

JANUARY 29, 1982

Honourable Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this session of the Legislative Assembly of Kerala. As the Governor of this State, this is the fifth consecutive occasion on which I have been privileged to address you. At the outset itself, let me convey my good wishes to you all and through you to the people of Kerala.

2. Since I last addressed you there has been a change of Government, and a new Ministry has assumed office. Unfortunately, the Ministry that went out of office last October was severely handicapped in its functioning by the ideological inconsistencies among its constituent units, with the result the Ministry failed to function as a team as approach to certain issues, especially law and order, followed by the leading partners in the Left Democratic Front, could not be endorsed by the other constituent parties of the coalition and this failure had very serious repercussions on the functioning of the entire administrative machinery. Political clashes resulting in several murders and harassment of the public by organised groups of anti-social elements put the life of the common man under severe strain. The agricultural scene and the industrial landscape were disturbed by unrest.

3. In these circumstances some parties decided to leave the Left United Front for forming a stable, democratically-oriented alternate Government that would function with dynamism, unity and clarity of purpose, and total commitment to the progress of the State and the welfare of its people. Such an alternative, apart from its constitutional justification, was found to be absolutely essential for restoring law and order, reactivating the administrative machinery, and most of all, for ensuring the progress of the State through well-conceived and well-coordinated administrative policies and programmes. Fully aware of these imperative necessities, my Government has already accorded top-most priority to the restoration of law and order by putting down with a firm hand all anti-social elements, irrespective of their political affiliations. My Government is committed to ensure to every citizen the freedom to follow his normal avocation in peace. Violence, in whatever form or in whatever field, will be curbed promptly and effectively. The law and order machinery and the crime detection agencies will be allowed to function freely and without fear or favour. Secondly my Government is committed to streamline the administrative apparatus so that the fruits of planned economic development will reach the common man in full measure and without delay. Every effort will be made to mobilise the economic resources of the State and to utilise them in a way that ensures avoidance of waste and optimum benefit to the weaker sections of the community. Most important of all, my Government shall be following a realistic policy of constructive cooperation with the Union Government. However, let me add that while a political or administrative confrontation with the Union Government will never be adopted, my Government will not hesitate to take up promptly with the Union Government and pursue energetically any matter that is likely to affect adversely the interests of the people of this State.

4. Kerala has passed its Silver Jubilee year and is now running its 26th year. During this period the State has projected a progressive image committed to the welfare of the people. However, prosperity of the State can be ensured only by single-minded dedication to the task of improving agricultural and industrial production. Our Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi has recently announced the revised Twenty Point Programme for invigorating the economy and affording relief to the poor. My Government will devote all its energies to the vigorous implementation of this programme. As the Prime Minister has said: "There is only one magic which can remove poverty and that is hard work helped by the clear sense of purpose and discipline." My Government is proud to adopt the additional motto of "Shrama Eva Jayate" promulgated by the Prime Minister in addition to the national motto of "Satyam Eva Jayate."

5. Kerala's Sixth Five Year Plan was fixed with an overall plan size of Rs. 1,550 crores. Two years of the Sixth Plan are already over and we are now at the threshold of the third year, the annual plan for which is being finalised. Because of the resources constraints, we have to practice stringent economy and tap all possible sources to carry out our programme. For this purpose the support of the Central Government is also necessary. My Government has every hope that the third year's plan will be properly funded and that all help will be forthcoming from the Central Government.

6. Committed to the eradication of poverty and upliftment of the weaker sections, my Government will give the highest priority to the implementation of schemes for the advancement of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, keeping in view the national objective of enabling at least 50% of them to cross the poverty line during the current plan period. For this purpose my Government will pursue energetic action to implement the Special Component Plan and the Tribal Sub-Plan which form a natural corollary to our Annual Plan, representing the totality of developmental efforts for the weakest of the weaker sections. We can justifiably take pride in our efforts for their educational progress. My Government now propose to place emphasis on the efforts for their economic development and improvement in their living conditions without ignoring the educational requirements.

7. To achieve this task of gigantic proportions, my Government will strive to create and adequate planning and delivery system harnessed to an efficient monitoring and evaluation machinery. As a beginning, the Harijan Welfare Department will be strengthened and re-organised. My Government also propose to take up effective measures to augment the employment opportunities for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by strictly enforcing the rules for their employment not only in Government Service but also in the various public sector undertakings.

8. My Government propose to complete all action still pending for the full implementation of the Land Reforms Act. The question of exempting small holders of land below one hectare from the payment of arrears of pottom, the Government accepting the responsibility thereof, is also under the active consideration of my Government. Action has been going on to assign the arable forest lands handed over to the Revenue Department. This will be further expedited and my Government would like to ensure that, in all eligible cases, occupations in assignable Government land are regularised with the least possible delay.

9. My Government are also considering the reorganisation of existing Revenue units of administration, taking into account factors like population, geographical features, administrative convenience and developmental needs.

10. On the food front, the position of Kerala had never been quite comfortable because of its dependence on other States for essential commodities of mass consumption. This has led to the creation of a far flung net-work for public distribution reinforced by the activities of the Civil Supplies Corporation and the Consumer Co-operatives. While steps like support price are adopted for protecting the interests of cultivators, emphasis is placed on the delivery of commodities like rice, wheat, sugar, kerosene and controlled cloth through the public distribution system. My Government will strive for the continued, uninterrupted and effective functioning of the public distribution system and the stabilisation of prices.

11. In the Agricultural Sector, the over-riding priorities of my Government will be area-based agricultural development, relief to the farmers especially in the supply of inputs and ensuring of adequate prices for the agricultural produce. Where import policy of the Government of India adversely affects the prices received by the farmers, my Government will take earnest and energetic steps to take up this problem with the Government of India. My Government will take earnest and energetic steps to ensure that the case of Kerala farmers is properly presented before the Government of India so that the import policy of the Central Government does not adversely affect the prices received by our farmers.

12. Implementation of necessary schemes to step up agricultural production and to make it more remunerative will be the concern of my Government.

13. The escalation of prices of various agricultural inputs has been a cause of grief for farmers. My Government will take a fresh look at the existing systems of supply of these inputs and streamline them to the extent possible.

14. The Government will take effective steps to see that the intended benefits of the agricultural schemes implemented with external financial aid are realised to the maximum within the stipulated period of time itself.

15. Energetic steps will be pursued by my Government for securing adequate prices for agricultural produce. It is proposed to reorganise the entire marketing structure in the State for this purpose. Regulated markets will be established, taking necessary legislative measures for the purpose.

16. Special attention will be given to make paddy cultivation and allied agricultural operations more cost-effective.

17. My Government are aware of the difficulties experienced by the coconut cultivators consequent upon the spread of diseases and declining yield and fall in prices. This will be given priority attention. The existing schemes for coconut development will be implemented with greater vigour with a view to stabilising production. My Government also hope to enlist the full support of the Coconut Development Board for our schemes.

18. Cocoa cultivation which was taken up with great expectations is passing through difficult times, because of marketing problems. These problems can be solved only by the establishment of processing plants in the State itself. My Government will actively go ahead with the project for setting up of processing plants with foreign collaboration this year itself. In the meanwhile my Government will continue with support measures already in force and press the Government of India for grant of incentives for export.

19. Steps will be taken to protect the spice cultivation of the State from the harmful effects off all in their prices.

20. My Government propose to launch a Vegetable Cultivation Promotion Programme to meet the internal requirements of the State and also for the purpose of export.

21. In the course of the year it is proposed to introduce an extensive irrigation development programme for exploiting the ground water resources of the State. It is programmed to start two lakhs irrigation units both for paddy and for garden lands giving priority to areas where the existing facilities are scarce or non-existent. For realising this objective the financial resources available with the Primary Co-operative Societies, long-term lending institutions, Land Mortgage Banks and Commercial Banks will be mobilised. My Government will also give top priority to the energisation of all pumpsets for agricultural purpose, especially in the World Bank assisted projects having irrigation components. An appropriate Authority will also be created for the exploitation of the ground water resources of the State.

22. The significance of animal husbandry and dairying is well recognised as a means for generating additional employment and income, especially for small and marginal farmers. My Government's strategy in this regard will be comprehensive and imaginative. It will involve the popularisation of scientific practices, upgradation of the quality of animals, combating of animal diseases, strengthening of veterinary services and research, optimisation of yield and minimisation of losses. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will draw special benefit from the animal husbandry programmes.

23. In the field of dairy development, Operation Flood II Programme and the Integrated Silviculture Development-cum-Livestock Production Programme under the Western Ghats Development Programme will be implemented vigorously. My Government propose to go ahead with a comprehensive dairy development programme for the northern districts of the State on the model of the Operation Flood II Programme with the technical and financial assistance of the Swiss Government.

24. In the co-operative sector, action is afoot to step up all forms of agricultural credit, marketing facilities, distribution of consumer goods, supply of fertilisers, construction of godowns and assistance for housing. Special emphasis is laid on the co-operative coverage and credit requirements of Harijans and Girijans, the strengthening of their co-operative institutions and ensuring the representation of Harijans and Girijans in the running of co-operative institutions. My Government will extend all necessary support to the Kerala State Harijan and Girijan Development Co-operative Federation, which has been set up for the purpose. Similarly adequate representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the matter of recruitment of staff in co-operatives will be ensured. Co-operatives will play their role in the marketing of agricultural produce and in the distribution of consumer goods and agricultural inputs in the rural areas. The co-operative consumer movement will be reorganised and strengthened, at the State, district and village levels.

25. The Co-operative Housing Federation will expand its activities and help the beneficiaries of loans in procuring house construction materials.

26. In the field of Fisheries, my Government's priorities will be the development of the infrastructural facilities, greater exploitation of marine and inland fish wealth and the welfare of the fishermen in the traditional sector. Steps will be taken to issue title deeds to the fishermen who have been allotted house sites under the subsidised housing scheme and to arrange electrification and supply of drinking water in the coastal fisheries villages. Attention will also be given to small boat mechanization and construction of fish landing, marketing and processing centres.

27. The Marine Fishing Regulation Act will be strictly enforced and speed boats will be purchased for effective surveillance.

28. The decline in our proud maritime traditions leading to unemployment and under-development in the coastal belt have been the concern of my Government. My Government would like to develop our minor ports based on the recommendations of the Working Group set up by Government of India.

29. It is also proposed to arrange a refrigerated barge for taking the frozen sea-food from the factories around Neendakara Port to the ships anchored outside the harbour. This will bring more ships to Neendakara, bringing more revenue to Government and greater employment opportunities to the local workers.

30. My Government will give due emphasis to Forestry. It is proposed to constitute a Vested Forest Fund for the betterment of forests, promotion of agriculture and welfare of the agricultural population. My Government will be implementing a major scheme of Social Forestry extending all over the State, mobilising aid from financing institutions and international aid giving agencies.

31. The protection and consolidation of the forests will be a top priority with my Government. Encroachment, smuggling and poaching will be severely dealt with and the protection and prosecution machinery will be adequately strengthened for this purpose.

32. Under Community Development, the staple schemes of Integrated Rural Development Programme started in 1978-79 aiming at the economic development of the weaker sections and the National Rural Employment Programme aiming at the creation of rural employment, will be implemented vigorously. Under the latter, ten million man days of employment is expected to be generated in rural areas. The UNICEF assisted programme, Social Inputs in Area Development designed to generate and deliver basic services and social amenities will be taken up in 27 coastal blocks of five districts in the State. All these schemes will be implemented with an orientation towards the needs of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

33. My Government propose to greatly intensify the efforts for the rapid industrialisation of the State. The future of the State lies in industrialisation. Therefore steps will be taken to encourage industrialists to invest in projects in our State. My Government will also press for the establishment of large scale industries in the Central Sector in our State. There is every hope that the efforts will be successful. My Government also will promote entrepreneurship and improve the industrial climate.

34. Our public sector undertakings have been improving their performance in spite of certain inherent constraints. Steps will be taken to improve their performance further. Introduction of professional management in public sector undertakings and the creation of a machinery for studying the functioning of the units at loss and for devising methods for improvement, are under active consideration. New institutions will be established to facilitate rapid industrialisation and marketing for small scale industries.

35. In the course of this year, the Titanium Dioxide Pigment Project of the Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited will be commissioned. The Cement Factory at Walayar and the Kerala Automobiles Limited will also start initial production this year. It is also proposed to nationalise three sick mills, namely, Malabar Spinning and Weaving Company Limited at Calicut, Kottayam Textiles at Kottayam and Prabhuram Mills at Chengannur.

36. Kerala State Electronics Development Corporation will enhance its product range considerably this year by implementing the set of projects cleared by Government of India. The manufacture of sophisticated computer systems is also envisaged. Emphasis will also be placed on the development of Womens Co-operatives and Societies for assembling electronic equipments. The number of such societies is proposed to be doubled this year. My Government will take up the establishment of further ancillary and small scale industries to support the main electronics industry.

37. Entrepreneur development, strengthening of industrial co-operatives, revitalisation of sick units, incentives for investment and women's industries are some of the areas where my Government will bestow their attention with a view to developing small scale industries.

38. Our traditional industries such as coir, handlooms, cashew, beedi and match are going through difficult times. The distress purchase of coir and coir products will have to continue. A scheme for streamlining coir co-operatives is engaging the attention of my Government. My Government have made representations to the Central Government to grant rebate on the purchase of coir goods as in the case of handloom and this is under the consideration of that Government. To enable the Handloom Industry to come out of its doldrums, Government of India has been requested to increase the period of rebate on the sale of handloom cloth. To help the Cashew industry and the workers engaged in it, steps will be taken to maximise procurement of nuts from within the State and import from outside.

39. Major and Medium Irrigation Sector has been drawing a sizable chunk of the State's plan resources because of the emphasis placed on these valuable infrastructural assets. At present we have ten completed projects and 18 on-going ones. It will be the endeavour of my Government to complete these projects in time and contribute to the agricultural base of the State. The Kallada Project has been posed for World Bank assistance and it is expected that the assistance will materialise in the course of the year. Vigorous action will be pursued in this regard. My Government will also extend irrigation from major irrigation projects to garden lands wherever possible in the existing projects. New projects will be designed to give irrigation benefits to garden lands in addition to paddy lands.

40. Kerala has been richly endowed with hydroelectric potential. But realising that the comfortable position of being able to satisfy internal demand and, to some extent external demand, will be short-lived, we have been taking purposeful steps to tap this natural resource further. My Government have six on-going hydel projects of which four are expected to be commissioned during the Sixth Plan period. Preliminary works have been taken up in respect of four other projects. Apart from power generation, transmission and distribution have been given considerable attention. My Government will give high priority to the timely completion of the projects under execution and the distribution of electricity. Steps are under way to obtain Government of India approval for six schemes including Pooyamkutti.

41. On the labour front, my Government will strive for a climate of harmonious labour-management relationship conducive to greater industrial growth and productivity without sacrificing the legitimate claims of the workers. The claims of the workers and the welfare activities for them will receive adequate and sincere attention; at the same time unwarranted disruption of industrial peace will not be tolerated.

42. More Employment Exchanges will be opened to benefit job-seekers in rural area.

43. My Government will continue to implement the Agricultural Workers' Pension Scheme. However, the entire scheme will be reviewed to ensure that the benefits of the scheme accrue only to the deserving persons. It will also be ensured that all deserving persons do get the assistance under the scheme.

44. In the field of education, my Government will adopt a multi-faceted and integrated approach to secure the objectives of academic peace, quality improvement, skill upgradation, vocationalisation, talent cultivation and administrative efficiency.

45. The texture of pre-primary education is sought to be improved through unification of curriculum, skill upgradation of teachers through in-service training programmes and co-ordination of the efforts of the various agencies involved.

46. My Government will strive to improve the quality of secondary education in consultation with experts and national bodies and through revision of curriculum, syllabus, text books and teaching methods.

47. My Government will encourage the identification and nurturing of talent in sports. Sports schools will be started at Kottayam and Kottakkal soon and one more will be considered for the central regions of the State.

48. My Government are sadly aware of the malpractices and irregularities which have trashed the image of our Universities. A Commission of Enquiry is proposed to be appointed to look into the irregularities and based on the recommendations of the Commission, purposeful and determined steps will be taken to eliminate the defects in the system. A committee is looking into the draw-backs of the examination system and based on the recommendations of the committee, improvements in the examination system will be effected. My Government will also take firm and decisive steps to improve the discipline and efficiency in the working of the Universities in the State.

49. The questions of grant of non-cadre First Grade Professorship to College teachers and the abolition of the category of Junior Lecturers are engaging the attention of my Government.

50. My Government propose to launch a massive training programme for entrepreneur development for the educated unemployed with the twin objectives of identifying and training adventurous youngmen and women capable of starting industrial ventures and establishing trade and service units in the tertiary sector. This programme is borne out of the realisation that the process of modernisation in the tertiary sector requires priority and that there is abundant scope for developing the latent entrepreneurial talents of the youth at a comparatively low cost. The educational sector will thus be geared to make its contribution for furthering the cause of industrialisation to employment generation through the proposed training programme. The programme envisages that the trained youths will set up industrial units with further back up services and that employment will be generated for about one lakh people in the State.

51. My Government will give maximum encouragement to scientific and technological education. The establishment of a Science and Technological Museum will be expedited.

52. In the field of Health and Family Welfare my Government do not wish to rest on its laurels of past achievements which have already left many national averages far behind. My Government will strive to impart a new meaning and content to the Health Care Delivery System by making appropriate changes in the pattern to suit our needs.

53. It is proposed to start 100 dispensaries this year giving preference to places of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe concentration. Action will be pursued to convert Calicut Medical College into a referral hospital. My Government will encourage the growth of Ayurveda, Homoeopathy and other indigenous systems of medicine. During the year the National Institute of Ayurveda will be set up at Trivandrum as a centre of excellence for the benefit of the entire country. Also as a new experiment, my Government propose to set up a Fraternity Centre which will provide integrated health care making use of the best in different systems of medicine. The Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Science will be started in the course of the year. M.Sc. in Nursing, M.Pharm. and B.Sc. in Laboratory Technology will be started in the Medical Colleges and a Cardio-Thoracic Surgery Unit with facilities for open heart surgery will also be opened. The newly registered Regional Cancer Centre Society will be developed into a Centre of excellence with modern equipments. In Medical College, Trivandrum the construction of a ten-storeyed building will be taken up this year for accommodating the super-specialities.

54. In the field of medical education, my Government have already taken steps to fulfil the long-cherished desire of the people for a Medical College at Trichur and the college has been inaugurated. The construction of the hospital and college buildings for the Trichur Medical College will be started this year itself. Adequate steps will be taken to see that a fool proof system of admission is devised and only really deserving candidates are admitted to courses.

55. Monitoring stations under the Pollution Control Board will be started and the implementation of the Air Pollution Act will be taken up vigorously.

56. We have entered the threshold of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade 1981-90 and in tune with the objectives set for the decade, my Government will be pursuing vigorous steps for the augmentation of safe drinking water supply both in urban and rural areas. A water supply project costing Rs. 50 crores has been posed for World Bank Assistance and two others are likely to be cleared by the Dutch Government under the Bilateral Aid Programme. The Water Supply Scheme with L. I. C. assistance will continue in the Municipalities. My Government will attach the highest priority to the supply of drinking water in the colonies and settlements of Harijans.

57. The Public Works Department will continue its activities proposed for the year. The revision of P.W.D. Manual and Code will be completed this year itself.

58. My Government are aware of the limited coverage of National Highways in the State and will continue their efforts with Government of India to include three more roads namely M. C. Road, the Cochin-Madurai and Calicut-Bangalore road under the National Highway System.

59. In the field of transport, the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation and the Kerala Water Transport Department have been facing problems. My Government will make earnest attempts to reorganise the administration of these agencies and to make their services more effective in the service of the travelling public.

60. The Housing problem in the State is an acute one where the demand is fast outstepping availability. Over the years, a systematic attack on the problem has been made considering the needs of different target groups in the population of the State. The efforts visualise by my Government in the days to come are essentially for consolidating the on-going schemes and for initiating some new starts. My Government would like to place the accent on the Rental Housing Scheme for the Government Employees which has started its operation recently and the housing scheme for the rural poor.

61. Under Urban Development and Town Planning, it will be the endeavour of my Government to improve the district headquarters and the small and medium towns. In addition to the formation of Development Authorities for Quilon, Kottayam and Trichur, one more Development Authority for Palghat will be created this year. Under the centrally sponsored scheme for the development of small and medium towns, Malappuram will also be taken up in addition to the eight towns already assisted. Slum clearance will receive high priority.

62. Under Social Welfare, the schemes for the disabled and physically handicapped will be pursued vigorously even though the International Year of the Disabled is over. Steps will be taken to establish the Institute for Research, Education and Rehabilitation of the mentally retarded.

63. My Government propose to accord high priority to the modernisation of the Police force in the State. More men, vehicles, buildings and other facilities will be provided to the police force in the course of the plan period. My Government will try to carve out an image for the Kerala Police as an efficient and disciplined arm of the Government, determined to help the law abiding common man and committed to the rule of law.

64. My Government is fully aware of the various kinds of difficulties encountered by the Policemen in the discharge of their duties. My Government propose to take suitable steps to remove as much of those difficulties as possible.

65. The housing needs of the Policemen will be given more attention and suitable steps will be taken to provide more houses and quarters. The Police Housing Co-operative Society, started to help Policemen to build their own houses, will soon start functioning and it will be strengthened step by step.

66. Police Welfare, viz., Housing, Accident risk-cover, group insurance benefits etc., will receive the anxious attention of the Government.

67. Government will also take steps to better the service conditions and the facilities of the Policemen.

68. Recruitment to the rank of Sub Inspectors in the past few years has been in large numbers and consequently there is stagnation at this level. Steps will be considered for improving their career mobility. Simultaneously Police Personnel planning and training will receive better attention.

69. With a view to eradicating corruption from public life a legislative measure to deal with corruption of public men will be enacted.

70. The Intelligence set up will be strengthened and more accent will be laid on scientific investigation of crime and use of computer and other aids to scientific investigation.

71. There is urgent need to bring about positive changes in Police functioning in general and in Police investigation, tension management and documentation system in particular. The question of introducing appropriate legislation to meet the different types of emerging crimes in the State also has to be examined. It is proposed to appoint a Police Reforms Commission for this purpose.

72. To eliminate delay in disposal of cases suitable measures will be considered.

73. My Government will actively consider the possibilities of bringing more correctional influences on the inmates of the Jail. More opportunities for their education and recreation and more opportunities for get together with their family and through the family with society will be provided in such a way as to help them change their criminal tendencies. My Government has already taken steps to improve the diet of the inmates. Health needs of the Jail-inmates will also be given more attention.

74. Treatment of prisoners, under trials and convicts and those admitted to after-care homes and such other reformatory institutions also has to be improved.

75. Encouragement of sports and the nurturing of sportsmanship will engage the serious attention of my Government. The scheme for giving financial assistance to schools and Panchayats for the development of playgrounds in rural areas is proposed to be liberalised. Construction of stadiums in district headquarters where such facilities are not available is also under consideration. It is proposed to render assistance to the players selected for Asian Games 1982, during the periods in between coaching camps so that they can equip themselves adequately for the Asian Games. The liberalisation of Flying Scholarships to the students of the Kerala Flying Club will be considered.

76. I take this opportunity to congratulate the sportsmen and women of this State who have won laurels at the national athletic meets during the year.

77. In the State Sports Council, a Research and Development Wing is proposed to be started this year with a view to help acquisition and dissemination of the latest techniques in various sports and games. My Government will consider the prospect of promoting this wing into a fullfledged institute.

78. It is proposed to institute a Sportsmen Welfare Fund. Steps will also be taken to provide insurance coverage to all sportsmen.

79. My Government will examine the possibilities of giving grace marks also to those distinguished sportsmen with the necessary basic qualifications for appointments in Class II posts.

80. In mobilising the financial resources of the State, we are heavily dependent on Sales Tax, Excise and Agricultural Income Tax. My Government will not allow the resource position to be weakened. As far as Excise is concerned there has been a fall in revenue consequent upon the interrupted supply of alcohol. My Government's excise policy will be oriented towards the creation of a climate for optimum revenue collection and strict enforcement of the Abkari Act and Rules. Illicit distillation and trading in drugs will be suppressed without any leniency. The Excise Department will be equipped to undertake this task. The administration of Sales Tax and Agricultural Income Tax will also be streamlined in the better interests of the State.

81. My Government are aware of the growing importance of film as a medium of art and communication and will utilise it as a medium for projecting the image of the State. Incentives will be given for producing better films in Malayalam.

82. Under Tourism Development, activities capable of attracting tourists and providing adequate facilities to them will receive greater attention. My Government propose to set up a Hospital-cum-Hotel of high standard facilities near Trivandrum to attract foreign tourists in need of treatment. The Kerala Tourism Development Corporation will set up hotels of appropriate standards at Neyyar Dam, Trichur, Kumarakom and Cannanore besides a number of motels on the National Highways. A comprehensive plan for developing Aruvippuram as a tourist attraction is being drawn up. At Pamba and Sabarimala dormitory type of accommodation will be provided for pilgrim-tourists. My Government also propose to establish a Training Institute for various categories of personnel engaged in travel and tourist industry.

83. My Government are keen to solve the problems relating to resources and administration of the Devaswoms in the State. Action will be taken to bring about a unified Devaswom Law.

84. Honourable Members, I have presented before you a bird's eye view of the programmes under way and proposed to be taken up by my Government. The programmes encompass a wide spectrum of activities and are drawn up with the problems of our State in mind. I earnestly appeal to you all to co-operate wholeheartedly with this Government in the interest of the people represented in this august House. Let us remember that it is the people of our State who gain or suffer because of our actions.

I wish you success in your endeavour.

JAI HIND