

**HON'BLE CHAIRMAN, HON'BLE SPEAKER AND  
HON'BLE MEMBERS,**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to the first session of State Legislature for the year 2015.

2. My Government has started its work in right earnestness and given special emphasis on implanting a comprehensive programme for the progress and development of the State. The target of the Government is to work for the welfare of the people in all spheres and especially for those from the underprivileged and vulnerable sections so as to achieve their development. For this purpose the Government will ensure that the State advances in the right direction in sectors such as social, educational, economic and cultural.

3. Due to unseasonal rains and hailstorm in the months of November and December 2014, crops and cultivable land in some parts of the State were damaged. The Government therefore decided to give special relief and concession to affected farmers immediately and compensated for the loss of life, cattle and damaged houses. The package is much higher than the norms of the National Disaster Response Force.

4. Scarcity like situation has been declared in 23811 villages of the State, where *paisewari* was less than 50 *paise* and various relief measures have been implemented in these areas as per standing orders, which includes repayment of loans taken by the farmers from the moneylenders, conversion of outstanding crop loan into medium term loan and stay on recovery of agricultural loans. The State Government has submitted a memorandum to the Government of India for financial assistance. However, my Government released Rs.4000 crore without waiting for the Central assistance through the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme.

5. Considering the adverse impact of recurrent droughts, the Government has declared a new programme of "Jalyukta Shivar Abhiyan". This Abhiyan aims at initiating permanent measures to make the State drought-free State by 2019 and to harvest rain water within the village boundaries thereby increasing ground water levels. Micro irrigation systems would be promoted for efficient use of water, thereby increasing the irrigated area. An ambitious target has been set to make 5,000 villages free from water scarcity every year.

6. My Government will emphasize on use of State of the art techniques for utilization of State's water resources in an optimum, equitable and sustainable manner and will lend support to farmers by giving irrigation facilities. Steps like empowerment of farmers, renovation of old projects, conjunctive use of surface and ground water etc. will be undertaken. Farmer's participation in the irrigation management and use of micro irrigation will be incentivized.

7. The Government intends to give online facilities for water demands and its sanctions to non-irrigation users. Technology Approval Agency will be established to promote use of advanced technology.

8. Under the "Swachh Bharat Mission", around 14.15 lakh toilets will be constructed in rural areas during the year 2015-16. The Government has also decided to provide toilet facilities to about 8 lakh households in urban areas.

9. In order to provide water, sanitation and other related services, the Government has decided to launch the Jalswarajya-II Programme in 12 Districts in the State with the assistance from the World Bank.

10. Under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Gurantee Act scheme, construction of 44,000 wells will be completed within next two years. More and more works related to **Pandan** roads and agricultural roads will be undertaken through EGS.

11. Under the National Land Records Modernization programme, online e-mutation programme will be implemented from 1st April, 2015 in the State and all Land Records will be available on the laptops of Talathis from 2nd October, 2015.



12. Keeping in view the unprecedented drought situation and the need for mitigation of drought, my Government has provided Rs.350 crore under Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana for rejuvenation of orchards, fodder development programme and other than Micro-irrigation, through Mahatma Phule Jal Abhiyan. Dry land Farming Mission would be continued with an added emphasis in this year.

13. My Government took an important decision to borrow Rs.450 crore under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund from NABARD. All the pending claims for subsidy of 5 lakh farmers would be paid by the next financial year.

14. The State witnessed a record participation of nearly 20 lakh farmers under the crop insurance scheme during the year 2014-15. Compensation of Rs. 384 Crore has been paid to 15 lakh farmers so far. Coverage of the scheme as well as its effectiveness would be further enhanced during the next year.

15. The State has been globally recognized by the World Economic Forum for promoting value chains under Public Private Partnership for Integrated Agricultural Development. The State has been able to connect more than 5 lakh farmers with corporate players to capture domestic as well as international market. This programme will be expanded to include more farmers in next three years.

16. The Government is committed to the effective implementation of Marathi language policy and has been pursuing with determination its proposal with Government of India for according the Classical Language status to Marathi Language. Efforts are also being made for construction of the Marathi Bhasha Bhavan.

17. Thanks to increased vigilance, there has been a significant rise in the population of tigers in the Pench and Tadoba Tiger Projects. It is proposed to create Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) in Melghat and Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserves on the same line.

18. With a view to reduce human-wildlife conflict, approximately 650 families from 7 villages located in the Tiger Reserves and wildlife

sanctuary have been rehabilitated in the year 2014-15. Modern technology and ecological management measures will be harnessed to further reduce this conflict. Financial assistance in case of human death due to attack by wild animals has been increased from Rs. 5.00 lakh to Rs. 8.00 lakh with effect from 15th January 2015.

19. My Government has decided to establish the Bamboo Training and Research Center at Chichpalli, District Chandrapur.

20. The State Government has decided that all the Antyodaya Ann Yojana beneficiaries in erstwhile Targeted Public Distribution System will be considered eligible AAY beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act, 2013 and all the BPL beneficiaries in erstwhile Targeted Public Distribution System will be treated as eligible beneficiaries in Priority Household group under this Act.

21. It has been decided to construct warehouses having capacity of 5.95 lakh Metric Tonnes under the Public Distribution System in the State with the financial assistance from NABARD's Rural Infrastructure Development Fund. Out of this, construction of 65 warehouses having storage capacity of 60 thousand Metric Tonnes has been completed.

22. After successfully conducting the procurement of sugar by following a transparent and competitive e-auction system through a pilot project, the Government has taken a decision to continue this system of procurement and distribution of sugar in the State.

23. The Modified Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme for LPG started in Wardha and Amravati districts has now been extended to the remaining districts of the State.

24. The Government has taken a decision to adopt bio-metric identification of beneficiaries to distribute food grains and other commodities from fair price shops.

25. For the convenience of consumers, the Government has decided that the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission may also perform its functions at Kolhapur, Pune, Nasik and Amravati as



its circuit benches alongwith existing Main Mumbai bench and circuit benches at Nagpur and Aurangabad.

26. E-Warehouse receipts are being issued to the farmers against their agriculture produce stored in the warehouses. So far, 14,200 farmers have availed of pledge-loan to the tune of Rs.102 crores against their 24,460 Warehouse Receipts.

27. With a view to ensure that the farmers get market price to the produce, cold storage chains will be constructed for perishable articles. At the same time, 44 agricultural projects closed at present in the State will be started by handing over these projects to progressive farmers.

28. The Government has decided that 44 export centres which were set-up by Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board for cultivating vegetables and fruits, will now be given on rental basis to various Co-operative societies and market committees. In order to identify plant diseases in Alphonso, a project has been set-up at Vashi market and a European delegation has given positive response to this project, which would ease the difficulties in the export of Alphonso.

29. For the prohibition of slaughter of cows, bulls and bullocks and for the prohibition of transport, export, sale and purchase thereof for the purpose of slaughter, the Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 1995 has been passed by the State Legislature. The Hon'ble President has accorded his assent to this Bill and the Law has come into force.

30. The State Government has given administrative approval to 20 projects for development of Fish Landing Centres with the help of NABARD stage-16, at an estimated cost of Rs.102.37 crore and out of which 16 projects are in progress.

31. My Government will continue to pursue the matter with the Government of India for the transfer of the land of Indu Mill No. 6 for construction of a Grand Memorial of Bharat Ratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar.

32. My Government has accorded in principle approval to purchase the house, where Bharat Ratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar resided in London during 1921-22 and for this purpose, the process has been initiated for the approval of the Government of India and Reserve Bank of India. The Government has decided to preserve this house as an international memorial.

33. It is proposed to construct a grand memorial of Loknete late Gopinath Munde at Aurangabad.

34. The Government is committed to expedite the work of the Navi Mumbai International Airport Project. Due to comprehensive rehabilitation policy of the Government, consent letters from Project Affected Persons for land acquisitions have been received by CIDCO. Majority of the clearances required for the Project have been received. The Government has decided to build a new city called NAINA in an area of 600 sq. k.m. around the upcoming Navi Mumbai International Airport.

35. In the light of smart city mission announced by the Government of India, the State Government intends to develop maximum number of Smart Cities in the State. These Smart Cities will consist of 30 towns focussing on different themes like education, medical, entertainment, industry etc. In this context, Study Groups have been formed to suggest the Road Map.

36. For prohibiting unauthorised constructions in the rural areas of the State and for controlling such unauthorised constructions subject to certain conditions, Government has taken a policy decision to compound such unauthorized constructions. For this purpose, necessary amendments in the concerned Acts, have been approved by the State Legislature in its last winter session at Nagpur. A Committee headed by the Municipal Commissioner, Greater Mumbai has been constituted to address the issue of urban areas.

37. In order to promote and incentivise the Industrial Development in the State under 'Make in Maharashtra Mission', and



to facilitate the process of establishing industrial estates, the Government has decided in principle to increase the present permissible FSI for the industrial use in the Agriculture and No Development Zone.

38. With a view to facilitate the process of granting development permissions, standardised development control regulations for all the Municipal Councils, and Nagar Panchayats, and Regional Plan Areas have been made applicable and because of which, it will be possible to grant the permission to those applying in the prescribed format within 7 days.

39. The Government is implementing National Urban Livelihood Mission in 53 cities and State Urban Livelihood Mission in remaining Urban local bodies for alleviation of Urban poverty by focusing on skill development and empowerment of urban poor.

40. My Government has decided to acquire lands for large scale construction of Affordable Houses through MHADA. The Government has also decided that the land acquired by MHADA in the past will be reserved for construction of houses only.

41. The Government has decided to acquire slum encroached land belonging to Charitable Trusts and other private land owners to facilitate Slum Rehabilitation Schemes, if such land owners fail to prepare schemes within the stipulated time. GIS Mapping will also be done for effective implementation of Slum Rehabilitation Schemes in Mumbai City.

42. In order to maintain the primacy of the State in industrial development, tourism and service sectors and to enhance employment opportunities, a programme for creation and modernization of roads, highways and expressways will be undertaken through Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation. The construction of a Ring Road around Pune city and creation of smart cities in specific areas has been proposed. A Government company namely MSRDC India International will be formed to undertake other projects in the State.

43. The Government has given administrative approvals to various works related to the hosting of ***Sinhastha Kumbhamela***, including construction of ghats for bathing, area development works etc. These works will be completed before commencement of the event.

44. With a view to resolve traffic problems and to reduce increasing road accidents, the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding, with Bloomberg Philanthropies, USA to prepare a draft plan.

45. It is proposed that GPRS based system will be installed in Meru and other Private Taxis and the front seats reserved in share taxis in Mumbai for women.

46. As part of a major initiative to have CCTV based Surveillance System for better security environment in major cities of the State, Government has started setting up of the system for Mumbai. This is expected to be completed within 90 weeks. The project has been already implemented in Pune.

47. The Government is aware of the fact that the conviction rate in the State is very low. A series of measures are being taken by the Government to ensure that perpetrators of crime are brought to justice.

48. Many offences have been registered under the Maharashtra Protection of Interests of Depositors Act in the State. By taking appropriate action, financial loss of the depositors will be compensated with the help of Multinational Financial Advisory Companies.

49. With a view to creating a Police Commissionerate in every Municipal Corporation, the Government has given its approval to establish a Police Commissionerate at Akola.

50. My Government is committed to reform the administration of justice by providing support to infrastructural facilities and e-Governance for speedy disposal of pending cases. The Government has also supported computerization of subordinate Courts apart from



offices of Charity Commissioner and Registrar of Partnership firms. Recently, an E-court (paperless court) has been made functional and more e-courts are proposed to be set up.

51. The Government has decided to establish Special courts and fast track Courts for speedy disposal of cases relating to sexual harassment of women and children.

52. My Government is committed to effective implementation of the State Litigation policy in force since 27th August 2014, which has facilitated in reducing the period of pendency of cases and will help to save time and money.

53. Taking into consideration the report of High Level Committee on Balanced Regional Development constituted by State Government, a committee of Ministers has been constituted to submit its recommendations to Cabinet.

54. Under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana started with the aim of achieving inclusive growth through Financial Inclusion of under-served population of the country, 76.76 lakh accounts have been opened in the State with 37.50 lakh in rural area and 39.26 lakhs in urban area.

55. Development plan has been sanctioned to construct a memorial of Rajmata Jijau at her birth place, Sindhkhed Raja, Buldhana.

56. My Government has launched "Aaple Sarkar" mobile application and portal on 26th January 2015. Citizens can address their grievances with an assured turn around time for their redressal, send their suggestions and comments on governance, and get desired information about any scheme or programme.

57. Several projects have been started by the Government under Digital India programme for dispensing various civic services with the help of information and communication technology. Some of these projects include e-challan for traffic police, Digital Locker, RTI Online,

Visitors entry Management system for Mantralaya and Online application for recruitment in Government service.

58. To bring in more efficiency and transparency in the Government procurement process, e-tendering has been made compulsory for all tenders above Rs. 3 lakh.

59. My Government has launched 'Make in Maharashtra' campaign to boost setting up of new manufacturing industries in the State. The systematic reforms will be undertaken to minimise time required for getting approval of these industries through electronic clearance mechanism.

60. A state of art 'Integrated Facilitation Centre' has been set up to provide incentives and facilities for investors in Mumbai.

61. The present procurement policy of the State Government is outdated. Therefore, a new procurement policy for the State is being prepared. For transparent and assured procurement operations, e-tendering policy has been made compulsory for all Government offices. To provide incentives to electronics and IT industry, a new IT policy will be formulated.

62. With effect from 1st February 2015 all the gazettes of my Government are being made available on the web site of Directorate of Government Press, Stationery and Publications, Mumbai in the form of e-Gazette.

63. The State Government has signed the State Support Agreement and Share Holder Agreement with Delhi-Mumbai, Industrial Corridor Trust of the Government of India to create two nodes under DMIC in the State of Maharashtra. A Special Purpose Vehicle, namely Aurangabad Industrial Township Ltd. has been constituted to implement the first DMIC Node at Aurangabad.

64. The Government of India has accorded highest priority to skill development of the unemployed to meet the huge demand of skilled quality manpower in the changed national and international employment market. Recognizing its importance, my Government has



established an independent Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Department to address this issue.

65. On the lines of 'Digital India Initiative' of Government of India, my Government intends to launch 'mahakaushalya.gov.in' portal for providing an efficient digital platform to the Skill and Entrepreneurship Development Eco-system. Call centres of employment, self-employment and skill development shall be further expanded to enhance the outreach of the initiatives.

66. With a view to promote the textile industry in the State, the Government has decided to sanction grants for textile processing park under the Integrated Textile Processing Scheme along with the assistance of Government of India, and has also decided to set up a textile hub on 1200 acre land at Nandgaon peth, Amravati. An investment of Rs.2000 crore is expected and about 7500 employment opportunities will be created through this project.

67. To cope with growing demand of power, MAHAGENCO is implementing various power projects and by March, 2016, its installed capacity will be increased by 3230 MW. On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2014, MAHAGENCO's Solar Project of 50 MW at Shirsufal, Pune has started power generation and after completion of the project, the total solar capacity of MAHAGENCO will be 180 MW.

68. Koradi Thermal Power Station requires 130 MLD water for its operation. The requirement of water will be met by using treated sewage water from Bhandewadi water treatment plant of Nagpur Municipal Corporation, which is taken up under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission. This project is expected to be completed by May, 2015.

69. In order to reduce the burden of arrears on Agricultural consumers the Government has implemented Krishi Sanjivani Yojana, 2014 and this scheme has been extended further up to 31st March 2015. The benefit of the scheme has been availed by about 5.42 lakhs consumers so far.

70. In order to ensure long term energy security, it is essential to promote non-conventional energy sources. For this purpose a new and comprehensive policy to substantially enhance the capacity of installation of renewable power projects in the State is being formulated.

71. With a view to give financial security and improve the standard of living of sugarcane harvesting workers in the unorganized sector, the Government has decided to constitute the Board for Sugarcane Harvesting Workers under the Maharashtra Mathadi, Hamal and other Manual Workers Act, 1969. The Board would be named as "Loknete Gopinath Munde Maharashtra Sugarcane Harvesting and Carting and other Unprotected Manual Workers Board".

72. To ensure welfare of labour in the unorganized sectors, the State Government is formulating a new and independent policy and for this purpose amendments to the concerned Acts are being undertaken.

73. The Government has decided to introduce an online Performance Appraisal Reports system for the State Civil Service Officers in Maharashtra from the next assessment year.

74. The Government has increased the quota for appointment on compassionate grounds from 5% to 10% for Group C and D posts.

75. To increase the competency level of the Government Employees, a new Training Policy has been introduced. Training Institutes in all 36 districts have been declared as District Administrative Training Centres which will impart training to Group C and D employees in the State.

76. The Government has decided to develop Airport at Belora, Amravati through Airport Authority of India and to transfer on long term lease basis Terminal building at Ozar Airport, Nasik to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. Further, the work of first stage of a new Airport at Shirdi, Ahmednagar is also nearing completion and non scheduled flights for Sai devotees will commence during this year.



77. My Government is serious and sensitive to the Maharashtra-Karnataka Border Dispute and will always support the Marathi speaking people in the border disputed areas through active follow up of the pending court case on this issue.

78. A new scheme namely Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana is being launched, affiliating the same with present Rajiv Gandhi Jeevandayee Arogya Yojana, for the unorganized workers as per the guidelines issued by Central Government under provisions of Unorganized Workers Security Act, 2008.

79. The Government intends to commence the "Shiv Arogya Yojana" for the benefit of patients suffering from chronic diseases, living in the remote areas like Melghat, Dhadgaon, Mokhada by making them available a second opinion from expert physicians and doctors in the urban area through tele-medicine.

80. The Government has taken up "Mother and child tracking system" so as to reduce maternal mortality and infant mortality in Melghat region and it will be extended to other remote areas of the State.

81. In order to ensure safe and smooth supply of blood to the patients, the Government has planned to establish Nucleic Acid Testing centres in the State. In order to prevent spreading of contagious diseases, an enactment for prohibition of spitting at public places and thereby maintaining hygiene and cleanliness will be proposed.

82. The Government desires to create a Super-speciality Hospital at Government Medical College and Hospital under the Prime Minister's Health Security Scheme and also to establish a Tertiary Cancer Care Centre at Akola.

83. The Medical Council of India has sanctioned 50 additional seats for MBBS at Government medical college and Hospital, Akola as per norms. The Government proposes to construct building for hostel, laboratory, library and other educational purpose for these seats.

84. The implementation of new Centrally sponsored scheme of Vocationalisation of Education is in process for providing employment oriented education to the students studying in Standard 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> in the State. These students will get better employment opportunities while learning so that drop-out rate will be reduced.

85. The Government has decided to fix minimum age for admission for nursery and Standard 1<sup>st</sup> at three years and six years respectively. This decision will be implemented from 2016-2017 and 2019-2020 respectively.

86. To alleviate the stress of the students, the Government has decided that question papers for Board exams for Standard 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> will be distributed 10 minutes prior to commencement of examinations.

87. The Government intends to set up the Indian Institute of Information Technology at Nagpur and Pune and also the Indian Institute of Management at Nagpur with the assistance of Government of India.

88. The establishment of National Law University at Mumbai has been notified and Vice Chancellor has been appointed. The Government has also decided to establish National Law University at Aurangabad and Nagpur.

89. The Government intends to implement Parasbag Scheme in a phased manner on the land available with Anganwadi and with the families of Anganwadi beneficiaries. Under this scheme, vegetables and fruits will be cultivated and this will enrich the diets of the beneficiaries.

90. Under Integrated Child Development Scheme, Government plans to launch a mega project for construction of new buildings in the next three years for the 46,463 Anganwadis which are housed in temporary structures. For early construction of these Anganwadis at a low expenditure, prefabricated technology will be used.

91. On 26th January 2015, the Government of India has announced "Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao" Scheme all over the country.



On the basis of this Scheme, State Government has decided to start new scheme named as “Maajhi Kanya Bhagyashri”.

92. Presently, 15 Caste Certificate Scrutiny Committees are operating to verify Caste Certificates to Scheduled Caste and other categories. With a view to streamline and expedite the issuance of Caste Certificates to the beneficiaries, such committees have been constituted in all the districts in the State.

93. On the lines of Scheme of Government of India, the State Government will provide basic infrastructure and advanced technology for the teachers. Concrete measures will be undertaken so that no child would be deprived of the Right to Education.

94. Hostels are being established in each district of the State for girl students belonging to minorities. So far, construction of 10 buildings has been completed and the process of providing required infrastructure is in progress.

95. The Government has proposed to establish an Ekalavya Academy of Sports and Entrepreneurship for Tribal Youth in Palghar district. Till the establishment of this Academy, youth will be trained at Nashik Sports Academy from June 2015.

96. The Government intends to set up “Tribal Health & Nutrition Mission” to root out the chronic issues of high infant mortality and malnutrition.

97. In accordance with the Right to Education Act, the School Management Committee in Government Ashram Schools will be restructured and will be conferred with the powers for minor repairs of these Ashram Schools, to the tune of Rs.1 lakh.

98. I am delighted to state that the State Government tableau on “**Pandhrichi Wari**” in Republic Day celebrations this year was adjudged the Best Tableau by the Government of India. I congratulate all the artists, technicians, assistants and the officers involved in this venture.

99. As a part of ambitious plans for Maharashtra Tourism in the coming year, the Government plans to promote the State as an all season tourist as well as a great investment destination.

100. The Government of India has recently announced the Electronic Travel Authorization for 143 countries to boost tourism in the country. To tap this new initiative, my Government is organizing first Maharashtra International Travel Mart in Mumbai in September 2015.

101. Hon'ble Members, during the present Session you will be considering Supplementary Demands, the Budget for the year 2015-16, Vote on Account, the Bills and other Government and non official business which may be brought before you for consideration.

I wish your deliberation during the present Session every success.

**Jai Hind ! Jai Maharashtra !!**