KABCO), to accelerate agri business projects and agro-food parks in the State.
14. As implemented in Aluva State Seed Farm, more activities in organic and natural farming will be initiated during 2023-24. Farming systems that can regenerate degraded lands and prevent losses to the arable lands using adequate conservation measures have been attempted by the

Department. Adequate thrust will be given to the plantation sector in 2023-24.

15. The existing Special Livestock Breeding Programme of Animal Husbandry Department will be implemented in a revamped manner. More emphasis will be provided for strengthening quality doorstep veterinary service delivery to farmers. Mobile Veterinary Surgery Units with advanced diagnostic and treatment facilities will be established as part of Rebuild Kerala Initiative programme.
16. The Department will continue the Comprehensive Livestock Insurance Scheme 'Gosamrudhi', with the lowest premium rates.
17. Interventions by the Dairy Development Department to supplement clinical and animal health management practices have helped Kerala attain self-sufficiency in milk production. The Department has inducted high-yielding cross-breed cows and heifers to the existing cattle population of the State.

18. The Department will carry out special quality assurance drive for detection of aflatoxin and antibiotic residues in milk, milk products and cattle feed. Further quality assurance drive for 'certified milk' will also be completed.
19. My Government proposes to bring in a comprehensive amendment in the cooperative law with a view to improving the activities in the cooperative sector and to check corrupt practices in the sector. The draft bill for amending the Act was presented before the Assembly.
20. The Kerala Sahakarana Samrakshana Nidhi when implemented will streamline investments in co-operative societies and revive distressed co-operative societies. A unified software system has been introduced for the State Co-operative Bank. 'Sahakaranam Souhridam' was introduced to disburse loans to persons with disabilities for starting business ventures.
21. Fisheries sector continues to be a high-priority sector for my Government. The Department will strengthen efforts to promote aquaculture activities

through diversification of species, adoption of innovative technologies and area expansion. Another focus area is modernization of the 'fishing fleet' of the State to better standards in a phased manner.

22. The social security of fishermen is a major thrust area of my Government. The Department will continue the scheme of insurance coverage to all the fishermen and the fishing implements of traditional fishermen. My Government has also prioritised projects for provision of safe dwelling for the fishermen/coastal population by rehabilitating those living in erosion prone areas. Through the flagship Programme 'Punargaeham', 1473 individual houses and 390 flats have been completed and handed over to the beneficiaries.
23. The Harbour Engineering Department will continue its activities for modernization of fisheries infrastructures, fishing harbours and fish markets. Under new projects, the Department will take up construction of 660 flats, for an amount of Rs. 120.63 Crores at Muttathara in Thiruvananthapuram, Koyiladi in Kasargod, Unniyal and Ponnani in Malappuram.

II. Human Development Sectors

24. My Government through the 'Pothu Vidyabhyasa Samrakshana Yajnam' and the 'Vidya Kiranam' Projects have brought in holistic reforms in the education sector. Innovative schemes are under implementation to stimulate creativity and inculcate scientific temper in students. The Departmental data shows that 1,19,970 students shifted from unaided schools and from other syllabi schools to government and government aided schools in Kerala in 2022-23. This is indeed an endorsement of the top quality education provided by the General Education Department and the top class infrastructure in these institutions.

25. The school curriculum will be modified highlighting the uniqueness and richness of Kerala culture. The curriculum of vocational higher secondary students would be made more skill oriented. The Government also intends to streamline English learning and teaching through innovative programmes.

26. The Department would strive to create a differently abled friendly environment in schools, without losing sight of inclusive education. The Department proposes construction of Autism Parks in schools and enhanced financial assistance for institutions for mentally challenged children.
27. My Government is acutely aware of the menace posed by the misuse of drugs and is implementing a host of programmes in collaboration with various Departments to prevent students from falling into the drug trap.
28. Kerala's Higher Education sector has had notable achievements as can be seen from NAAC ranking received by the higher education centres of the State. My Government is of the view that much needs to be done, to make Kerala a destination of higher education. We are taking steps in this direction. My Government is keen that democratic, secular and inclusive nature of our higher education sector is preserved and protected.
29. The Higher Education Department aims to transform the State into a knowledge society by

facilitating the generation and translation of new knowledge. The Department is preparing novel academic programmes in emerging disciplines with renewed focus on research and skill upgradation.

30. In its attempt to revamp the curricula for higher education courses, the Department is contemplating modification of undergraduate programmes. The Higher Education Curriculum Framework will be formulated by the Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC), after stakeholder consultations.
31. The proposed Kerala Language Network (KLN) shall undertake various initiatives for the development of Malayalam as a language of knowledge.
32. Chief Minister's NAVA Kerala Post-Doctoral Fellowship (CMNPF) was awarded to 77 candidates, for undertaking quality research in different core disciplines.
33. Kerala has made significant gains in the health sector, with the lowest infant and maternal mortality rates, the highest life expectancy and the best sex

ratio in India. My Government, under the aegis of the Aardram Mission - 2 aims to complete the reengineering of health systems through standardising all healthcare facilities from sub-centres to Medical Colleges, ensuring patient access to quality healthcare services and reducing out-of-pocket expenditure. The conversion of Primary Health Centres to Family Health Centres with adequate supply of medicines and assured treatment protocols has enhanced the trust of the people in the public health system.

34. My Government is cognizant of the increased incidence of non communicable diseases in our population. The Health Department does annual screening of citizens over 30 years for early detection and treatment of hypertension, diabetes and cancer (oral, breast and cervical). All health facilities in the State have been mapped to cancer centres as part of the Cancer Grid.
35. The Department runs campaigns for promoting healthy lifestyles and carries out community surveillance for zoonotic diseases. Kollam and

Kottayam Districts are gearing towards declaration of elimination of filariasis by March 2023. The first phase of the One Health Project has started in Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha, Kottayam and Idukki Districts.

36. Ayush Department will continue its focus on preventive, promotive and rehabilitative aspects of health care and health and wellness. The Department is preparing the blueprint of a Project on Ayush Medical Value Tourism, which will lay down clear guidelines and standards for wellness applications in tourist resorts.
37. Kerala is the first State in the nation to complete 100% Aadhar seeding of all ration cards. As part of the diversification of ration shops, K-Store Project has been launched to provide various products/services.
38. I am happy to note that 6,690 Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) cards and 2,64,762 Priority House Hold (PHH) cards were issued to those eligible. Special consideration was given to families which have members with terminal illness, disability or

children with autism. Steps have been taken to provide Aadhaar seeded ration cards to people living on the streets and tenants who do not possess requisite certificates.

39. I am happy to note that 85,69,583 Free Onam Kits containing 14 essential items including cloth bags prepared by Supplyco were distributed to all households in the State through Ration Shops. That this was done despite the financial constraints of the State, portrays the pro-people approach of my Government.
40. The Institute of Advanced Virology, functioning at the Life Sciences Park, Thonnakkal, Thiruvananthapuram, has established infrastructure and human resources required to carry out high-end research in advanced virology.

III. Social Sector

41. The Women and Child Development Department continues to focus on the overall health and nutrition status of women and children. The Department is planning a long-term campaign in order to achieve

the three dimensions of gender equality viz. equal opportunity, equal voice and freedom from violence.

42. My Government will prepare a comprehensive plan for establishment of Community Disability Management Centres and Integrated Rehabilitation Villages at the Local Government level with the technical support of National Institute for Speech and Hearing (NISH).
43. My Government would be drawing up a strategy to address the special needs of the elderly. Under the aegis of 'Vathilpadi Sevanam' various services were provided to the bedridden and disabled senior citizens at their homes, such as delivery of emergency medicines, organisation of home visits by medical teams, palliative care etc.
44. The Scheduled Castes Development Department is preparing the outline of a Programme 'Training for Career Excellence' (TRACE) for providing internship and placement training for professionals and graduate SC youth.

45. A 'Green Income' Programme for solar electrification of houses of Scheduled Caste families has been worked out. This would enable them to generate income by selling surplus electricity to KSEB. The Department plans to generate health cards to record the health and nutritional status of students in Model Residential Schools.
46. My Government intends to prepare microplans for all tribal settlements, giving priority to projects for providing basic amenities like road, drinking water, electricity, internet connection etc in all the tribal settlements in the State.
47. Action has been initiated for setting up of special mobile medical clinic in Attappady. Edamalakudy special package has been rolled out.
48. The Minority Welfare Department implements a host of welfare programmes for bridging identified development gaps of the minority communities in Kerala. The Department is also preparing the blueprint of an action plan with focus on skilling of the unskilled youth especially in new and emerging areas.

49. My Government notes the recent decision of the Union Government in having stopped the Pre Matric Scholarships to backward class and minority students of Classes 1 to 8. My Government apprehends that this decision may trigger lesser enrolment and higher dropout of students from marginalised sections.

IV. Local Governance

50. 2022 marked the 25th year of the bigbang decentralisation exercise which was rolled out in 1997. The Local Governments of Kerala have become partners with the State Government in its development activities, consequent to the transfer of funds, functions and functionaries. The pivotal role played by the Local Self-Governments in the development story of the State needs special mention.
51. The integration of five line Departments under Local Self Government Department is a historical and revolutionary policy decision of my Government. This will improve the quality and pace of the delivery of service to the common man.

52. The 'Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme' continues to provide succour to jobless families driven by poverty. As on 18th January 2023, the Scheme has generated 7.24 Crores person days of employment, providing support to 14.85 lakh families. An amount of Rs. 22,266.96 Crores has been provided as wages. Women continue to be the major labour force under the Scheme in Kerala, with women person days being 89.45 percent of the total person days generated in the current year. The total employment generated this year also would cross 10 Crore person days, the third year in a row with more than 10 Crore person days.
53. Under the 'Tribal Plus' Scheme, my Government provides wages from State funds for additional 100 days of employment for the Scheduled Tribe families. I am happy to note that Kerala is the only State where additional employment is generated for ST beneficiaries of MNREGS through a separate state-supported scheme.

54. My government continues to give thrust to the Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme, the first such Scheme for urban employment implemented in any Indian State. The budget outlay for the Scheme was increased to Rs. 125 Crores in 2022-23.
55. My Government has embarked on preparation of 'Risk Informed Master Plans' to make cities disaster resilient and safe. Such plans prepared scientifically by layering 29 maps have been done for Chengannur and Mananthavady towns; and initiated for 10 towns in the Pamba basin under Rebuild Kerala Initiative.
56. In order to monitor the waste management activities in all Local Bodies, Haritha Keralam Mission and Suchitwa Mission through Keltron have developed the 'Harithamithram' App.
57. The contamination of water bodies by coliform bacteria is a serious problem we are facing. My Government is taking steps to ameliorate the situation. Kerala has augmented the activities under liquid waste management by

pooling resources from various schemes. The State Government reported to the National Green Tribunal that an amount of Rs. 2343.81 Crores has been ring fenced for liquid waste management. It is a matter of immense satisfaction for my Government that the NGT at its sitting on December 1st 2022 acknowledged the commitment of the State Government and issued orders that it was not necessary to levy compensation from Kerala.

58. Under the 'Manassodithiri Mannu' campaign launched by LIFE Mission soliciting voluntary contribution of land from individuals, institutions and agencies, an extent of 23.62 acres of land has been promised to Life Mission till 15th January 2023.
59. An international conclave to showcase Kudumbashree is planned on the occasion of the 25th year of its formation in May 2023. Kudumbashree conducted 'Sudridam' Campaign for inclusion of more beneficiaries, after which 69,590 new members joined the network.

60. The Kerala Institute for Local Administration (KILA) developed the 'Local Indicator Framework', a web portal based dashboard for ranking the local bodies in their implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

V. Industries, IT, Labour & Commerce

61. My Government has taken several initiatives to improve the business friendly atmosphere in the State. The New Industrial Policy has been formulated with the objective to tap the strengths of the State and foster investments in sunrise /priority sectors. Special focus is being placed on upgrading skills of youth for future jobs, industries and technologies of the fourth industrial revolution.
62. My Government has declared the year 2022-23 as the 'Year of Enterprises' and launched the innovative flagship 'One Lakh Enterprises' Scheme. It is not a mean achievement that since the inception of the Scheme, a total of 1,23,968 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have been started in the State, which in turn has paved the way for an investment of Rs. 7517 Crores and an

employment generation of 2,67,196. This Scheme has been selected as the best practice in the MSME sector by the Government of India.

63. My Government is in the process of establishing the International Exhibition cum Convention Centre, Palakkad Hi-Tech Industrial Corridor, the Global Industrial Financial and Trade City, Petrochemical Park, Spices Park, Rubber Park etc. The mining survey process will be automated to bring in more transparency and the Kerala Online Mining Permit Awarding Services (KOMPAS) will be strengthened.
64. I am happy to note that in 2021-2022, 21 PSUs made operating profits. The closed Hindustan Newsprints Limited (HNL) and BHEL-EML were taken over by the State Government from Union Government and these units have resumed production, which is an alternate development model put forward by the State to protect PSUs.
65. The Kerala Public Enterprises Selection and Recruitment Board (KPESRB) will be operationalized during 2023-24.

66. My Government has constituted Expert Committees in Coir, Cashew and Handloom Sectors for a comprehensive review of the sectors.
67. Kerala State IT Mission released the e-District application version 2.0 with more services and modules. Digital Kerala architecture will be implemented with extensive use of data analytics. Universities will be enabled to issue Certificates and Marklists through National Academic Depository Digi Locker.
68. Kerala Startup Mission will implement 'Startup Infinity' for setting up launchpads in select countries/cities and 'Kerala Startup Commons' a unique one-stop platform for technical and business support for Startups. The Government IT parks added 258 new Companies last year and registered a revenue growth of Rs.2993 Crores. KSITIL will implement Community Skill Parks Project for providing world class industry relevant skills.
69. The Digital University has entered into MoU with four foreign Universities for research and

academics. The University has developed and launched an extensive mobile App 'KKEM Jalakam' with integrated web dashboard for conducting household based job seeker survey as part of Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission.

70. My Government has taken all-out efforts to ensure the welfare of the guest workers. An 'Athidhi Portal' is functional for registration of interstate migrant workers. A 'Thozhil Seva App' was developed for registering the complaints of the general public on various issues and disputes.
71. Employment Department is in the process of transforming conventional employment exchanges to e-Employment Exchanges.
72. My Government proposes to implement 'Karmachari' Scheme to provide part time jobs to the students, while they are studying; and a scheme for re-skilling of employees.
73. I am happy to note that the Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission (KKEM), established under the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic

Council has identified 53 lakh potential jobseekers. More than 11 lakh jobseekers and 2525 employers have registered on the Digital Work Force Management System (DWMS). A public interface at the Local Government level has been initiated through 'Thozhil Sabha', 882 Thozhil Sabhas have been completed so far.

74. One Local Government One Idea (OLOI) Program would be operationalized in 100 Local Governments targeting innovative problem solving and promoting local economic development and entrepreneurship.

VI. Infrastructure

75. I am happy to note that there is a conducive policy framework for the infrastructure sector. My Government has ensured all necessary assistance for the timely completion of National Highway - 66. The Pothole free Kerala project is under implementation.
76. A comprehensive design policy is in the anvil. A special plan will be formulated to make the PWD bridges iconic. The Public Works Department will

make roads leading to tourism destinations as model green and safe corridors. The Department proposes to adopt advanced technology in the construction sector and to promote construction using rubber, coir, geotextiles, plastic and prefab structures.

77. The Kerala Maritime Board has established all necessary infrastructure facilities at important minor ports for facilitating coastal shipping. The Board also plans to start cruise shipping operations based at Beypore, Kollam, Azheekal and Ponnani Ports in a phased manner.
78. The Water Resources Department has provided Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) to more than 15 lakh rural households as on 15th January 2023, under the aegis of the Jal Jeevan Mission in 2023-24.
79. Kerala has been taking a consistent stand that while sufficient water should be given to Tamil Nadu, a new dam needs to be constructed considering the grave threats posed by existing aged Mullaperiyar dam. A comprehensive project would be

envisaged to protect the Periyar river bank in the Mullaperiyar area.

80. The State's share of water in Pambar basin awarded by the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal is 3 TMC. Once the Pattassery dam is completed and functional, 0.075 TMC of water could be effectively utilised.
81. Water Resources Department will establish an Irrigation Museum at Cheruthoni, Idukki for imparting knowledge to the new generation about dams and irrigation techniques and will also take steps to promote Irrigation Tourism in a long way.
82. In connection with power generation at Moolamattom, a project is envisaged to ensure continuous flow of water to Meenachil river through the Meenachil river valley Irrigation Project. A comprehensive Meenachil Flood mitigation survey will be undertaken to analyse the reasons for flooding of Pala and downstream areas during peak monsoon periods.

83. My Government will continue works related to strengthening of vulnerable coastal stretches leveraging innovative technologies like geotubes, tetrapods, diaphragm walls etc. 10 coastal areas prone to sea erosion have been identified as 'hot spots'.
84. My Government is keen on establishing faster, greener and efficient transportation facilities for the public. My government's dream proposal, Silverline, a semi high speed rail infrastructure project, would be a fast, safe and convenient mode of transport for the travelling public. The Detailed Project Report has been approved by State Government and submitted to Ministry of Railways for final approval.
85. Thalassery- Mysuru New Broad Gauge Rail Line via Kalpetta and the Nilambur – Nanjangud Rail Project are other Projects that my Government intends to implement. State Government has also agreed to share 50% cost of Angamali-Sabari Rail line.
86. West Coast Canal (WCC) when completed would be the main arterial waterway in the State connecting Kovalam in the South with Bakel in the

North. On completion the canal would facilitate easy transportation of goods and freight.

87. Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd (KSEBL) is committed to providing uninterrupted, quality power at affordable prices and has made investments for augmenting domestic power generation from 30% to 50% of the total peak demand. Efforts will be made to capitalize central assistance for flood control dams, and commission multitasked hydel projects. KSEBL has successfully harnessed power from renewable energy sources under the aegis of the Oorjja Kerala Mission. I am happy to note that the ongoing Transgrid 2.0 and 400 KV transmission corridor projects when completed would raise Kerala's power generation capability to 5000 MW. This will not only cater to our internal power requirement for the next decade, but will enable us to export surplus power too.
88. My Government will be bringing out guidelines for development of sustainable energy sources such as for floating solar power plants in water bodies, abandoned quarries and degraded, barren land.

Implementation of floating solar power plants and wind farms in Palakkad and Idukki is expected to produce at least 3000 MW of renewable power by 2025. 100 MW additional capacity shall be created in the Cheemeny Solar Park in Kasaragod District.

89. Kerala is expecting a boom in eMobility in the coming years. My Government will take steps to establish enabling EV charging infrastructure facilities to meet the requirement.

VII. Natural Resources, Forest and Wildlife, Environment and Disaster Management

90. The State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) has been revised keeping in view the vulnerabilities of various sectors. A 'Climate Change Knowledge Portal' will be developed to provide data on historic and future climate, vulnerabilities and impacts. My Government plans to inventorize the greenhouse gas emissions of various sectors. Haritha Keralam Mission has launched a campaign highlighting net zero emission targets.

91. The Kerala State Biodiversity Board completed the preparation of State Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan 2022-23. It is also planned to develop a policy to identify Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and prioritize areas requiring interventions and corrective strategies.
92. Forest Department will chalk out an effective strategy to check incidence of man-animal conflict and to provide more benefits to the victims. Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) have been established in high conflict zone areas. The RRTs and Forest Stations will be further strengthened. The Department also plans to take up installation of solar fence and solar hanging fence.
93. Kerala is prone to 17 natural hazards and 22 anthropogenic hazards that have disaster potential. The disaster management literacy program will equip the general public in disaster preparedness and mitigation. The Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) has forayed into innovative resilience building measures

with a long-term perspective. Nationally, KSDMA became noted as the 4th best Disaster Management Authority.

94. KSDMA has developed the Kerala Warnings, Hazards and Crisis Department Management system (KaWaCHaM) which is India's first integrated cloud based early warning system. Attempts will be made to downscale the scenarios using a Co-ordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX) exercise. This will be made available to Local Governments for risk informed development planning.
95. The Kerala State Land Use Board (KSLUB) proposes to strengthen the Geo-informatics lab as a geospatial data repository on natural resources for the entire State and provide GIS support for watershed based planning.
96. Rebuild Kerala Initiative (RKI) is the dedicated State level institutional modality for formulating and coordinating the implementation of a resilient Kerala, and is mandated to develop, coordinate, facilitate and monitor the Rebuild Kerala

Development Program (RKDP) through a participatory and inclusive approach. Projects worth Rs. 5410 Crores have been awarded under RKI so far, and the implementing Departments have incurred expenditure to the tune of Rs. 2120 Crores.

VIII. Finance, Taxes & Excise

97. My Government intends to bring out radical changes in the property registration sector as part of the Ease of Doing Business initiatives in the State. The existing Registration Application System, PEARL, will be re-designed with emerging technologies. Consent based Aadhar integration will be done for identification of parties to a document. An IT system will be implemented for valuation of buildings for registration purpose.
98. The GST Department is being restructured in accordance with the requirements of the new GST law. Taxpayer services will be provided with utmost efficiency while tax evasion will be tackled with stringency. The new system will also reduce the disputes between taxpayers and the Department. The system also brings in a comprehensive audit

setup. The Department migrated from the in-house developed back office system to GSTN Model 2 system in March 2022 to deal with the dynamic nature of the GST Act and Rules and to ensure accuracy in data transmitted.

99. The Department introduced a 'Tax Payer Card' with a rating of Tax Payers based on accurate and timely filing of returns. A Virtual IT Cadre was formed in the GST Department to drive the e-Governance Projects of the Department. The Department implemented the Lucky Bill App Scheme in association with the Digital University Kerala to encourage people to "Ask for Bills" for their purchases.
100. Kerala Lottery provides a means of livelihood to more than one lakh agents. The Department conducted the Onam Bumper Lottery in 2022, with the highest ever first prize of Rs. 25 Crores.
101. The Kerala State Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) has contributed to infrastructure development of the State using funds received from the Government by way of motor vehicle tax and

petroleum cess, and also by loan of Rs. 19197 Crores from both domestic and financial markets. The funding through KIIFB for infrastructure projects has been crucial in reversing the Covid induced economic catastrophe. I am happy to note that 993 Projects with an outlay of Rs. 73,908 Crores (which is inclusive of Rs. 20,000 Crores for land acquisition) have been approved by the KIIFB chaired by Hon. Chief Minister; 593 Projects worth Rs. 27,620 Crores have been tendered and 120 Projects worth Rs. 6201 Crores have been commissioned.

102. The Union Government's revised decision to include loans availed of by KIIFB also within the ambit of Kerala's overall borrowing limits, thereby severely restricting the State's borrowing capacity. I would like to bring to the attention of this House that this would reduce the fiscal space for the Government for furthering its development priorities and would constrain the State's resources. My Government has submitted a Memorandum to the Union Government in this regard. At this juncture I hope that the question of fiscal federalism in the country

is to be addressed in a very positive way by the Union Government.

103. Under the Treasury Infrastructure Development Project(TIDP), infrastructure development of offices under Treasury Department has been prioritised. eTR5, an online application for accepting Government revenues, has been brought into use from June 2022.
104. Kerala Financial Corporation (KFC) continues to be the most efficiently performing State Financial Corporation in the country. The external credit rating of KFC is A+. The loan size of KFC which was Rs. 4751 Crores as of end March 2022 has increased to Rs. 6094 Crores as of 30th September 2022. In the coming two years, it is aimed to enhance the total loan size of KFC to Rs.10,000 Crores.
105. My Government is implementing an action plan to eliminate the misuse of drugs and intoxicants in society, especially among the students and the youth. Awareness activities are also being carried out under the auspices of 'Vimukthi Mission' to

make the people aware of the harmful aspects of intoxicating substances. The Home Department has launched 'Yodhav' to check the menace of narcotic drugs in society. My Government launched a 'No To Drugs' campaign on October 2nd 2022, co-ordinating the activities of all stakeholders and all line Departments.

IX. Regulatory Sectors

106. My Government proposes to enact a Land Settlement Act and is considering enabling provisions for legal occupiers of the land to get a conclusive title regarding ownership. Authentic survey documents, which would be obtained through the ongoing Digital Survey in the State would be taken into consideration, while implementing the provisions of the Act.

107. I am happy to bring to the notice of this august house that 54,535 families have become landowners in the first year of my Government's tenure. A 'Pattayam mission' will be implemented to achieve the objective of providing Pattayam to all eligible persons. A comprehensive scheme will be

devised to provide ownership and right of land to homeless people, who were rehabilitated in the State through various schemes. Taluk Land Boards will be clubbed into four zones and charge of each Taluk Land Board will be entrusted with a Deputy Collector exclusively.

108. My Government has implemented Aadhaar based Unique Thandaper System, the first of its kind in India. On the completion of Digital Survey, all Thandapers in the State will come under the Unique Thandaper System.
109. Steps will be taken to upgrade all the village offices in Kerala to Smart village offices. A revenue e-literacy scheme will be started. A mobile application will be developed for real-time public reporting of complaints along with photo and geo-tagging about illegal land filling, sand mining and land encroachment.
110. I am happy to announce that a pilot project will be introduced to transform revenue offices as transparent service centres with specially trained staff, minimum waiting time, effective complaint

redressal mechanism and social audit in selected 15 villages this year.

111. My Government has launched its dream project 'Digital Survey'. Accordingly, all records of the survey offices in the State will be digitized. Digital Survey in the State will be completed within the tenure of my Government.
112. My Government created the Directorate of Samoohika Sannadhasena to promote volunteerism in the State, in the light of floods and Covid pandemic. 3.5 lakhs volunteers have registered under Samoohika Sannadhasena as volunteers. To engage these volunteers in Vathilpadisevanam and other activities, disaster resilience trainings are being provided by the Department, in collaboration with the Local Governments.
113. Kerala Police has the reputation as one of the best-managed State Police Forces in the country. All Police Stations in Kerala are now under CCTV surveillance. Automated Number Plate Recognition Cameras with facial recognition and a special app for locked house monitoring system have been

implemented. Student Police Cadet Project has been extended to 100 new schools. A separate Economic Offence Wing has been established for exclusive enquiry of economic offences.

114. The Prisons & Correctional Services Department has achieved remarkable progress in ensuring correction, reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners. Central Prison & Correctional Home, Thavanur, the first central prison established in the State after Independence, has started functioning.
115. Fire outposts at high range areas and efficient rescue system in new high rise buildings are being proposed to be implemented by the Fire and Rescue Services Department.
116. I am happy to note that e-filing facility has been introduced in the High Court in a phased manner, with effect from 1st October 2022. This would be one step forward in implementation of paperless courts and digitisation of entire court proceedings. The data centre in High Court and model digital court rooms for the district judiciary will be operationalised. Finger-print based biometric/RFID

card punching attendance system has also been introduced in the courts. Twenty-three Fast Track Special Courts have started functioning during the year for the speedy disposal of rape cases and cases registered under POCSO Act.

117. The Vigilance setup in the State has been working effectively during the tenure of this Government. The Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau has initiated several innovative measures in consonance with the Government Policy of 'Zero Tolerance to Corruption'.

118. The Department of Parliamentary Affairs will be organising the Students Sabha- a debate with MLAs by student representatives, in at least 70 Assembly Constituencies to forge healthy relationships between people's representatives and the younger generation. I am also happy to note that in a first of its kind, Kollam District became India's first Constitution literate District in the country.

119. On the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of MN Laksham Veedu Scheme, the Housing Department will take up the task of converting all twin houses

constructed under the Scheme into single houses. A mobile application named e-Griha will be launched to provide innovative ideas in the housing sector.

120. The Aswas Rental Housing Scheme will be extended to all the Medical Colleges in the State. The Centres will be started under Kerala State Nirmithi Kendra with the objective to provide free technical advice and guidance to the general public.

121. Non Resident Keralites Affairs Department has been acting as an interface between the Non Resident Keralites and the Government for the last 25 years. The Norka Institute of Foreign Language (NIFL) provides demand based language training for potential job seekers; placement assistance is provided by the Norka Roots Recruitment Division.

X. Art & Culture, Tourism and Sports

122. Malayalam Mission has bagged the State e-Governance Award for its Bhoomi Malayalam Open Online Course in the e-learning category this year. Action has been initiated for setting up

a South Indian Cultural Centre at Pinarayi Village in Kannur.

123. The Centre for International Film Research and Archives (CIFRA), a research centre of the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy, will provide an opportunity for students from foreign Universities and other States of India to study the unique art and culture of Kerala through Malayalam cinema.
124. My Government proposes to upgrade Kerala Kalamandalam presently in the status of 'Deemed to be University' to a Cultural University. The Vasthuvidya Gurukulam in tandem with ASAP proposes to launch training programmes in mural painting across Kerala.
125. The State Archives Department has a rich collection of archival records from the 14th century in paper and palm leaves. Phase I of the Palm Leaf Museum showcasing the rich history and culture of Kerala was inaugurated in December at the Central Archives building.

126. The year that passed saw the Kerala put itself on the map of post-covid world tourism. Kerala tourism staged a strong comeback as a result of the well-planned activities of the Government. Based on the influx of domestic tourists, the tourism sector recorded an all-time high in the first three quarters of 2022. It is a matter of immense pride for the entire State that the grandeur of Kerala Tourism has been constantly acknowledged in the international arena. TIME magazine has included Kerala among the 50 extraordinary destinations to explore in 2022, with a special mention of the Caravan Tourism launched by this Government.
127. My Government is committed to attracting investments in the tourism sector by making available optimum industrial privileges/concessions/subsidies, by considering tourism as an industry. Responsible Tourism is being developed as a mechanism for facilitating the local economic development of Kerala. Accordingly, it has been decided to constitute Responsible Tourism Mission Society.

128. Sports & Youth Affairs Department conducted One Million Goal Campaign in November 2022 imparting basic football training to one lakh students, coinciding with the World Cup Football, with the assistance of Sports Kerala Foundation. Government aims to develop at least one playground in every Panchayat under the Scheme 'One playground for every Panchayat.'

129. My Government accords top priority to modernization and renovation of sports infrastructure through the Sports Kerala Foundation. 'Elite Scheme' has been introduced to impart scientific and advanced training to talented sports persons to equip them to compete in international competitions. Women's Football Academy has been established at Ernakulam.

Conclusion

130. Kerala, which is a pioneer in many fields also faces new challenges. But, it also has immense opportunities before it. To make use of the same, my Government is playing the role of a leader as well as a facilitator. My Government has the avowed

aim to make Kerala a knowledge society. For this, comprehensive reforms have been initiated in the higher education sector. Kerala has had to traverse a tough path facing unprecedented health emergencies, natural calamities and lastly the Pandemic. The approach of my Government has been to tackle these difficult situations with people's participation. This has been widely acclaimed. We are now faced with the task of providing good quality employment to our younger generation. My Government is leaving no stone unturned in this regard. My Government is committed to provide social welfare and to promote fast economic growth and infrastructural development. For this, we need a positive approach from the Union Government which will foster meaningful cooperative federalism. In the journey ahead, my Government will take all possible steps involving the citizenry for attaining the development goals.

JAI HIND