

# **S P E E C H**

**OF**

**SHRI AJIT PAWAR**

*Deputy Chief Minister (Finance)*

**On the Additional Budget Estimates, 2024-2025  
of the Government of Maharashtra  
in the Legislative Assembly on  
Friday, the 28th June 2024**

**PART - I**



Hon'ble Speaker,

I seek your permission to present the additional budget of the State for the year 2024-25 to the House.

Sant Tukaram Maharaj has described Pandharpur and the Deity as follows :

उदंड पाहिले, उदंड ऐकिले  
उदंड वर्णिले, क्षेत्रमहिमे ।  
ऐसी चंद्रभागा, ऐसे भीमातीर  
ऐसा विटेवर, देव कोटे ॥  
ऐसे संतजन, ऐसे हरिचे दास  
ऐसा नामघोष, सांगा कोटे ।  
तुका म्हणें, आम्हां अनाथाकारणें  
पंढरी निर्माण, केली देवें.....

Devotees from all over the Maharashtra flock together to bow before Shri Vitthala, the deity of Maharashtra. Palkhi of Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj is departing from Dehu today. Palkhi of Dnyaneshwar Mauli will leave from Alandi tomorrow.

This government is aware that the umbilical cord of Maharashtra is connected with this Vaari of Varkari Bhaktimarga, which has a tradition of about thousand years, therefore we are sending a proposal to UNESCO for the World Heritage nomination of Pandharpur wari, which is

recognized worldwide as the identity of Maharashtra. The government has decided to provide a fund of 20,000 rupees per Dindi from this year, in gratitude to the lakhs of Varkaris who carry the flag of our tradition on their shoulders. A fund of Rs. 36.71 Crores has been made available for “Nirmal Vaari”. Health checks will be conducted on all the commuters on both the main Palkhi routes from Dehu-Alandi to Pandharpur, through the Chief Minister's Medical Assistance Cell. Free medication will also be provided as per requirement.

Mukhya Mantri Varkari Sampradaya Mahamandal will be established to provide facilities to Kirtankars, Varkari, Bhajani Mandal as well as to manage the palkhi route.

The National Democratic Alliance won majority in the recently held Lok Sabha Elections. The Government was formed for the third consecutive time under the leadership of Hon'ble Shri. Narendra Modi at the Centre. I heartily congratulate the Hon'ble Prime Minister on behalf of all of us.

The central government has always taken a positive approach regarding co-operation with Maharashtra. Approval has been given to “Wadhvan Port” Project, worth Rs. 76,200 crores, in the very first cabinet meeting of the central government. This will intensify the economic development and create more than 10 lakh jobs in the State. I am sure that the State will get such strong support from central government in the next five years as well.

I presented the Interim Budget of the State in the House on February 27, 2024, for the financial year 2024-25. I expressed the resolve then to enhance the size of State's economy to one trillion dollars through an increase in

expenditure on infrastructure. I had also mentioned in detail about investments in various sectors like railways, roads, metro lines, airports, ports and industries. There will be a rise in the average per capita income as size of the economy increases. At the same time, it is necessary to increase the personal income of those who do not benefit sufficiently from the economic progress of the State. The main objective of the additional budget is to provide substantial financial assistance and potential to progress to women, farmers, youth, backward classes and the poor belonging to all communities.

### **Various schemes for women**

Maharashtra has achieved development by placing women at the center, following the legacy of progressiveness of Shiv-Shahu- Phule-Ambedkar. Maharashtra is the first State in the country to provide reservation for women in education, employment and politics. The State announced first women's policy in 1994. It has been amended from time to time to meet the timely requirement. The fourth eight-point State Women Policy has been announced recently. Various schemes for nutrition, health, education, entrepreneurship as well as skill development and employment will be effectively implemented for women and girls to get equal rights and status in social, administrative and political spheres.

Schemes like “Lek Ladki”, which welcomes the birth of a girl child and gives financial assistance to her till the age of 18 years, Janani Suraksha Yojana for the health and institutional delivery of expectant mothers, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Empowerment of rural women through self-help groups, concession on bus travel, concession

on stamp duty for house purchase, various schemes like Shakti Sadan Yojana for women with family issues, professional tax exemption for working women, women hostels, women-centric tourism policy are being implemented effectively.

**Mukhya  
Mantri  
Mazhi Ladki  
Bahin  
Yojana**

1. Woman is the pillar of strength for the family. She has become the focal point of the entire society now. She fights on both the fronts of managing the family and earning income. We also see women who single-handedly take care of the family and raise successful children. It has become a rule now that the girls obtain the lead positions while results of various examinations get published. It is our duty, as the government, to open the doors of opportunity to our sisters and encourage them.

I announce the ambitious and comprehensive “Mukhya Mantri Mazhi Ladki Bahin Yojana” for our daughters and sisters. The Government will provide Rs.1500 per month to eligible women between 21 to 60 years of age, for the overall progress of women, including economic independence, self-reliance, health and nutrition. An amount of around Rs. 46,000 crores will be made available for the “Mukhya Mantri Mazhi Ladki Bahin Yojana”, every year. The scheme will be implemented from July, 2024.

**Lek Ladki  
Scheme**

2. Our government has launched scheme “Lek Ladki” from the year 2023-24. A total sum of Rs.1.01 lakh is provided in instalments from the birth of the girl till she turns eighteen years old.

The financial assistance is provided to the girl child born on or after April 1, 2023, in the family of yellow and orange ration card holders.

**Mother's name mandatory on government documents** 3. It has been made mandatory to record the name of a person born after May 1, 2024 in the order of his name, mother's name, father's name and surname in all the government documents.

**Pink e-rickshaw** 4. I had announced "Pink E-Rickshaw" scheme for self-employment and safe travel of women, in this year's Interim Budget. In the first phase of the scheme, 10,000 women across 17 cities of the State will be provided financial assistance for purchasing rickshaws. A provision of Rs. 80 crores will be made available for this scheme.

**Shubmangal Samuhik Nondanikrut Vivah** 5. Subsidy given to beneficiary girls under "Shubmangal Samuhik Nondanikrut Vivah " scheme has been increased from Rs.10,000 to Rs.25,000.

**Materials for cancer screening** 6. Equipment and materials will be made available for breast and cervical cancer screening in all health sub-centers in the State. A provision of Rs. 78 crores will be allocated for this purpose.

**New Ambulances** 7. There are 3,324 ambulances operational free of cost for transport of patients, especially pregnant women and children from home to health institutions and back. Old ambulances will be replaced by new ambulances.

**Jal Jeevan Mission** 8. Under the concept of "Har Ghar Nal, Har Ghar Jal" 1,25,66,986 houses in rural areas have been provided with household pipe connections in Jal Jeevan Mission program to stop women from running from pillar to post for water. Work for providing household pipe connections to 21,04,932 is in progress.

**Mukhya Mantri Annapurna Yojana** 9. There is a close connection between fuel used for cooking and health of women. It is our responsibility to provide clean fuel to reduce the health issues of women. The

use of LPG should be intensified as this is a safe fuel. To make gas cylinders affordable to every household, I am announcing the “Mukhya Mantri Annapurna Yojana” today which will provide free three gas cylinders per household per year.

The benefit of this scheme will be given to 52,16,412 families. This will also facilitate environmental protection.

**Benefits to Anganwadi Employees** 10. Anganwadi workers, helpers and mini Anganwadi workers are currently being given a benefit of up to one lakh rupees in case of retirement, death, resignation etc.

**Lakhpati Didi** 11. Under the Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission, 6.48 lakhs women self-help groups are functioning and 7 lakhs new groups will be established. The amount of revolving fund of self-help groups has been increased from Rs.15,000 to Rs.30,000.

A “Unity Mall” is being constructed at Ulwe, Navi Mumbai, which will provide a platform for women self-help groups and artisans to display and sell their products.

The products produced by women self-help groups are currently marketed through “Umed Mart”, “E-Commerce Online Platform” and through exhibitions. So far, 15 lakhs women have got the honour of becoming “Lakhpati Didi” this year. The target is to make 25 lakh women this year as “Lakhpati Didi”.

**Women start-ups** 12. “Punyashlok Ahilya Devi Holkar Mahila Start-up Yojana” will be launched from this financial year for small women entrepreneurs. An all India start-up convention will be organized in the State.

**“Aai”** 13. "Aai Yojana" has been launched by the government for interest subvention on loans taken upto Rs.15 lakhs by small women entrepreneurs in the tourism sector. It will generate 10,000 jobs.

**Special fast track courts** 14. The State government is providing necessary funds to 100 special fast track courts for atrocities against women and children.

**Free Higher Education to Girls** 15. The government is committed to increase the proportion of girls in vocational education in the State.

Government has decided to reimburse 100% of tuition and examination fees to the girls from other backward class and economically weaker sections with annual family income of up to Rs.8 lakhs. This includes admission to professional degree/diploma courses in engineering, architecture, pharmacy, medicine and agriculture.

This decision will benefit around 2.05 lakh girls. This scheme will be started from the academic year 2024-25 and the State government will bear the burden of about Rs. 2000 crores every year.

### **Various schemes for farmers**

The government is committed to support the farmers at various levels, keeping the motto "Self-reliant Farmers, Prosperous Farmers". Various schemes are being implemented in terms of direct subsidy for seeds, irrigation facilities, use of modern technology, promotion of ancillary industries, value addition of agricultural produce, storage of agricultural produce, availability of market etc.

The government has launched various schemes like “Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi”, “One Rupee Crop Insurance”,



“Gopinath Munde Shetkari Suraksha Sanugraha Anudan” to provide financial assistance to farmers from the financial year 2023-24.

I now draw the attention of the House to the salient provisions on agriculture and allied sectors.

**Assistance to farmers in natural calamities**

16. An amount of Rs.15,245.76 crores has been provided to the farmers since July, 2022, for the loss of crops due to natural calamities.

Assistance, amounting to Rs. 2,253 crores, was provided to 24.74 lakhs farmers affected by unseasonal rains during November-December, 2023. The limit of area was increased from two to three hectares for granting relief. This assistance was provided at a higher rate than the State Disaster Response Fund norms.

Drought has been declared in 40 talukas and drought-like situation, in 1,021 revenue circles, for Kharif season 2023 and various concessions have been provided for these areas.

The e-panchnama system for quick and transparent assessment of loss has been successfully tested in Nagpur division, and now this will be replicated in the entire State.

**Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi**

17. A total of Rs.92.43 lakhs farmer families have been paid grant in aid of Rs 5,318.47 crores till date, under “Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi Yojana”.

**One Rupee Crop Insurance**

18. An amount of Rs. 3504.66 crores has been paid to 59.57 lakhs farmers under the One Rupee Crop Insurance Scheme.

- Gopinath Munde Shetkari Suraksha Sanugrah Anudan Yojana** 19. A total of 2,694 farmer families have been paid grant in aid of Rs 52.82 crores under “Gopinath Munde Shetkari Suraksha Sanugrah Anudan Yojana”
- Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Shetkari Karjmukti Yojana** 20. An amount of Rs. 5,190 crores has been paid as an incentive to 14.33 lakh farmers who have regularly repaid crop loans under “Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Shetkari Karjmukti Yojana”. The remaining amount will be disbursed immediately.
- Nanaji Deshmukh Krishi Sanjivani Prkalp** 21. In the first phase of “Nanaji Deshmukh Krishi Sanjivani Prkalp”, various projects in 16 districts of Vidarbha and Marathwada costing Rs. 5,469 crores have been successfully completed. The second phase of this project, costing Rs. 6,000 crores, will be implemented in 21 districts.
- Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agrobusiness and Rural Transformation Project** 22. A total number of 767 sub-projects costing Rs.1,561.64 crores have been sanctioned under Balasaheb Thackeray Agrobusiness and Rural Transformation Project. It will benefit about 9 lakh farmers.
- Cash in lieu of foodgrains** 23. Orange ration card holder farmers in 14 disaster affected districts of Vidarbha and Marathwada are paid in cash, monthly, in lieu of foodgrains. An amount of Rs. 113.36 crores has been paid to 11.85 lakh beneficiaries, by the end of May 2024.
- Agricultural Mechanization** 24. In last three years, 2.14 lakh farmers have been given a subsidy of Rs.1,239 crores for purchase of mechanized agricultural equipment such as tractors, power tillers, through National Agricultural Development Scheme and State sponsored Agricultural Mechanization Scheme.

**Gaon tethe Godam** 25. A new scheme "Gaon tethe Godam" will be implemented for storage of agricultural produce at village level. In the first phase of scheme, construction of 100 new godowns and repair of existing godowns will be undertaken.

**Cotton, soybean and oilseed production** 26. A special action plan is being implemented to increase productivity and value chain development of cotton, soybean and other oilseeds. A provision of Rs. 341 crores is available for this scheme for the year 2024-25.

A revolving fund of Rs. 100 crores will be established for the purchase of pulses and oilseeds, through NAFED, at support price, in kharif and rabi seasons.

**Assistance to cotton and soybean growers** 27. Cotton and Soybean constitute a major share in agriculture production in the States. Last year, farmers had to suffer due to fall in prices due to international developments and other reasons.

I announce financial assistance of Rs.5000 per hectare to the cotton and soybean farmers, in a limit of two hectares during Kharif marketing season 2023-24, in order to provide relief to these farmers,

**Help to onion farmers** 28. An amount of Rs. 851.66 crores subsidy was provided to onion farmers, at a rate of Rs. 350 per quintal of onion, in the year 2023-24. A revolving fund of Rs. 200 crores each is being created for assured purchase of onion and cotton.

**Incentive to paddy farmers** 29. In the Kharif marketing season 2023-24, an incentive of Rs. 1,350 crores has been provided to 6 lakh paddy farmers, at a rate of Rs. 20,000 per hectare.

**Dairy Entrepreneurship Project** 30. Government has decided to launch a new "Dairy Business Entrepreneurship Project". The aim of this project is to create new entrepreneurs in the fields of animal

husbandry, dairy farming, animal fodder and animal feed production, to achieve economic upliftment of farmers through employment and self-employment and to increase the productivity of animals.

**Subsidy to milk producers** 31. An amount of Rs. 223.83 crores subsidy has been distributed to 2.93 lakh registered milk producers, at Rs. 5 per litre. The remaining subsidy will also be disbursed immediately. I announce that the Rs. 5 per litre subsidy will continue from July, 2024 onwards to support milk producing farmers.

**Sheep-Goat and Poultry Farming** 32. Share capital of “Punyashlok Ahilya Devi Holkar Maharashtra Sheep and Goat Development Corporation” has been increased substantially for quantitative and qualitative growth in goat and sheep farming business. Two new projects will be implemented to promote goat-sheep and poultry rearing.

**Fisheries Development** 33. Fish production of State has increased significantly in the last two years. Adequate funds will be made available for the establishment of fish markets as well as fish selling facilities.

**Atal Bamboo Samriddhi Yojana** 34. It has been decided to plant Bamboo on 10,000 hectares of private land under Atal Bamboo Samriddhi Yojana. Under this scheme, farmers are provided a subsidy of Rs. 175 per plant for bamboo seedlings and other necessary items.

Bamboo will be planted in a large scale on waste land in the State. This scheme will be started by planting bamboo on an area of 1.20 lakh acres in Nandurbar district.

**Compensation for damage caused by wild animals** 35. The amount of compensation has been increased from Rs. 20 lakhs to Rs. 25 lakhs in the case of loss of life due to attack by wild animals, from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 7.50 lakhs in the case of permanent disability, from Rs. 1.25 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs in the case of serious injury and from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 in the case of minor injury.

The maximum amount payable for crop damage compensation has also been increased from Rs. 25000 to Rs. 50000. Livestock loss compensation has also been substantially increased.

**Irrigation projects** 36. A special campaign is undertaken since the last two years to complete irrigation projects which have remained incomplete due to various reasons. So far, 108 projects have got revised administrative approval and 61 projects are expected to be completed in the next two years. About 3.65 lakhs hectare irrigation potential will be created through these projects.

Maharashtra Irrigation Improvement Program is being undertaken to bridge the gap between installed and actual irrigation capacity of the implemented projects in the State.

This program will improve canal distribution systems of 155 projects. In the next three years, about 4.28 lakh hectares of increased area will benefit from direct irrigation.

It has been decided to take the financial assistance of Rs.15,000 crores from NABARD for completion of various incomplete irrigation projects as well as improvements in the distribution systems of the projects.

**Use of Solar Energy for lift Irrigation Schemes** 37. A pilot solar power project will be implemented at Mhaisal, District Sangli to reduce the cost of electricity used for lift irrigation schemes as well as for sustainable power

supply. The estimated cost of this project is Rs.1,594 crores and it will benefit about 75,000 farmer families of Sangli and Solapur districts.

All government irrigation schemes including Janai-Shirsai, Purandar lift irrigation schemes will be solarized to achieve the goal of clean and green energy. An amount of Rs.4,200 crores is expected to be spent on these schemes.

**Wainganga-Nalganga River Linking Project** 38. Irrigation benefits will be provided to 3,71,277 hectares in Nagpur, Wardha, Amravati, Yavatmal, Akola and Buldhana districts of Vidarbha by diverting 62.57 TMC of water from Gosi Khurd project through Wainganga-Nalganga interlinking project.

**Maharashtra Responsive Development Programme** 39. World Bank aided Maharashtra Responsive Development Program costing Rs. 3,200 crores will be implemented to avoid loss of lives and finances due to floods in Kolhapur and Sangli districts and to divert excess water to drought-affected areas.

**Jalyukt Shivar Abhiyan-2 Galmukt Dharan,** 40. A total number of 49,651 works have been completed by the end of March 2024 under Jalyukt Shivar Abhiyan-2, a provision of Rs. 650 crores has been made for this year.

**Gal yukt Shivar** In “Galmukt Dharan, Gal yukt Shivar” scheme, works of removing silt from 338 reservoirs is in progress. So far 83,39,818 cubic meters of silt has been removed through public participation.

**Magel Tyala solar pump** 41. A project worth Rs. 15,000 crores has been undertaken for separation of agricultural electricity grids and solarize them to provide uninterrupted electricity to farmers during day time.

I announce to provide solar power pumps to a total 8.50 lakh farmers under the scheme “Magel Tyala Solar Power Pump” to provide free electricity to the farmers.

## Various schemes for youth

India will emerge as a developed country by 2047 due to the visionary policies of the Government led by Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi. India is moving ahead to emerge as the third largest economy in the world. Young entrepreneurs are going to play a big role in this growth of the economy. Schemes are underway for skilling, entrepreneurship development and financial support to make the youth more competent, skilled and tech-savvy. Government intends to implement these schemes more effectively and to start new schemes also.

I draw the attention of the House now to the schemes for the youth.

**Mukhya  
Mantri Yuva  
Karya-  
prashikshan  
Yojana**

42. Every year around 11 lakh students pass diploma, degree and post graduate examinations from various educational institutions of the State. The number of students completing certificate and short term courses is also large.

I announce “Mukhya Mantri Yuva Karyaprashikshan Yojana” to provide on-the-job training in industrial and non-industrial establishments to 10 lakh youths every year, with the aim of providing employment opportunities to the needy youth and make available trained manpower to industries. Under this scheme, each trainee will be given a stipend up to Rs.10,000 per month by the Government. The expenditure for this scheme is expected to be around Rs.10,000 crores every year.

Every year, 50,000 youths will be imparted training to disseminate the information about the Government schemes to the people.

**Applied knowledge and skill development for human development** 43. World Bank assisted “Applied Knowledge and Skill Development for Human Development” project costing Rs. 2307 crores will be implemented for upgradation of 500 Industrial Training Institutes, strengthening of various institutions like Model ITI, Global Skill Center, Maharashtra State Skill University, Data Center and entrepreneurship development programme.

**Center of Excellence** 44. It has been approved to set up “Centre of Excellence” in technical education institutions located in Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Amravati, Yavatmal, Kolhapur, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Karad in District Satara and Avasari Khurd in District Pune.

**Employment fair** 45. Job opportunities are being provided to the youths through ‘Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Employment Fair’ and ‘Namo Maharojgar Fair’. A total of 95,478 candidates got selected in the year 2023-24, through these fairs.

**Skill development** 46. “Swami Vivekananda International Skill Development Prabodhini” at Govandi, Mumbai has become functional. A total of 511 “Pramod Mahajan Rural Skill Development Kendras” have been set up in rural areas of the State. These centers are providing skill training to 18,980 candidates in the age group of 15 to 45.

**Training and Research Institute** 47. Organizations like Tribal Research and Training Institute (TRTI), Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Research and Training Institute (BARTI), Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Research and Training Institute (Sarathi), Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Research and Training Institute (Mahajyoti), Maharashtra Research and Training Prabodhini (Amrit) etc. are working on employment oriented training programs as well as research work for various sections of the society.



A total of 2,51,393 students were given job oriented training through these institutes, out of which 52,405 students obtained jobs.

**Center for  
Research  
and  
Innovation**

48. Research and Innovation Centers have been established in the State for research on the use of Artificial Intelligence in sustainable energy, health and agriculture, in collaboration with universities and researchers.

For this purpose, a total of 100 crores, i.e. Rs. 50 crores each will be made available by the universities and the Government.

**Loans for  
Self  
Employment**

49. A fund of Rs 100 crores has been earmarked for financial assistance to self-employment schemes, to be implemented through the Shabari Tribal Finance and Development Corporation.

**Scholarships  
for Foreign  
Education**

50. Scholarship schemes are being implemented for students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Vimukt Jati, Nomadic Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Special Backward Classes and Open Category students for higher education abroad.

A scholarship scheme for foreign education has also been introduced for students from minority communities, from 2024-25.

**Accommo-  
dation  
allowances  
for students**

51. Accommodation allowance ranging from Rs 38,000 to Rs 60,000 per year is given to students belonging to economically weaker sections who have not been admitted to hostels under "Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Hostel Subsistence Allowance Scheme" from the academic year 2023-24

Accommodation allowance ranging from Rs.38,000 to Rs.60,000 will be given annually to the students pursuing higher education from Other Backward Classes, Vimukta Jati and Nomadic Tribes and Special Backward Classes Under the “Dnyanjyoti Savitribai Phule Aadhaar Yojana”

**Hostels for the Children of sugarcane workers** 52. 82 Government hostels for the children of sugarcane workers will be established through “Gopinath Munde Uus Tod Kamgar Vikas Mahamandal”.

**Government Medical Colleges** 53. The availability of Doctors in the State is currently 84 per 1 lakh population. To increase this ratio to more than 100 by the year 2035, it is necessary to increase the admission capacity of medical colleges. Approval has been given to establish new Government Medical Colleges with intake capacity of 100 students with 430 bedded hospitals affiliated to medical colleges in different locations of the State. It includes Jalna, Hingoli, Dharashiv, Parbhani, Nashik, Jalgaon, Amravati, Buldhana, Washim, Wardha, Bhandara, Gadchiroli, Satara, Alibaug, Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri, Palghar and Ambernath in District Thane.

Approval has been given to establish a new Government Unani College with an enrollment capacity of 100 students at Mauje Savar, Taluka Mhasla, District Raigad.

A new Government Ayurveda College will be established in Buldhana district.

There has been a substantial increase in the stipend of junior and senior resident doctors in Government Medical Colleges and also in the remuneration of voluntary teachers.

**Thrust Sector** 54. Special incentives are being given to industries in the thrust sector due to which an investment of approximately Rs 1 lakh crores will be made in the State in the near term. It will create 50,000 jobs.

- Green hydrogen** 55. MoUs are signed with the developers for the production of green hydrogen with an investment of Rs 2,11,400 crores which will generate 55,900 jobs.
- Gems and Jewellery** 56. “India Gems and Jewellery Park” will be set up on 25 acres of land at Mahape, Navi Mumbai. It includes 2000 micro, small and medium enterprises with an investment of Rs.50,000 crores which will generate one lakh jobs.
- Integrated and Sustainable Textile Policy** 57. An integrated and sustainable textile policy 2023 - 2028 has been announced. It envisages substantial investment of Rs 25,000 crores and will generate 5 lakh jobs in next five years.
- The “Captive Market Scheme” will generate large scale employment in the spinning, loom, processing, packing and transportation sectors.
- The government has decided to set up small-scale textile industry complexes and technical textile parks to increase private investment.
- Marine tourism** 58. A scuba diving center of international stature will be set up in Sindhudurg district, which will have coral sighting on sunken ship as a special attraction. The project is expected to cost Rs 20 crores and will provide employment to 800 local people.

### **Various schemes for weaker sections**

The government is committed to eradicate poverty and to raise standard of living of the people and continuous efforts are being made for their social development through various schemes. Social Justice Department is implementing various schemes for schools, ashram schools, hostels for students, scholarships, health services, employment etc.

Tribal Development Department is making adequate funds available for the schemes such as 'Bharat Ratna Dr.A. P. J. Abdul Kalam Amrit Aahar Yojana' to increase the nutrition of children, 'Namo Adivasi Smart School Mission' for setting up Science Centers in Government Ashram Schools, 'Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Swayam Yojana' for higher education for students who do not get admission in hostels, 'Thakkarbappa Adivasi Vikas Yojana' for providing basic facilities to the settlements etc, under tribal sub plan.

Various schemes are being implemented for progress of Other Backward Classes, Vimukta Jatis, Nomadic Tribes and Special Backward Classes. Adequate funds are made available for schemes such as Ashram Schools, Ashram schools for the children of sugarcane workers, Vidyaniketan, various schemes for the Dhangar community, Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule Scholarship Scheme, Dr.Punjabrao Deshmukh Hostel Scheme, Tandavasti Mukta Vasahat Scheme etc.

This government is committed to the development of all minority communities including Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Parsis, Christians and Muslims in the State. We are determined to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of "elimination of universal poverty in all its forms" through effective implementation of schemes for socially and economically weaker sections, planning of new special schemes and adequate financial provision for the same. In this regard, I am presenting important schemes before the House.

**Increase in financial assistance to special assistance schemes**

59. 'Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Anudan Yojana' and 'Shravanbal Seva Rajya Nivrutivetan Yojana' provide monthly financial assistance to destitutes, widows, disabled and elderly citizens from economically weaker sections. This financial assistance has been increased from Rs.1000 to Rs.1500.

In the year 2023-24, an amount of Rs. 7,145 crores has been distributed to 45.60 lakh beneficiaries under these schemes.

**Financial assistance through various development corporations**

60. Various schemes are being implemented for the upliftment of various sections of the society through corporations such as Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal, Maharashtra State Other Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, Vasanttrao Naik Vimukta Jatis And Nomadic Tribes Development Corporation, Mahatma Phule Backward Class Development Corporation, Sahitya Ratna Lokshahir Annabhau Sathe Development Corporation, Sant Rohidas Leather Industries and Charmakar Development Corporation, Shabari Tribal Finance and Development Corporation, Maharashtra State Cooperative Tribal Development Corporation, Punyashlok Ahilya Devi Sheli, Mendi Vikas Mahamandal, Annasaheb Patil Economic Development Corporation, Shyam Rao Peje Economic Development Corporation, Sant Shiromani Goroba Kaka Maharashtra Matikala Mandal, Maharashtra State Auto Rickshaw and Taxi Driver-Owner Welfare Corporation and Maulana Azad Minority Economic Development Corporation

Raje Umaji Naik Economic Development Corporation and Pailwan Late. Maruti Chavan-Vadar Economic Development Corporation have been newly formed under Vasanttrao Naik Vimukt Jati and Bhatkya Jamati Development Corporation.

Sant Kashiba Gurav Yuva Economic Development Corporation, Jagatjyoti Mahatma Basaveshwar Economic Development Corporation, Sant Senaji Maharaj Keshshilpi Mahamandal have been newly formed under Maharashtra State Other Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation.

Sant Shree Ruplal Maharaj Economic Development Corporation will be established for the economic, social and educational development of the Bari community which produces paan, paanpimpri and muesli.

Adequate provision of funds will be made for newly created as well as existing corporations.

**Divyang Kalyan Vibhag** 61. Divyang Kalyan Vibhag has started functioning from 15th December 2022. The objective is to make the Divyang self-reliant and empowered, through the implementation of various schemes in the fields of education, sports, skill development, training, employment and industry.

"Dharmaveer Anand Dighe Gharkul Yojana" will be implemented to provide house to Divyang persons under which, 34,400 houses will be constructed in the first phase. Electric vehicles are being distributed for regular use to Divyang persons.

**Third Gender Policy-2024** 62. The State has announced its Third Gender Policy this year. The "Third Gender" option has been made available along with male and female options, in the recruitment process by the Government and public authorities as well as in all the government schemes. This will make it easier for the third gender community to take benefit of the State Government schemes.

**Plot for Dhangar Samaj** 63. A plot of land admeasuring 4,000 square meters has been made available at Kharghar, Navi Mumbai, for educational and social activities of Dhangar community.

**Welfare of domestic workers** 64. Maharashtra Domestic Workers Welfare Corporation is implementing various welfare schemes for registered domestic workers.

**Maulana Azad Minority Economic Development Corporation** 65. The limit of Government guarantee on loans to be taken has been increased from Rs 30 crores to Rs 500 crores to provide additional funds for the schemes implemented by Maulana Azad Minority Economic Development Corporation.

**Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Jan Arogya Yojana** 66. Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Jan Arogya Yojana will be available for all the families in the State. The amount of health insurance cover has been increased from Rs 1,50,000 to Rs 5 Lakhs per family. So far, one thousand hospitals were empaneled for treatment, 900 more hospitals will be added and 1356 types of treatment will be made available under the scheme.

**Free health care** 67. Hospitals under Public Health Department offer check-ups, tests and treatments free of cost to the patients. This decision has led to massive increase in the number of outpatients, minor surgeries, X-ray tests and laboratory tests.

**Aapla Davakhana** 68. "Hindu Hrudaysamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Aapla Dawakhana" has been made functional at 347 places with free check-up, medical tests and treatment facilities for the needy people in urban areas.

**Stabilization and Liquidity Assistance Fund for Credit Institutions** 69. Maharashtra State Non-Agricultural Cooperative Credit Institutions Regulatory Board will be provided Rs. 100 crores for stabilization and liquidity of credit institutions.

**Rural Housing** 70. A total of 35,40,491 houses will be constructed in the next five years through Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Ramai Awas Yojana, Shabri, Pardhi and Adim Awas Yojana, Modi Awas Yojana, Yashwantrao Chavan Mukta Vasahat Yojana, Punyashlok Ahilya Devi Holkar Gharkul Yojana etc. A provision of Rs.7,425 crores has been done for various housing schemes in 2024-25.

**Gharkul Scheme for Mill Workers** 71. In Brihan Mumbai Municipal Corporation area 12,954 houses have been distributed to the mill workers and it is planned to provide the remaining houses.

**Swachh Bharat Mission-Rural Phase-II** 72. A provision of Rs.1886.84 crores has been made in 2024-25 for the second phase of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

**Increase in honorarium.** 73. Substantial increase has been made in the honorarium of Anganwadi workers, Asha workers, Kotwals, Police Patils, resource persons of self help groups in the State.

### **Important schemes in various sectors**

I now draw the attention of the House to infrastructure and other important schemes in the budget.

**Metro network in the State** 74. Metro lines of 449 Km have been sanctioned in the cities of Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur out of which 127 Km length are operational. Another 37 Km length of metro lines will be made operational in this financial year.

**Shivdi-Nhava Sheva Project** 75. The work of Shivdi-Worli link road under Shivdi-Nhava Sheva Project is 57 percent complete. The project will be completed by the end of December, 2025.

**Thane Coastal Road** 76. The proposed Thane coastal road from Balkum to Gaymukh, with a length 13.45 Km, costing Rs 3,364 crores, is expected to be completed by May, 2028.

**Mumbai Coastal Road** 77. The work of Dharmaveer Swaraj Rakshak Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Mumbai Coastal Road is almost complete and both the lanes are partially opened for traffic.



- Pradhan Mantri GramsadaK Yojana** 78. Pradhan Mantri GramsadaK Yojana, Phase-III has a target of 6,500 Km road improvement. Works of 2,303 Km have been completed, remaining works are in progress.
- Mukhyamantri GramsadaK Yojana Phase-III** 79. Mukhyamantri GramsadaK Yojana Phase-III has a target of 23,000 Km of roads improvement which will be completed in next three years.
- Road Connectivity** 80. A provision of Rs 1,400 crores has been made for Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jodraste Yojana.
- Implementation of Sant Sewalal Maharaj Jodraste Yojana and Yashwantrao Holkar Jodraste Yojana will be started soon.
- PM-E Bus Seva** 81. PM E-Bus Seva Scheme will be implemented in 19 Municipal Corporations to improve transport services and to reduce air pollution. The scheme includes providing electric buses, construction of bus shelters and charging infrastructure.
- Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services** 82. A Scheme for expansion and modernization of fire services, costing Rs 615 crores will be implemented. This scheme will be implemented in “D” Class Municipal Corporations, all Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats.
- Construction of Charity Commissioner's office buildings** 83. A provision of Rs 125 crores will be made available for construction and renovation of office buildings at Mumbai, Nandurbar, Nanded, Wardha, Amravati and Kolhapur under the Charity Commissioner.
- Gram Panchayat Construction** 84. Construction of 2567 Gram Panchayat Offices has been sanctioned under Hon'ble Balasaheb Thackeray Smriti Matoshree Gram Panchayat Construction Scheme.

**World Heritage Nomination** 85. A proposal has been sent to UNESCO to get World Heritage nomination for 12 forts of the Shiva period. Proposals will also be sent for Katal Shilpe in Konkan, Pandharpur Vari, Dahihandi Utsav and Ganeshotsav.

**Shivarajy-abhishek** 86. The Government has decided to celebrate Shivarajyabhishek ceremony at Raigad fort every year and necessary funds will be provided for it.

**Submarine project** 87. A submarine project of international stature will be developed at Vengurla, District Sindhudurg at an estimated cost of Rs. 66 crores.

**Satara Integrated Tourism Development Plan** 88. An integrated tourism development plan worth Rs 381.56 crores has been approved for the development of tourist spots in the Western Ghat area of Satara district.

This includes Sri Kshetra Mahabaleshwar Development, Pratapgad Fort conservation, sahyadri tiger tourism and Koyna Helwak Forest Tourism.

**Tourism in Malshej Ghat** 89. Large number of tourists visit the Malshej Ghat on the Kalyan-Nagar route during monsoon. A modern viewing gallery with all facilities will be set up in this ghat.

**Ramtek Development Plan** 90. Ramtek in Nagpur district is a pilgrimage site sanctified by Lord Ramchandra. Works worth Rs. 150 crores have been approved in the first phase and are in progress. In the second phase, works worth Rs. 211 crores will be undertaken.

**Memorial of Baba Jumdevji** 91. A Development Plan to the tune of Rs.77 crores will be prepared for memorial of spiritual Guru and Social reformer Baba Jumdevji at Pavadauna, Tal.Mauda, District Nagpur.

- Nevasa Temple Premises Development Plan** 92. A plan will be prepared for the development of temple premises at Nevasa where Saint Dnyaneshwar Maharaj had recited immortal Dnyaneshwari.
- Kolhapur International Convention Centre** 93. A State-of-the-art international convention center will be set up near the Rajaram lake in Kolhapur city.
- Grants to Educational Institutions** 94. Necessary funds will be made available for the construction of a multi-purpose auditorium at B.J. Government Medical College, Pune and for the development of infrastructure and educational facilities on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of Kisan Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Borgaon-Kale Taluka District Latur.
- Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Memorial** 95. A memorial of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj will be built at Shirala, District Sangli.
- Sant Shri Ruplal Maharaj Memorial** 96. A memorial of Sant Shri Ruplal Maharaj will be built at his samadhithal at Anjangaon Surji, District Amravati.
- Tribal art gallery** 97. An Art Gallery will be established at Hatgad Taluka Surgana District Nashik for the exhibition, development and promotion of tribal arts.
- Sahitya Ratna Lokshahir Anna Bhau Sathe Research and Training Institute** 98. Sanction has been accorded for the Sahitya Ratna Lokshahir Annabhau Sathe Research and Training Institute, Mumbai, costing Rs 305 crores.
- Mahastride Project** 99. World Bank assisted Project "Mahastride", costing Rs.2,232 crores, will be implemented to promote development by increasing institutional capacity at the district level, .

**Mukhya Mantri Baliraja Vij Savlat Yojana** 100. We are aware that agriculture in India is mainly dependent on monsoon. There is a drastic change in the seasonal weather in the last few years due to the global climate change, and farmers are facing the consequences. I now announce the 'Mukhya Mantri Baliraja Vij Savlat Yojana' to provide relief to my farmer brothers who are in distress and need assistance.

The government has decided to bear the burden of the electricity bills of the farmers and to provide free electricity to agriculture pumps up to 7.5 horse power capacity. This will help 44.06 lakh farmers. A provision of Rs.14,761 crores will be made available in the form of subsidy.

**Rationalization of schemes** 101. I have announced ambitious new schemes for various sections of society in this budget. It has been decided to form a high level committee to evaluate the schemes and to rationalize them so that the benefits reach directly to the eligible beneficiaries in the State.

### **Budget 2024-25**

**District Annual Plan 2024-25** 102. An outlay of Rs 18,165 crores has been proposed under the District Annual Plan for the year 2024-25. This outlay is 20 percent more than the previous year.

**Annual Plan 2024-25** 103. An outlay of Rs.1.92 Lakh crores has been proposed under the Scheme expenditure in the Annual Plan 2024-25. It includes outlay of Rs 15,893 crores for Scheduled Caste Plan and Rs 15,360 crores for Tribal Development Sub Plan.

**Budget Estimates 2024-25** 104. An outlay of Rs 6,12,293 crores is proposed for the total expenditure in the year 2024-25. The revenue receipts are proposed as Rs 4,99,463 crores and the revenue expenditure as Rs 5,19,514 crores. The revenue deficit is estimated as Rs 20,051 crores.

**Fiscal deficit** 105. The government has been successful in keeping the State's fiscal deficit and revenue deficit within the limits set by the Fiscal Responsibility and Fiscal Management Act. The fiscal deficit for the year 2024-25 is Rs. 1,10,355 crores.

I assure that the government will do its best for the economic development of the State and the welfare of all sections of the society.

**Now, I turn to Part II of the Budget.**