DEVELOPMENT IS POSSIBLE

Our Government, On the right track
DEVELOPMENT IS POSSIBLE

Our Government, On the right track
In Kerala, there used to be a general perception that progressive and creative thoughts were hard to translate into reality. This government is fast proving that, the notion is wrong. The government has charted a course of action that are delivering the desired results in the domain of development and welfare.

In the pursuit to live up to the aspirations of our people, the government have set in motion programmes to take on some of the key issues that used to confront the State for a long time. The government as it completes its second year in office can be proud of the fact that it was able to check corruption, especially at the higher levels. This, perhaps among the foremost of this government’s task, has instilled a great deal of confidence, hope and trust among the people. On the growth front, significant progress has been achieved in infrastructure development.

The government is committed to elevating the life and livelihood of the common man, rolled out a social justice based comprehensive development programme under the banner of ‘Nava Keralam Karma Padhathi’. The four missions underway as part of this programme are already making the desired impact in our society and environment. Qualitative enhancement of public healthcare, revamping of general education, realization of green and clean Kerala and providing shelter-cum-livelihood means to the poor and the needy are well poised to become milestones in the development and welfare history of Kerala.

Talking about our society in general, we can be proud of the fact that our citizens are the most law abiding ones in the country and the credible law and order situation prevailing in the State has been acknowledged on many occasions by different agencies of repute. And the State police personnel have performed well in cracking some major cases in recent times and that too in a time bound manner.

Kerala is steadily getting rid of the tag of being a State that is ‘not investment-friendly’ to one that is best suited for investments. The government has brought in major changes to some of the existing laws by amending seven of them, thus clearing the way for unhindered investments and promoting ease-of-doing-business in the State.

Though the demonetization and GST did cast a pal of gloom on our economy, the State managed to stay afloat. The blue-print to generate adequate financial resources – KIIFB – is showing us the way ahead. The past two years have more reasons for us to cheer about. Thirteen public sector undertakings were made profit making ones with significant reduction in public debt. And the convening of ‘Loka Kerala Sabha’ literally bridged the gap between non-resident Keralites and the government. This event will be followed up by programmes that would have significant and productive outcomes for NRK’S and the State in the days to come.

On the welfare front, this government has already made its mark. Pension distribution, welfare measures for migrant labourers; first in the country, increasing the minimum salary of nurses to Rs 20,000 have been some of them. Financial assistance from Chief Minister’s Distress Relief Fund (CMDRF) has been made online and more transparent. So far, financial assistance to the tune of Rs 343 crore has been provided through CMDRF.

These projects under different missions are testimony to the government’s commitment to the people of Kerala and their overall development. It is with a matter of pride that the Information Public Relations Department presents you the highlights of the LDF Government’s two year’s of people-focused governance.
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State with special department for women welfare and Gender budgeting
First in 10 criteria including background facilities, social safety, human resource
State with highest minimum wages in the nation
Only state in India free from communal riots as per the study of National Crime Records Bureau
First state to come up with ‘Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence’ (SAFE) kit for collecting evidence against sexual assault in a scientific manner
First state with proper sanitation facilities among the densely populated states
First state to allot budget in the proportion of population among Scheduled Caste and Tribes and Tribal community
‘Vayojanshretta’ award for Kerala’s ‘Vayomithram’ Project
Cop today International Police excellence award for Janamaithri Police System
Our Government, On the right track

India Today award for maintaining the best Law and Order

First state in the New Delhi Public Affairs Centre index State with least corruption – accreditation of centre for media studies

First state to declare internet facility as the Right of Citizen Only state with complete electrification

First state to declare transgender policy. Highest health-life index

Free availability of health treatment

International Standard free education

Modern roads in villages

Model Student Police scheme

First state in the New Delhi Public Affairs Centre index

India Today award for maintaining the best Law and Order
Major Achievements of the Police Department after Pinarayi Vijayan Govt assumed office

Steps to Improve Policing

Soon after the LDF government came to power, decisive steps were taken to buttress law and order in the state and that include making strong interventions for scientific investigation, avoiding third-degree interrogation methods and allaying corruption. High-level meets and video-conferencing in the presence of the Chief Minister were conducted to achieve this goal. The police rank and file went through a comprehensive overhaul. The Chief Minister attended the range-level meet and gave directives to make investigation more effective and to have well-maintained law and order which is why there are hardly any realted issues in the state.

A Secure Law and Order

Unlike previous years, the state has a secure and peaceful ‘law and order’ situation. Policing was at its best during festive occasions such as Sabarimala pilgrimage, Attukal pongala, Onam, Bakrid, Ramzan, Christmas and Vishu and also during sports fiestas such as ISL and IPL. Special squads were deployed in all districts to book goons and criminals. Special drives led by district police chiefs, were held to rein in goons, anti-socials and serious offenders. Studies also point to a decline in political violence. The number of political clashes has come down from 1,768 in 2016 to 1,522 in 2017, and that of political murders from 16 in 2016 to 5 the next year.

SHOs in the Rank of Inspectors at 203 Stations

As part of improving the investigation process and ‘law and order’, station house officers (SHOs) holding the rank of CI were appointed in 203 police stations, including 196 new stations. These stations got two separate divisions manned by SIs with independent responsibility to look after law and order and investigation. The two divisions under the experienced SHOs have indeed put the quality of policing on a higher pedestal – a landmark reformation in the state police force over the years. The government has decided to bring about the change in 471 local police stations at the next level.

Big Leap in Crime Investigation

As in the case of law and order, the state also made commendable progress in investigation of crime by scientifically and effectively solving several sensational cases and ensuring that the criminals got befitting punishment.

- Special Investigation Team constituted to probe the sensational Jisha murder case.
- Those behind online fraud in the state were nabbed from Delhi by the Kerala Cyber Police.
- All accused, including a Maharashtrian, were arrested for robbing a jewellery shop staff of gold ornaments worth Rs 93 lakh at Kuriachira, Nedupuzha, in July.
- All accused in the murder of Mariyadas of Kovalam were arrested from Tamil Nadu within a week along with looted articles.
- Relating to the missing case of Preethi from Chithali in Alathur (Palakkad district), the police were able to arrest the person, who murdered her near Pollachi in Tamil Nadu and buried her, and recovered her gold ornaments.
- The police booked the accused who poisoned Loli to death, a woman from Thrissur, after taking her to Ramapuram in Tamil Nadu.
- Within 5 days the police nabbed the criminal who murdered a pregnant woman, Aswathy, whose body was found wrapped in a bedsheet at a rubber estate at Ettumanoor in Kottayam.
- Employer arrested for murdering a middle-aged man in Kochi, cutting the body to pieces and dumping them in a well.
- Stringent measures in place to tackle terrorism. Two persons were arrested from Mumbai in connection with IS recruitment and were put to trial. Further investigation is on.
- Kerala police were able to scientifically prove the hi-tech ATM theft attempts. The Romanian, the key accused in the gang who leaked money using ATM card details of customers, collected through camera and magnetic data receiver installed at SBI ATM counter, was arrested from Mumbai through scientific investigation mechanism. The Interpol took into custody another person from Kenya as per the demand of Kerala Police.
- The accused who was on the run after brutally killing his parents and two others at Nanthencode in Thiruvananthapuram was nabbed on the third day.
- In no time the police could arrest the accused in the murder of a madrassa teacher in Kasaragod.
- The police arrested a UP native, one of the accused in the ATM thefts at Union Bank under Thrikkakara station limits and Syndicate Bank
at Kambivelikkakam. They could also prove his role in the murder of a UP man, another accused in the theft.

- Could bring before law all accused in recent sexual abuse cases against women, including the actor assault case at Angamaly.
- Legal steps were initiated against Kovalam MLA charged with abusing a housewife at Balaramapuram in Thiruvananthapuram.
- Kerala Police spruced up the investigation against Nirmal Krishna Chit Funds in Parassala by joining hands with Tamil Nadu police. The chit fund owner was arrested and property was seized.
- Accurate investigation helped police nab all accused involved in the sensational Madhu Linto murder case at Edathua in Alappuzha district.
- Cases registered against film actors and several others who purchased luxury cars with Pondicherry registration for flouting I-T norms.
- The cyber police arrested the person who duped an elderly woman from Thiruvananthapuram of Rs 12.5 lakhs using an ATM card, from Thachottukavu.
- 16 persons arrested in connection with the killing of tribal youth Madhu at Agali in Attappady.
- 8 persons arrested for the murder of Shuhaib at Mattannur in Kannur.
- A scientific investigation into the death of Janaki, a retired teacher from Cheemeni in Kasaragod brought to book 8 persons.
- The members of two combined robbery gangs that unleashed terror in Kochi were nabbed from Delhi and West Bengal after a scientific probe.
- Expeditious Steps to Rein in Terrorism
- Effective steps taken to prevent terror activities of IS and Maoists.

Self-protection Training for Women

The Kerala Police have started a self-defence training programme for women in order to train them to deal with dangerous situations that they may face and instil a sense of security and confidence in women. At the local level, the training is being imparted in association with Kudumbashree, residence associations, universities and non-profit organizations, besides starting district-level training centres. Over 1 lakh women across the state have obtained training this year, and the police is gearing up to train over 2 lakh persons in the coming year.

Nirbhaya

It was originally launched in 2014 as a pilot project and later on accumulated dust. The present government has revived the project in 2016 and implemented it across the state. Under it, the government appointed five Nirbhaya volunteers in every ward at panchayat and corporation levels. The volunteers will assist the police in ensuring the security of women.

Powerful Measures including Panchayat-level Adalats for Grievance Redressal

Women’s helpdesks are functioning in all police
stations so that women can feel free to walk into any station and lodge a complaint.

In addition to the Pink Patrol, a round-the-clock women’s helpline number 1091 and another helpline number 181 which are operated by the Social Justice Department in association with agencies, including the Police Department, are functioning in all districts. A state Women’s Cell headed by an SP and district women’s cell headed by a woman CI are active in the state.

Moreover, a project was launched in which a woman police officer will pay weekly visits to panchayats for hearing complaints on crime against women.

**Other Steps**

Three mobile counseling centres for women, and She Taxi, Pink Auto, She Auto to ensure safe journey for women in cities came into force. To guarantee women’s security, various programmes are being chalked out at district levels in addition to Student Police Cadet and Jana Maitri Policing.

**Enhancing Women’s Representation**

The government has decided to enhance women’s representation in the police force to 15% in the first phase and 25% at a later stage. As a part of this, it has approved a new battalion for women cops and created 451 posts and allotted 10 acres of land to set up Women’s Battalion at Menamkulam in Thiruvananthapuram.

For the first time in the state, Woman SIs were appointed as Station House Officers in 6 police stations: Eroor, Thannithodu, Thrissur Town West, Varandarappilly, Chemmangadu and Payyavoor.

**Decrease in Road Accidents; Safety Measures Bear Fruit**

Road safety measures adopted in the state have started showing positive results. Stats show a decline in road accidents in 2017 compared to the previous year. Initial figures say there were only 38,462 road accidents in 2017 compared to 39,420 in 2016. There has also been a decrease in the number of accident deaths and injured. The number of deaths and seriously injured in 2016 were 4,287 and 30,100 respectively, while the corresponding figures in 2017 were 4,035 and 29,471. The number of people injured came down to 12,840 from 14,008.

Various programmes were put in place by the government, police, Motor Vehicles Department and other agencies to curb road accidents in the state. Kerala Police have introduced programmes such as Subha Yatra project- an awareness programme in association with school children - and SOFT (Save Our Fellow Traveller) project to provide speedy treatment to those involved in the accident. SOFT project has received national acclaim. Earnest efforts taken by the police and MVD such as identifying accident prone zones, deploying more police force in those spots, installing hi-tech devices like CCTVs and interceptors by the police, have helped in bringing down accident rates.
considerably. Steps taken against haphazard parking and altered vehicles have also contributed to reduce road mishaps. Body cameras are being distributed to police officers in this regard.

**Jana Maithri Project at all Police Stations**

Jana Maithri policing which was confined to 267 stations has been expanded to all stations in the state.

**Child-friendly Police stations**

Setting a model for the entire nation, Kerala has transformed 6 of its stations into child-friendly ones. The project is being implemented in Thiruvananthapuram Fort, Kollam East, Ernakulam-Kadavanthra, Thrissur East, Kozhikode Town and Kannur Town. Steps are afoot to make 3 police stations each in 19 police districts child-friendly this fiscal.

**PROs in stations**

A competent police officer in every station was given the role of Public Relations Officer to receive the public who come with complaints and give them proper assistance and guidance.

Kochi Metro police station with sufficient manpower has been sanctioned.

**New Police Stations**

Nod was given to open local stations in 13 places, and work is under way to make them operational. Six coastal police stations have started functioning at Thalassery, Kumbla, Trikaripur, Arthungal, Munakkakadavu and Ponnani. Malayalapuzha station was opened, while the coastal stations at Anchuthengu, Poovar, Elathoor and Vadakara will soon start functioning.

**Anti-Terrorist Force**

It was decided to open the headquarters of Anti-Terrorist Force at a temporary space extending to 500sqft at Tripunithura Armed Reserve Camp with full facilities.

**New Posts and Units**

An additional 400 posts for drivers were created, besides 451 posts sanctioned for Women Battalion. As a part of setting up new commando units in the 7 armed battalions of police force and 210 posts were given the official nod. Kochi Metro will get 1 AC, 1 API, 3 APSIs, 1 APASI, 108 constables and 30 woman constables.

**Thrust on Police Dept Modernisation**

Modernisation programmes in the police force were revamped and implemented. All police officers were given CUG Sim cards. The website of Kerala
Police was redesigned. Steps were initiated for the effective use of technology in the investigation process and maintaining ‘law and order’. Project of providing modern ‘Body cameras’ to patrolling officers started in Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulam and 100 police stations were made smart. A modern Photo Archive was introduced to preserve police photographs. Modern Interrogation Rooms and Mobile Forensic units were set up in all 19 police districts. The Cyberdome of Kerala Police opened at Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram, has facilitated effective internet monitoring of cyber financial fraud. Advanced training in Cyber Forensics was imparted to 100 persons after a gap of several years. The training programmes at Thrissur Police Academy and Police Training College were spruced up. Novel systems such as ‘Khaki Hats’ to prevent cyber frauds and Kids Glove for cyber security of children were devised. The uniform and logo of State Industrial Security Force were redesigned.

**For Security of Senior Citizens**

Several programmes were chalked out for the safety of senior citizens leading an isolated life. They include logging the number of elderly people, understanding their problems through constant communication and ensuring their security. A hotline system was put in place at police stations to facilitate an instant communication with the elderly. Pala police station in Kottayam district has recently introduced the hotline system for senior citizens by joining hands with BSNL. Consultation meetings are being held at district level to crystalize an action plan for the safety of senior citizens across the state.

**Police Chief Control Room**

A Police Chief Control Room was opened at the Police Headquarters to ensure effective integration of various policing activities such as maintaining law and order, investigation and traffic control.

The construction of a new building for Kochi Metro police Station is in the final stages.

**Mobile Application**

A mobile application that provides data to the public on the services offered by the police and to create awareness was launched. Raksha, Citizen Safety, Traffic Guru, Dial a Cop, PCC System, Virtual Police Guide, Traffic Offence Reporting and Fine Remittance are the newly-launched applications for the safety of citizens.

**Cyber Security**

A number of projects were devised for the cyber security and stringent mechanism put in place to curb cyber fraud. Cyber Cells and Cyberdome activities at Thiruvananthapuram were strengthened. ‘Kids Glove’ for creating awareness among children on cyber security is another step in this direction.

**Steps to Make Student Police Effective**

Student Police project was started in 48 more schools and it would be expanded to another 100 schools this year. Works are on to prepare an action plan.
plan for the effective implementation of the project.

**Relief Measures**

Kerala Police played a pivotal role in relief and rescue operations and helped trace missing persons when Ockhi wreaked havoc in Kerala.

**Drug Trafficking: Combined Actionplan of Police, Excise and Railways**

Police, Excise, Railway Protection Force and Railway police have come up with joint ventures to curtail the rising use and trafficking of drugs and narcotics. Kerala Anti-Narcotic Squad was given more teeth by appointing an IG to head the unit. To eradicate drug abuse from educational institutions, Anti-Narcotics Clubs were opened in various colleges in Thiruvananthapuram. This will soon be expanded to other parts under ‘Aspiratons 2018’. The other activities started towards achieving this goal are: ‘Yes to Football, No to Drug’ and ‘Yes to Cricket, No to Drug’. Steps were taken to enforce ‘Copta Law’ which instructs large pictorial warnings on the covers of tobacco products and prevent the sale of narcotic substances among children.

**Procedures Eased for Police Clearance Certificate**

Procedures to obtain Police Clearance Certificates were eased for the job aspirants in the UAE.

**SOFT Project**

The SOFT (Save Our Fellow Traveller) of the Kerala Police for road safety won the national award of Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry for road safety efforts. The government took into account the traffic safety projects undertaken by the Consumer Departments of all states to pick the winner.

**Awards - Recognitions**

**Law and Order**

In 2016 and 2017, Kerala was selected as the best state for its excellent law and order by the Public Affairs Index.

**Recognition to Women’s security**

According to Plan India grading, Kerala was ranked second only next to Goa for ensuring women’s safety (Gender Vulnerability Index).

**Police Excellence Award for Jana Maithri**

The Jana Maithri project under the community policing scheme of Kerala Police grabbed the Police Excellence Award of 2017 instituted by the journal ‘COPS Today International’ published by Foundation for Research. The government decision to strengthen Jana Maithri scheme and expand it
to all police stations in the state and other novel initiatives undertaken as part of Jana Maithri project helped it win the acclaim.

**Cyberdome gets ISO certification**

Cyberdome received the ISO 27001:2013 honour for its excellence in information security management system. It is for the first time in India that a law executive body is getting the honour. ISO 27001:2013 is the international standard that lays down security guidelines and procedures to cyber security organisations and agencies.

**Best Police Stations**

Valapattanam Station in Kannur was selected as one of the 10 best police stations in the country.

**ISO accreditation for Kollam City Police Office**

Kollam City District Police Office won the ISO certification of excellence in work. It has become the second District Police Office in India to get this honour.

**Student Police Project goes national**

Ministry of Home Affairs has decided to replicate the Student Police project of Kerala across the nation.

**Award for Digital Entrepreneurs**

At the international trade fair in New Delhi Kerala Police received the best exhibitor award for its Digital India theme (in 2016) and Startup India theme (in 2017) put up at the Kerala Pavilion.

**Cyber Security**

The measures adopted by the Kerala Police in the wake of ‘Blue Whale’ gaming received accolades from the Central Government.
Norka Roots, which works towards the welfare, empowerment, rehabilitation and protection of rights of expatriate Malayalis, has designed and implemented several programmes for the community. Over the past two years, Norka was able to be a balm to the Keralites who return to their homeland after serving abroad.

**Service Schemes**

**Certificate Attestation Centre**

Certificate attestation centres are functioning at Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode to help Keralites get their certificates attested for jobs outside the country. The Thiruvananthapuram centre has attested 12,517 certificates between January 1 and December 31, 2017. This centre has generated a revenue of Rs 1,41,43,791.

During the period, Ernakulam centre has attested 19,644 applications garnering a revenue of Rs 1,12,47,818, while the corresponding from Kozhikode centre is 20,725 and Rs 1,46,86,175.

**Pre-departure Orientation Programme**

The must-know things for job aspirants who wish to get employed abroad are the working conditions in foreign countries, information related to accredited recruiting companies, visa, emigration law, labour pact, Customs law, travel restrictions, work culture, etc. The Pre-departure Orientation Programme gives training to job seekers on these topics through Centre for Management Development (CMD) and Resource Enhancement Academy for Career Heights (REACH) under State Women’s Development Corporation. The government has allotted Rs 50 lakh in 2016-17 and 26 lakh for 2017-18 for the purpose. As many as 2,150 and 1,300 people were given training during 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively.

**Recruitment**

One of the notable activities of Norka is the achievement of its recruitment wing. This
department has played an indelible role in providing employment in foreign countries to Malayalis, both skilled and unskilled. Norka recruitment is mainly conducted in various wings of the health sector, including nursing. Opportunities are comparatively lesser for unskilled labourers. Although most recruitments are for the Gulf regions, attempts are being made to export human resources to countries such as South Africa.

**Skill Upgradation**

Norka Roots has been imparting career aptitude training to those seeking jobs abroad to improve and excel in their skills. Discussions were held with NSDC (National Skill Development Centre) for the effective conduct of Skill Upgradation training courses in 2017-18 fiscal. Steps were taken to bring NSD-accredited institutes under Norka Roots project and upgrade the contents of training programme to international standards. Selected institutes, including 31 government ITIs, polytechnics and LBS, are imparting training programmes in select job sectors in 2017-18 fiscal. Besides, ITI diploma students can soon take a course called ‘Integrated QA/QC Programme’ with a course fee of Rs 25,000 through United NAT Training Inspection Centre, a training partner in Kochi under Cochin University. A total of 1,300 students successfully took the skill training provided through 26 government ITIs for 2016-17.

**Welfare Projects**

As a solace to the expat returnees and their dependants, a financial aid scheme called ‘Santhwana’ allotted Rs 12.25 cr for treatment, deaths, wedding and purchasing mobility aids for the disabled. From the chairman’s fund Rs 88,000 was disbursed to three persons, and Rs 30,000 allotted from Norka’s financial aid scheme to bring back the bodies of Malayalis who died abroad.

**Norka Department Project for Return Emigrants (NDPREM)**

Norka Department Project for Return Emigrants (NDPREM) is a project for the rehabilitation of NRK returnees as per government order (GO R.T No. 75/2013/Norka) and gives them special consideration and provides support to start their own business ventures. For projects with a paid-up capital of up to Rs 20 lakh, the bank loans are offered with 15 percent capital subsidy and 3 per cent interest subsidy for the first 4 years.

As part of the NDPREM project, new agreements were signed with State Backward Communities Development Corporation, State Pravasi Welfare Development Cooperative Society in 2017-18. Nationalized banks such as SBI, Union Bank and South Indian Bank have come forward to support the project. NDPREM allays ignorance of applicants to start business ventures and fears of lack of practical experience, and offers wide-ranging services such as imparting skill training, preparing project report identifying the commercial viability and giving tips and guidelines to obtain bank loans. These services are rendered through Centre for Management Development.

An amount of Rs 3.54 cr has been spent for 328 beneficiaries during 2016-17 and Rs 6.32cr for 516 persons during 2017-18 under the project.

**Karunyam Scheme**

It is a special fund to bring back the bodies of expat Keralites who die outside India or in other states. The fund is given to the legal heir of the deceased to bring the body home through flight, train or any other means in the cheapest way possible. The fund is reimbursed after the body is brought to the native place. A maximum of Rs 50,000 and Rs 15,000 are given to the deaths which occur outside India and other states respectively.

The project which came into effect in 2009 has so far had 48 beneficiaries and Rs 16,58,000 disbursed. In this fiscal, one beneficiary was allotted Rs 15,000.
The Governor’s Assembly speech of 2017-18 proposes a project to reimburse fund to the agencies which facilitate to bring home bodies of people who die outside the state. Steps were taken in this regard to revise the scheme in such a way as to grant the required sum to the agencies concerned. Moreover, steps are on to guarantee prompt delivery of financial aid under the Karunyan scheme.

**Norka Emergency Ambulance Service**

The long-pending demand of NRKs to provide ambulance service to the ailing financially backward expat Keralites who want to return home or transport bodies from airports to their home or hospital is finally answered. The government has given the nod as per Norka No 554/2017 of 24/08/2017 to devise and implement a project to operate ambulance service from the current fiscal and thus earmarked a sum of Rs 50,00,000 in the budget. Norka Roots Executive Officer and the Health Department head are in the final stages of preparing the project.

**C. Development Projects**

**Online Registration and Database formulation Project**

The lack of proper and comprehensive database on the number of expats and the NRK returnees poses a major challenge before the government to chalk out welfare schemes for them. Hence, it was decided to set up a web portal to incorporate a detailed and accurate live online database. The government has given the administrative nod to a project for online registration system and data base formulation for 2017-18, according to government order on 16.06.2017 (GO. RT. No. 416/2017/Norka No). It has set aside a sum of Rs 5 crore for the purpose. As of now we do not have a clarity on the number of Keralites working outside the state and country. The database on NRKs will solve the problem to a great extent and help give a correct picture.

Steps were taken to upgrade software in relation to the various services rendered by Norka Roots, improve online registration, formulation of data base and more importantly, recreate the website of Norka Roots to enable a prompt and effective delivery of services to the public.

**Call Centre**

Guidelines relating to the Norka Department and Norka Roots, various offices under them, services, projects and activities are available round-the-clock at the Norka Helpline centre. Those within India can dial 1800-426-3939 and the expats from outside the country 00914712333339.

3. Creating awareness against fake recruitment, visa fraud

An amount of Rs 64 lakh was set aside in the 2017-18 budget for the project. Awareness programmes against fraud in foreign recruitment and visa issuance will be aired in various audio-visual media through the Public Relations Department.

**Loka Kerala Sabha**

Loka Kerala Sabha was envisaged as a common platform for Keralites living in other states and union territories and outside the country. Its first meeting was held on January 12 and 13, 2018 at the Assembly complex in Thiruvananthapuram. It main aim is to forge unity and mutual cooperation among...
Keralites and work towards the progress of state’s culture and economy. The Sabha is also duty-bound to give due consideration to the contributions and suggestions put forward by Keralites who are not Indian citizens.

Loka Kerala Sabha has 351 members. The entire members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly and Parliamentarians who represent the state are members of the Sabha. The state government has nominated 177 members who represent Kerala expat community with Indian citizenship. Of these nominated, 42 are from other Indian states, 99 from outside the country, 6 expat returnees and 30 influential persons from various sectors.

Suggestions at the first Loka Kerala Sabha:

1. In a bid to maintain a constant interaction with industrial and commercial entrepreneurs in foreign countries, the government plans to constitute Pravasi Chambers of Commerce, with separate chambers for each foreign sector. This is primarily aimed at creating a strong bond between the successful Chambers operating in Kerala and their expat counterparts.

2. There are also plans to set up Pravasi Professional Samithis in all countries, through which the research institutes and industries in Kerala can make use of the services of professionals. This will in turn bring about...
development in state’s science and technology and knowledge sectors.

3. There will be separate sections to deal with Keralites working outside the country, other states and the returnees at Norka. For those working in other countries there will be subdivisions. Professionals will be entrusted with the job of running the show.

4. Plans are afoot to set up a Kerala Development Coffer. Expats interested in investing in shares of pravasi ventures, will be entitled to get a job as per their eligibility in any organisation in their homeland after ending the expatriate life. This could be viewed as a novel venture that will pave way for investment for Gulf returnees and to enjoy job security in their state. The government plans to make this suggestion, which came up at the discussion table, into a reality.

5. Plans to introduce special loans for NRKs to start new business ventures. An agency is on the cards that will open a channel of communication with those who wish to be entrepreneurs, especially professionals in their respective fields. Investors will be given a single-window clearance.

6. The government also has plans to constitute a welfare scheme to give protection to the sick, accident victims and those who had lost their job by integrating the activities of various expat organizations. As per the suggestions which came up during the two-day discussions, it was decided to constitute 7 subject standing committees to decide on the further course of action of Loka Kerala Sabha. The committees will comprise experts in each field and representatives of NRK community.

Standing committee 1
To deal with the setting up and functioning of Kerala Development Coffer and the conduct of further meetings of Loka Kerala Sabha.
Standing committee 2
To take steps to boost NRK investments, including the formation of Pravasi Economic Zone.

Standing committee 3
To frame salary schemes and rehabilitation schemes for NRK returnees.

Standing committee 4
To draft policies that ensure protection of expatriate community in the wake of growing changes in the job sector in foreign countries and rising competition to grab the best jobs.

Standing committee 5
To chalk out topics for the Central Government consideration while framing Emigration Law in favour of job security and rights of NRI community, including women, in the wake of many countries adopting laws that give thrust to employ native workers.

Standing committee 6
To list out suggestions to promote Kerala arts.

Standing committee 7
To find suggestions and procedures to find a permanent mechanism to help Keralites who have migrated to other states by bringing their issues before state and central governments and solving them.

Presently, no final decision was taken on when the committees will take shape or on the number of members. The government has allotted a sum of Rs 4.5 crore towards the conduct of first meet of Loka Kerala Sabha and Rs 2 crore for Global Cultural fest held in this connection.

Moreover, the activities of Norka Department and Norka Roots projects have been effectively extended to all districts of the state. Norka cells were opened in 11 districts besides starting regional authentication centres in Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode. All these have helped in bringing more number of NRKs to be part of the activities and projects of Norka.
In order to strengthen Kerala’s economy and to increase industrial development, the government has implemented an IT Policy to ensure the development in IT industry.

**Aims**

Knowledge-based society; Information-based/digital technological extension/training/use

E-governance, mobile governance schemes and other marketing schemes to attract multinational companies.

Basic international technical standard facility at every development phase of three government IT parks.

The government has appointed an IT High Power Advisory Council to give guidelines to implement activities to raise state’s IT to the national level.

100 acres of land has been set aside for the Knowledge City project which includes new technologies such as KFON project, Block Chain, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, Space Science, Electronic Mobility, etc.

**Excellence in IT Field**

Improve basic facilities; create enough space for IT building, new IT interventions, employment opportunities, IT investments, software production and import.

Building facilities of 14 lakh sq.ft within the two years, 65 new companies, 5000 new employment opportunities, 20% increase in software importing are the major achievements of this government.

An International Digital Festival, Hash Future, was conducted, which had more than 2000 participants including eminent personalities from IT field, prominent entrepreneurs and professors.

Representation of Kerala in international IT meetings held in GITEX (Dubai) Mobile World Congress (Barcelona)

**Major executed projects in IT Parks**

Technocity was inaugurated by Hon. President of India Sri Ram Nath Kovind. Basic facilities such as road, electricity and water have been completed. Construction works have started for the Technocity. This will be completed by the middle of 2019.
Foundation stone was laid by the Chief Minister for 3.4 lakh sq.ft Suntech Business solution at Technocity

Contract was signed for 27104 sq ft to start a business for HR&Blocks (India) Pvt. Ltd at the Ganga Ya-muna SEZ IT building at the Technopark in its third phase

In the third phase, a contract was signed between the US-based Taurus Investments and Embassy Property Development Pvt Ltd to start ‘Embassy World Technology’ in 19.73 acres of land. Around 1 lakh people will get employment opportunities with the completion of this project worth Rs 2000 crore.

Construction works for IT companies TCS (3.7 lakh sq. ft), Infosys (7.9 lakh sq.ft) have been completed.

With the renewal of basic facilities in the first phase, 27 business offices have been completed and started functioning.

Discussions are under way between the officials of Nissan and Tech Mahindra and the Government to start their units in the Technopark.

**Info Park**

Construction work of ‘Jyothirmaya’ at Info Park has been completed.

The building construction of ‘Brigade’ was completed and inaugurated.

At Koratty Info Park, IT building ‘Indeevaram’, business offices for 10 companies have been completed and started functioning.

Solar electric system to produce 4 lakh units of electricity per year has been completed.

Construction works of Lulu Cyber Tower has been completed

The building of ‘Transasia’ has been completed.

**Cyber Park**

The construction of ‘Sahya’ IT building has been completed and started functioning.

Wi-Fi facility was enabled at Cyber Park campus

The mobile app incubation center was inaugurated by Google MD Mr. Rajan Anand.
HARITHAKERALAM MISSION

Water...Pure and Abundant
- Varattar was made to flow again.
- Rivers and streams with a total length of 9,200km were rejuvenated.
- 11,000 ponds renovated.
- 1620 canals were cleaned and rejuvenated.
- 5000 ponds were constructed.
- 29,000 wells were recharged.
- 4,500 wells were renovated.

Determined to Make a Clean Kerala
- Disposal of waste in its source at 2 lakh homes
- Haritha Karmasena to collect plastic and other related waste from houses.
- 91,000 provincial waste disposal projects.
- Road tarring using plastic waste
- Centralized waste disposal systems in metro cities.
- Green Protocol is observed in general functions.
- Electricity from waste at Brahmapuram.

Greener Again
- Paddy cultivation in barren lands.
- Extended cultivation of paddy in 25,000 hectares.
- Vegetable cultivation in barren lands.
- Organic vegetable farming in all houses.
- 86 lakh saplings were planted till December 2017.
- 3 crore extra sapling will be planted by the end of this year.
LIFE MISSION

- There will be no homeless people in 5 years.
- 5 lakh homeless people will get houses in 5 years.
- Work completed for 28,000 houses whose construction had remained incomplete.
- List of the eligible beneficiaries has been finalized in Local Self Government bodies.
- Construction of Housing complex for the homeless started.
FOUR MISSIONS

AARDRAM MISSION

- Primary health Centres are made Family health Centres.
- Treatment is available in the afternoon as well.
- Super Speciality wings in Government hospitals.
- Alertness against epidemics.
- Dialysis units in Taluk hospitals.
- New programmes initiated against controlling lifestyle diseases.
- Palliative care facilities in all social health centres.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurates Aardram Mission. Minister for Health & Social Justice K.K Shailaja Teacher, Minister for Revenue & Housing E. Chandrasekharan, Minister for Ports & Museums Kadannappally Ramachandran, Minister for Cooperation & Tourism Kadakampalli Surendran are also present.
EDUCATION MISSION

- Comprehensive project for the basic infrastructure development of the Government schools.
- 1.5 lakh additional enrollments in Government Schools
- 4 private schools, which had been on the brink of closing down, were taken up by the Government.
- Free handloom uniform for all students up to 7th standard.
- 45,000 classrooms have been made hi-tech
- Text book distribution before the commencement of academic year.
- Rs 5 Cr. each for the development of 140 schools.
- Rs. 3 Cr. Each for the development of 229 Government schools.
- School libraries and labs are getting state of the art facilities.

Tete-e-tete with the promising prodigies. Chief Minister Pianaryi Vijayan with students as part of the inauguration of making 5000 classrooms hi-tech. Education Minister Prof. C. Ravendranath is also present.
The expenditure this Government has incurred during the past year for the resettlement of people belonging to the Scheduled Tribes, who do not have land or houses is Rs. 440 Crores. The amount sanctioned this year is Rs. 500 crores. The number of (ST) people who had land but no houses was found to be 26,210. Sanction had been accorded during the last financial year for 15,000 houses. At the commencement of this year, construction of 25,272 houses were in progress. Of these, work had been completed on 6,200. Sanction has been accorded for 7,000 houses additionally during the current year.

When this Government assumed office, there were 17,677 houses under the ST Department, and 21,544 under the IAY (total: 39,151) due for completion. Under the
Government, 6,259 houses under the Department, and 16,222 under IAY, had been completed. Sanction has been accorded for 6,709 new houses under the Department and 1,142 under IAY (total: 7,851). Of these, 56 have been completed. Including spill-over, a total of 24,465 remain to be completed.

- It has been estimated that the number of ST people who have land but not houses is currently 15,176. The number who have neither land nor houses is 11,594. Thus there remain 26,776 who have to be provided with houses.

- After the Government assumed office, 705 acres have been assigned to 136 beneficiaries under Record of Rights as per the Forest Rights Act. As per the orders of the Supreme Court, 558 acres have been given to 667 persons. Under the scheme for buying lands for assignment to ST people, 83.36 acres have been given to 208 persons. Thus, a total of 1,341.36 acres of land have been provided for 1,011 people.

- The Government is taking steps to distribute lands available under the Forest Rights Act and the orders of the Supreme Court for the other eligible beneficiaries. The Chief Minister has convened meetings of the Forest, Revenue, and ST Development Departments to review the steps already taken. Orders and directions have been issued to District Collectors and the Director of ST Development to take further action without delay.

- 102 settlements have been selected under the Ambedkar Ooru Vikasana (Hamlet Development) Program. In each of these, there will be an investment of Rupees One Crore. It was only after this Government assumed office that the works under the Hamlet Development Program, though approved by the previous Government in 13 out of the 49 hamlets covered by that scheme, were completed.

- Under the Treatment of Diseases scheme, an amount of Rupees 46 Crores has been expended for the treatment of 23,073 people. The income limit for eligibility for assistance under this scheme was raised from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 1,00,000/-.

- This Government has sanctioned Rs. 89 Crores to benefit 69,413 families under the Debt Relief program initiated by the former Government.

- The educational grants for students belonging to the SC, ST, and OEC communities were raised by 25 to 100 per cent by the Government.

- The arrears due to about 1,40,000 students belong to OBC, and OEC, under educational grants, were paid in full by this Government.

- The ITI-s were modernized, and new courses were initiated. Arrangements were completed to provide breakfast and lunch to the students of 44 ITI-s under the ST Department.

- Laptop computers were distributed to 1,537 students under professional institutions.

- Employment (jobs) were secured for 3,944 people through various skill development training programs.

- Assistance amounting to Rs. 1.03 Crores was provided to 632 orphaned children under the “Hand-holding” scheme.

- Rupees 5.5 Crores were sanctioned for training for entrance to medical colleges, job opportunities in banks, Civil Service tests, and Public Service Commission examinations.

- Guidelines were laid down for grant of assistance for education in foreign countries.

- Wedding Assistance grants were paid to 10,523 people, and Mixed Marriage assistance grants to 1,466 people. The income limit for eligibility was raised from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 75,000/-.

- Under the Prevention of Atrocities Act, Rs. 2.52 Crores were provided to 267 persons as compensatory allowance.

- Under the Ambedkar Village program, 280 colonies were selected for comprehensive development.
• Rupees 17 Crores were provided for assistance to extremely distressed SC people for their total development.

• Rupees 11.78 Crores were paid to the Kerala State Electricity Board for the electrification of SC colonies.

• A new scheme has been adopted, for providing “Study Rooms” for improving the quality of learning to SC children.

• A program, to be known as “Vatsalya Nidhi”, for insurance to girls belonging to the SC, for their holistic development, is being contemplated.

• It is intended to make the class rooms in the Model Residential Schools under the SC Department into “smart class rooms”.

• Working Women’s Hostel’s will be provided in major towns for women belonging to SC communities.

• A project has been envisaged for the modernization of Model Residential Schools, and Post Matric and Pre-Matric Hostels, utilizing funds from KIFBI, investing Rs. 155 Crores.

• During the last two Onam seasons, “Onam kits” were given to all ST families, and “Ona koti” (new cloth) to those among them who were over 60 years of age.

• 2,159 families were relieved of debt liability. Loans up to Rs. One lakh were written off.

• Rupees fifteen crores were paid to Kerala State Electricity Board for electrification of ST settlements.

• Financial assistance of Rs. One lakh each was sanctioned to the families of 38 children who had died of mal-nutrition in Attappady during the regime of the former Government.

• Rupees ten crores were sanctioned for providing nutritional food to pregnant women and nursing mothers among the ST. The number of beneficiaries were 11,850.

• Rupees twenty five crores were sanctioned for preventing starvation during the mon-
soon months. Food items were distributed to 83,103 families.

- A New Program, titled “Gothra Bandhu” was initiated to teach ST children at the primary level in their own mother tongue. This is intended to prevent them from dropping out from school. Under this program, 241 young ST men and women were appointed as “Mentor-Teachers”. Apart from preventing school drop outs, it will also thus provide employment opportunities to educated ST youths.

- Another new program, titled “Gothra Jeevi-ka” has also been initiated. This is intended to provide sustained and gainful employment to ST people. The objective is to train them for increasing employability, to enable them to benefit by securing existing opportunities, and to encourage them to develop entrepreneurial skills.

- A new comprehensive program, utilizing the Corpus Fund under the Department, and through the agency of the Kudumbasree, for the sustained development of ST families, have also been initiated.

- Under way are programs for education, skill enhancement, collection and marketing of non-timber forest produce, community (joint) farming, and other activities for the sustained economic growth of ST families.

- The Government is preparing and implementing a comprehensive package for development of the only ST Grama Panchayat in the State, viz., Edamalakkudy.

- An Insurance policy, “Gothra Vathsalya Nidhi” for the full security of ST girls, will be initiated.

- A project has been prepared, at an estimated cost of Rs. 100 Crores, to be financed through KFBI, for the construction of Model Residential Schools, Pre-metric and Post-metric Hostels, and Youth Hostels.

- A New program, “Community Study Centre”, in order to make available high class study facilities at the Hamlet Level, has been envisaged.

- The Government will accord financial assistance to revitalize ST Co-operative Societies, and achieve value addition to ST produce.

The ST Department and KIRTADS had jointly organized “Gaddika Samskarika Utsavam” (‘Gaddika’ Cultural Festival) at Vadakancherry in Palakkad district, Valayam in Kozhikode district, and Pathanapuram in the Kollam district. These showcased the art and culture, the traditional foods and delicacies, traditional medical practices, and handicraft products. Sales exceeded Rupees One Crore. This provided considerable relief to many ST collectives, co-operative societies, and entrepreneurs. CULTURAL DEPARTMENT

**CULTURE**

- Cultural Complexes will be built in all districts as memorials of renaissance leaders. This will be funded by KIIFB and cost Rs. 40 Cr.

- ‘Nattarangu’, a cultural corridor will come into existence in villages and small towns.

- ‘Pleasure Home’, an old age home will be established for the artistes and literary people who are facing difficulties of old age.

- ‘Vivekananda Sparsham’ was conducted to
celebrate the 125th anniversary of Swami Vivekananda’s visit to Kerala. The event was celebrated in 14 districts with different cultural programmes. The ‘Vivekananda Sparsham’ was taken up by literary institutions and libraries from different parts of Kerala.

- Mahatma Gandhi’s 70th martyrdom will be observed ‘Raktha Sashyam’ for one year. Various programmes will be conducted in all 77 places that Mahatma Gandhi had visited. Programmes will be conducted in Block Developments, Gramapanchayats, Universities, Colleges and Schools as well.

- The LDF Government is going to implement a new initiative this year, ‘Diamond Jubilee Fellowship’ to encourage young artistes. About 1000 youths who had completed degree courses from approved arts colleges will be given Rs10,000 per month.

- Space has been spotted for the construction of the first Indian Permanent Drama Theatre at the ‘Sangeetha Nataka Academy’. Activities will start soon.

- Kerala Heritage Festival conducted in Delhi and Telangana in order to introduce Kerala’s Cultural History and Art models to other states. This festival will be conducted in Karnataka and West Bengal next year.

- Justice Hema Committee has been constituted to study the problems faced by women in the film industry and the terms of reference have been decided. Measures are being taken for a comprehensive legislation on this issue.

- Increment in the Price money of Pension/Awards

- ‘Ezhuthachan Award’ of Rs 1.5 lakh was raised to 5 Rs lakh. The price money of ‘J.C Daniel Award’, given for the contributions in the film industry has been raised to Rs 5 lakh. The ‘Ammanur Award’, stopped by the previous government and is given for the International Theatre Artistes, is re-constituted. The artists’ pension was increased from Rs. 750/- to Rs. 1500/-. The amount for emergency treatment scheme has been raised to Rs 1 lakh.

- More theatres will be constructed in co-op-
operation with the private sector in villages. And along with these, 100 theatres will be built by ‘KSFDC’ through ‘KIIFB’. The preparation of ‘DPR’ for the construction of 20 theatres is in its final phase.

- Measures have been taken for building a Permanent Film Festival Centre at the cost of Rs100 Cr and a film city at Chitranjali at a cost of Rs150 Cr using the ‘KIIFB fund’.

- An Apex Council for Culture has been constituted for coordinating the cultural institutions, framing a cultural policy and executing it. The Council is able to solve the problems in cultural institutions and guide them.

- The construction of International Film Study Research Centre and Digital Archives in ‘KINFRA’ is in full swing. The project costs Rs 3 Cr.

**Diamond Jubilee Fellowship for young artists**

LDF Government has launched a new initiative this year, Diamond Jubilee Fellowship scheme to attract young artists. About 1000 youths who had completed degree courses from approved arts colleges will be given 10,000 rupees per month.
54,859 ‘pattayams’ of various types were distributed in the State so far and around 8000 more are ready for issue.

Intense and diverse steps were taken to immediately settle the cases pending before the Land Tribunals.

In addition to the existing Land Tribunals, 29 Special Tribunals were constituted in various districts.

Orders have been issued empowering Village Officers to also conduct land inspections required for quick settlement of cases in the Land Tribunals – so far, only Revenue Inspectors had been authorized to do so.

Steps have been taken to simplify the procedures that are yet to be adopted in conduct of cases in the Land Tribunals in order to expedite disposal of cases.

Orders have been passed to issue notifications with regard to the Kanam Tenancy Abolition Act. Under these notifications, holders of Kanam pattayams will acquire full ownership rights and they will not be required to produce any separate sale certificates in this regard.

Orders have been passed for 56,000 files pending before the Land Tribunals until now. 20,000 pattayams have been issued.
Prompt steps have been taken to issue pattayams without delay to those who have obtained favourable orders from the Central Government or the Supreme Court with regard to land comprised of forests, to whom such pattayams have not been already issued. Joint inspections have been completed in most districts. These cases will be submitted without delay under the order of the Central Government.

Procedures have been simplified, and time for submission of applications has been extended for those claiming possession of land under service inams.

The rules of 1964 have been amended in order to meet the long-standing demand for the grant of ‘unconditional pattayams’.

The Land Assignment Rules of 1964 have been amended to do away with the income limits prescribed therein. The previous time limit of 25 years has been reduced to 12 years with regard to land that is not in possession and for the transfer of such land. Separate forms have been prescribed in the case of land that is in possession and those that are not in possession. In the case of land that is in possession, transfer is possible any time.

Rules have been amended, such that irrespective of whether such land is in possession or not, they can be used as security for loans from banks.

Rules have been amended in such a way that in the case of lands coming under the 1964 Rules, the ownership of trees other than sandalwood that have been planted by the holder will be with .

The Government noted the fact that, the right to cut trees planted by farmers had been forfeited in the case of some plots of land in places like Chinnakanal in the Idukki district that have been included in certain notifications of the Forest Department.

Accordingly, meetings have been convened to exclude such land covered under the 1964 Rules from the purview of the notifications of the Forest Department.

In the Idukki Project Area, instead of a ten-chain limit, a three-chain limit was adopted for determining the land for assignment. This was the favourable outcome of a half-century long history of demands.

Decision in principle has been taken to proceed with further steps regarding the residents of land within three-chain limit, subject to the concurrence of the Kerala State Electricity Board.

Orders have been passed enabling the correction of mistakes in land surveys, according to the Law.

The long-standing grievance regarding land problems of the ST people of Perinchm Kutty was settled. It was decided that Pattayams will be granted to 158 families who had been evicted.

Decision in principle was taken to grant pattayams to 179 families each in possession of two to four cents of land in Cheranallur of Ernakulam district, which has been a long-standing demand.

Stringent action was taken against the large-scale encroachers of Government lands.

Special consideration was accorded to Munnar, in order to take practical steps for safeguarding their environmental equilibrium. Unlicensed building activity was curtailed. Steps were taken for the protection of hill areas where the Neelakurinji (Strobilanthes kunthianus) bloom.

Taluk Land Boards were reconstituted. Strong steps were taken to dispose of the remaining cases in a time-bound manner.

Steps were taken subject to the law to ensure fast disposal of surplus land cases pending in the High Court. Constant contact was being maintained with the Government Pleaders dealing with such cases.

Extensive powers of supervision over Land Boards and Land Tribunals were given to the Secretary and Land Board. Directions were issued for conducting monthly review meetings.

Steps were strengthened to resume lands due to be resumed over time, and or where the conditions of assignment had been violated.

In order to ensure these steps, a Committee was formed under the Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue). The Secretary (Finance, Expenditure), the Land Revenue Commissioner, and the Joint Commissioner are the members.

One-time settlement of Building tax:

Action was taken to find houses that have not been assessed to tax. Targets were fixed for each district.

Amendments enabling re-fixation of luxury tax on the basis of slabs have been drafted and circulated to the Law Department for clearance.

Scales have been prescribed for assessing the taxes on Apartment/Flat buildings. Provision has been made to treat each portion of such buildings as separate buildings on the basis of ownership of such parts.
A decision in principle was taken, viz., land used for long periods of time as places of worship, reading rooms, (recreational) clubs, funerary grounds, etc., will be allowed to be continued to be so used, subject to the limit that only land required strictly for such purposes will be granted on long time leases or on payment of market value. The relevant file has been circulated for the concurrence of the Law Department and of the Finance Department.

Four thousand two hundred acres of land in Chakkittapara, Koyilandi Taluk, Kozhikode district, have been taken over by the Government as “Escheat” lands.

Land to the extent of 492.13 acres, in Iranikkavu village, Kollam district, which had been purchased from Harrison Malayalam Plantations, and were in the possession of Priya Rubber Estates and Plantation, was resumed by Government.

Orders had been issued, incorporating various and attractive packages for projects involving acquisition of land for providing houses to homeless people and accordingly giving priority for employment generation activities.

Urgent steps were taken to remove obstacles in the way of acquisition of land for various projects. A policy for resettlement was formulated, incorporating attractive packages with advantages.

The Rules under the Land Acquisition Act were amended. The authority for whom the land is being acquired may pay the expenses of the Special Acquisition Office in annual instalments.

Stringent steps were taken to prevent encroachment. Vigilance squads were formed in all the districts. The Deputy Collector (LR) at the district level, and Tahsildars at the Taluk level, are the leaders of such squads.

A total of 193.13 hectares of Government land covered in 602 cases throughout the State were resumed from encroachers.

Special care was taken to prevent encroachments by working even on Government holidays.

Directions were issued to take stringent action against officers who did not show the exercise of sufficient vigilance to prevent encroachments.

Stringent action was taken against officers indulging in corrupt practices. If prima facie, any officer was found to be corrupt, or inefficient in the discharge of his duties, then they would be placed under the suspension pending enquiry. 65 officers of the Department were kept under suspension. Disciplinary action was taken against 165 persons.

Improvements were made in the efficiency of the Revenue Vigilance Wing.

An Ordinance was enacted to strengthen the provisions of the Protection of Paddy fields and Wetlands Act.

Effective and practical steps were taken to ensure the protection of the remaining paddy fields and wet lands.

The Rules under the Protection of Paddy Fields and Wet Lands Act were amended to enable the examination of complaints against entries in the Data Bank, and a time limit of six months was accorded. A total of 2,01,364 petitions have been received. They will be examined in a time-bound manner.

A special provision has been made to regularize cases after collecting 50 % of the fair price fixed after re-classification of the land, in the case of any plot of land that have been filled before 2008, and have not been included in the Data Bank and are currently fallow on ground.

In the case of such lands, if the extent in any instance exceeds 50 cents, it has been stipulated that 10 % of such land should be reserved for water conservation measures. A further provision has been included, viz.,
that in such area, a plot up to 1300 square feet in extent out of ten cents may be utilized for construction of a house without seeking prior sanction. Similarly, for a plot up to 400 square feet in extent out of five cents, no prior permission is needed for construction of a house.

Orders were issued providing for undertaking cultivation through various agencies in areas left fallow, even without the permission of the owner.

Provision was made to constitute a special fund out of the proceeds of the fees for re-classification, which could also be used for the encouragement of paddy cultivation.

After this Government came to power, a total of 38.58 acres have been restored to previous status in the various districts.

The Re-survey activities that had been frozen by the UDF Government were revived with the participation of people. Time-bound programs were adopted for finishing the resurveyed work.

The work was started in the Kasaragod and Idukki districts. Resurvey was completed in 21 villages of the Kasaragod district. Work has started in the Idukki district.

Orders were promptly issued on all complaints arising out of the work of resurvey.

Rules were amended in order to reduce complaints. The requisite levels of official hierarchy competent to issue orders were reduced. These were reduced to four, viz., (1) clerk, (2) Surveyor, (3) Head surveyor, (4) Tahsildar (LR).

Special arrangements were made in the Directorate to unify various actions.

Decision in principle was taken to entrust work arising from the resurvey in a time bound manner to recognized agencies under the State and the Central Governments. It has also been decided that supervision and the final decisions will be with the Survey Department. Further action will be taken immediately after the proposals are cleared by the Finance Department.

Modernization Measures - Acceleration of:
The Department was modernized using Information Technology methodology. This will be completed in six months.

E-Government has been extended to more areas. E-office arrangements have been strengthened.

Consolidated on-line transfer of registry will be extended to all village offices.

E-payment systems were introduced in three districts on an experimental basis. Inauguration of the State-wide system will be possible soon.

Digitalization of records is now in the final stages.

Sanction of funds has been issued for the repairs and maintenance of Village Office buildings.

Funds have been sanctioned for provision of drinking water, toilet facilities and surrounding walls (in each Village Office).

The construction of buildings for Village Offices, wherever they had been commenced during the regime of the previous Government, have now been finished.

The arrangements for constitution of E-districts have been strengthened. Arrangements, within the limits of possibility have been made to modernize.

Steps have been taken to bring all the 14 district collectorates into the E-office network.

Revenue recovery has been brought completely online. The computer binds all the levels from the Minister’s office to the Village Offices.

A Revenue Portal, enabling the payment of taxes and fees due to the Revenue Department on-line from anywhere will be functional within the next six months.

**Smart Village Offices.**

Steps have been taken to bring 39 villages within the Smart Office Net within twenty months. An amount of Rs. 40 lakhs has been sanctioned for each building. The program is to complete the work by March 2018.

Sanction has been accorded to build Staff Quarters attached to the Village Offices. Rs. 25 lakhs has been sanctioned for each such building.

Steps have been taken to make Village Offices people-friendly. Training is being imparted to bring about behavioral change among the Government employees. Practical interventions have been made effective in order to redress grievances.

Vigilance and strengthening of inspections of Village Offices and special attention to ensure transparency in transactions have succeeded in reducing delays to some extent.

Revenue Vigilance has been strengthened. More power was given to the Inspection Wings in collectorates and Taluk offices. Action has been taken against 190 officials so far.

Stringent action has been taken to eliminate corruption in Revenue Offices. A Circular, No. 1550769/G3/2017 dated 03/05/2017 has been issued. Steps have been taken to make the Village Offices people-friendly.

**Revenue Recovery:**

More power has been delegated to the District Collectors to fix the number of instalments over which arrears may be paid. This will avoid the need for the petitioners to come to the State headquarters for that purpose.

Powers to fix the number of instalments up to arrears amounting to Rs. Two lakhs in the case of arrears of Bank Loans, and Rs. 1 lakh in the case of arrears due to Government, have been delegated to the District Collectors. (Previously, the limit was only Rs. 50,000/-).

The procedure forfixing of such instalments has now been made fully on-line.
Our Government, On the right track

New Revenue Divisions and Taluks.

Sanction of the Council of Ministers has been accorded for establishing five out of the six new Revenue Divisions announced in the previous Budget (2017-18).

Orders will be issued after deciding on the headquarters of each. It is expected that they will commence operations within two months.

The creation of a total of 120 new establishment posts has been announced at the rate of 24 for each new Revenue Division.

There will be no delay in constituting the remaining Revenue Divisions.

Two new Taluks have been sanctioned with headquarters at Kunnamkulam in the Thrissur District, and Payyannur in the Kannur District. Sanction has also been accorded for the creation of 110 new posts at the rate of 55 each.

2 new Special Offices have been created for the acquisition of land for the Power Grid Corporation. 22 new establishment posts, at the rate of 11 each have been also sanctioned.

There is great variation among Taluks in the State. (For example), there are only seven villages in the Kuthanur Taluk of the Kollam District, whereas there are 74 villages in the Thrissur Taluk of Thrissur District. It is necessary to remove such discrepancies and therefore, steps will be taken to re-delineate the Taluks. Steps will also be taken to reconstitute the Villages suitably.

Legislation under Contemplation:

Land Grabbing Prohibition Bill.

A bill has been drafted to enable Government to resume land under various types of illegal occupations including by the formation of plantations, which are for some reason or other not liable to be so resumed under the provisions of the Kerala Land Conservancy Act (Kerala Bhoosamrak-shana Act); and to constitute Special Courts to consider such cases. The Act will further empower the Government to evict the encroachers and resume possession of the land, and to constitute an Authority to decide how such lands shall be utilized. The Law Department has raised some objections to these provisions, and therefore, the matter has been referred to the Advocate General for his advice.

The Kerala Agricultural Land Leasing Bill:

This has been prepared on a Model Agricultural Land Leasing Bill circulated by the Central Government in supersession of the existing stipulations. This has been circulated to the Law Department for consideration.

The Building Tax Amendment Bill:

This Bill seeks to amend the existing law by including provisions for fixing slab rates for taxes on luxurious constructions. It has been circulated to the Law Department for consideration.

The Kerala Land Reforms Amendment Bill:

This Bill seeks to amend the Kerala Land Reforms Act by providing for the resumption by Government of surplus land parceled out separately, but not used for the designated purpose. It has been circulated to the Law Department for consideration.

The Kerala Rent Control Bill:

A Bill for the stipulation of conditions for renting of buildings for various purposes – has been referred to the Law Department for consideration.

The Survey Department:

Resurvey has been completed in 901 out of 1644 villages and the records have been transferred to the Revenue Administration. Resurvey work had resumed in January 2017 after this Government assumed office (Refer G.O. MS. 28/2017 dated 24th January 2017). Since then, resurvey has been fully completed in the case of 25 villages, and partly completed in four.

In the case of the 901 villages where resurvey has been completed, digitization has been completed in 658 cases, and uploaded into the e-data web portal. The work of digitization was completed in the case of 576 of these only after the present Government had assumed office.

Progress of Re-survey work:

Re-survey work is in progress in 32 villages in various districts.

Sabarimala Survey:

The existing Sabarimala Survey Mission is undertaking the work.

The Mission had already established 16 GPS Stations for this purpose.

From 19th February 2018 to 2nd February 2018, joint verification of locations where disputes had arisen was done by the Revenue, the Devaswom, the Forest, and the Survey Departments in the presence of the Advocate Commissioner appointed by the Hon’ble High Court.
GIVING SPACE FOR LIVING DREAMS

Everything on fingertips: LSGD Minister KT Jaleel
The local self-governance which had five different governing units is now being transformed into more stronger and efficient single department. The panchayat, rural development, urban affairs, local self-governance engineering are the departments which are now unified as part of which public service is formed and the Principal Director is appointed as the head. The special rule of the public service will soon come into being. The days of successful unification of schemes and efficient department-wise unification have come. The unification of the local governing departments which were in the planning process since 20 years and were never executed until now is going to be executed. This is a structural change that will ensure the direction of the Kerala Local Government and increase the efficiency.

Achievements

- Local self-governance will be a single department.
- Panchayat, rural development, urban affairs, local self-governance engineering will be a single governing unit.
- Special rules for the public service.
- Local self-governance Principal directorate will come into being.
- There will be no more scarcity of employees; also the opportunity for promotions and transfer will increase.
- New enlightenment for activities in schemes.
- Strong monitoring for scheme formations.
- Fastest execution.
- Record the scheme expenses.
- Comprehensive district schemes first time in the history.
- New yearly schemes from April 1st.
- Great development for the basic facilities.
- 3460Km new tarred roads in the expense of 52crore rupees.
- 8598Km long road renovation in the expense of 838crore rupees.
- 1861 new classrooms for schools in the 74crore rupees.
- 3142 new playschool buildings in the expense of 117crore rupees.
- 3476 drinking water schemes in the expense of 124crore rupees.
- 8305 new village roads under the employment guarantee scheme.
- Strong steps towards comprehensive cleanliness.
- 2,04,297 domestic toilets are built.
- 941 Gramapanchayats and 92 corporations are free of open
- 625crore rupees for 9563 waste disposal schemes.
- 1 lakh source waste disposal units.
- 78 new resource recovery facility Centre’s.
- 93 new plastic dressing units.
- Successful first level of life scheme.
- 66750 houses being completed in the first year.
- The individual financial help for house construction rose to 4lakhs.
- Residential buildings in 14 districts.
- 175000 houses in villages and 82000 houses in cities is the aim for next year.
- The biggest residential security schemes of all the Indian states.
- Local self-governance is becoming high-tech.
- Online applications for the transfer and posting of corporation employees.
- Gramasabha portal for enhancing popular and transparent activities of Gramasabha.
- Online methods for Public welfare pension distribution.
- Sanjaya purification method for making corrections in the land tax data.
- Sanjaya D&O module for the license of merchant institutions.
- All-time record in PSC postings and promotion postings.
- 448 new vacancies in panchayat departments and 1494 new vacancies in corporation.
- New life’s for water streams in the model of ‘valiyathode’.
- 7000km streams and 1500 km canals are cleaned.
- New directions for the employment direction schemes.
- More than 10000 ponds and small streams are
rejuvenated

- 13000 new ponds are built.
- Over 1000 local self-governance institutions are under the cleaning process.
- Organic farming under the leadership of Kudumbashree groups in 14 districts and 152 blocks.
- 30000 acres of more paddy cultivation, 1194 acres of barren land cultivation of vegetables.
- Land, water protection activities all over the state.
- The Kudumbashree model gaining world attention.
- 43lakh members in over 2.58lakhs ayalkottam.
- The budget share is being raised to 200crores.
- Special ayalkottams for handicapped, senior citizens, transgenders.
- Common facility Centre’s in the district.
- Kerala chicken units all over the state.
- ABC schemes for sterilization of stray dogs.
- 31025crores financial help for 215 farmer groups.
- 52130 hectares of land cultivation.
- 251.67 lakhs financial help for animal protection.
- New schemes for old age rehabilitation in all local self-governing institutions.
- Snehitha gender help desk in all districts.
- 104.2crores interest subsidy.
- Mahatma Gandhi employment guarantee projects employees, Ayyankali employee projects; Information Kerala mission employees are given salary implement.
- The salaries of librarians in cultural Centre’s and teachers of child homes is increased from 2050 to 12000.
- The salaries of aayaas have been raised from 1400 to 8000 rupees.
- The daily wage of municipal contingent employees is raised to 620 rupees.
- The complete salary scale for the municipal contingent employees for the first time in history.
- In the building construction rules
- Penalization for the breaking of the rule.
- No income limits for the annual agricultural benefits.
- Vakafe board postings through PSC.
- Project execution from 1st April first time in the history.
- 175000families in the village areas and 82000 families in the cities are given houses in the year of 2018.
- Full freedom from waste.
- More packages for the source waste disposal.
• Activities in the local self-governing institutions for the protection of water reservoirs.

• Panchayat directorate, deputy director offices, 700 gramapanchayats in the standards of ISO.

• A new phase for the cities, a complete development master plan, 2028 crores project schemes.

• 152 roads under the PMGSY schemes, 137 km village road schemes under SunsasAdarsh Gram Yojana.

• SHE loaches for ladies in all cities.

• BUDS in schools in 200 panchayats.

• Haritha Karma sena in all panchayats.

• 10000 hectares organic planning and aid for lease farming groups.

• 2000 new micro organizations.

• More schemes for the palliative care.

• All local self-governing institutions are gender friendly.

• Caution schemes in all wards.

• Complete e-services for transparency and efficiency.

• Smart city in two cities.

• Intelligence software for building permits.
THE SENSE OF BEING TOGETHER

Extending loyal hands of cooperation: Minister for Cooperation Kadakampalli Surendran sharing joyful moments with people
The Cooperation, Tourism and Devaswom Departments have played major roles in ensuring social and economic security of Kerala. We cannot forget the place of these departments in the constitution of modern Kerala.

For some time, these three departments had deviated from their ultimate goals. The major success of last couple of years is that these three departments could gain back their importance in the society. The Departments have gone way ahead in this mission within these two years.

The government’s industrious efforts to reinvigorate Kerala got its strength mainly from important departments, including Cooperative, Tourism and Devaswom, which indeed gives satisfaction. The Cooperative sector could withstand several hindrances created due to note ban and hate mongering done by several centres to destroy the sector. Apart from this, the Cooperative sector could create a new awakening in the society through its last two years of hard work.

The Cooperative sector also has an aim to form a Kerala Bank which is a long pending demand. A scheme is being successfully implemented so that Social Security Pensions are delivered to the beneficiaries at their home through cooperative groups. Till now, Rs 4,640.16 crores have been released to the beneficiaries as pension through cooperative institutions.

The Cooperative sector was also able to support the KSRTC that has been facing hard times. A scheme was started so that KSRTC pension can be distributed by depositing it in the accounts that were already existing in Primary Cooperative Banks/Societies.

By declaring a new tourism law, the government found fresh opportunities for huge growth in this sector. The Tourism Regulatory Authority is an important step towards making the sector more efficient and free from exploitation. Steps to ensure this has begun.

It is believed that through the works of this authority, fraudsters who enter this sector can be easily identified now and also, exploitations that happen under the cover of this sector can be easily blocked.

The formation of Kerala Tourism Enterprise Fund will help in implementing fresh ideas in this sector and will also help create more job opportunities. It will help the sector leap to success. At the same time, to check that this growth will not affect Mother Nature, efforts are being taken to implement Green rules in touristic spots.
The Devaswom Board helped begin a silent revolution in the social sector during this period. Scheduled Castes were appointed as priests in temples coming under Devaswom Boards and while there were protests from some corners, the government stood with those who were appointed. Thus, the Devaswom Department became part of the efforts for a new Kerala. Till now, more than 30 non-Brahmins were appointed as priests. To ensure that such non-Brahmin priests will be appointed in the coming years too, reservation quota of some backward castes were increased. Along with this, those who are economically backward in forward castes were given 10 per cent economic reservation that gained national-level attention.

For the welfare of temple and staff, coming under the Malabar Devaswom Board, and to improve their skills, steps are being taken to amend the 1961 Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act.

Schemes are being undertaken for the overall development of Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple, Sabarimala and Guruvayoor temples. The Government has planned a Rs. 304 crore worth development programme in Sabarimala. Devaswom Tribunal is also being formed to gain back unclaimed temple lands.

Achievements Cooperative Dept.

- Under the leadership of Consumerfed, Primary Cooperative Societies were also included to form a consortium to begin 680 rice shops.
- Rice was sold in public market for Rs 25 per kg.
- To convert cooperative societies/banks to interest-free institutions, ‘NavaKeralayayam’ – a one-time settlement scheme for arrears was introduced.
- Primary Cooperative Societies/Consumerfed, Neeti Stores/Neeti Medical Stores etc. have been giving capital for shares, loans and subsidy.
- As part of World Environment Day celebrations, through ‘Haritham Sahakaranam’ Scheme, five lakh saplings were planted from June 5 to June 20 throughout all cooperative societies and institutions in Kerala.
- Aid for Women’s Groups and Women’s Federation to ensure modernisation and computerisation.
- Financial aid for Thrissur Ayurdhara Production Unit for increasing the production of ayurveda medicines that have received its patent.
- Aid for profitable SC/ST groups for implementing important schemes.
- Aid for model service societies to begin fresh initiatives with an aim to help the needy.
- Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) financial aid for development of infrastructure related to business, agricultural and health sectors.
- Rs 23.6 crores was sanctioned from the Professional Education Fund for the progress of professional educational institutions coming under Co-operative Academy of Professional Education (CAPE).
- To increase crop productivity and to encourage farmers, Farm Help Centres that began cooperative institutions received financial aid.
- Financial aid for cooperative societies in Agricultural and Industrial Sector.
- In Thrissur, Palakkad and Idukki, National Co-operative Development Corporation’s (NCDC) financial aid was given for Combined Cooperative Development (Institute for Security and Development Policy.). Second stage activities are under progress here.
• To begin Mini Agro Bazaars, Agri Clinics, Agri Business Centres etc. Rs.15 crores NCDC financial aid was given.

• Rs 3 crores were released for renovation of cooperative societies for Oyster business.

• Accredited software is being installed in Primary Farm Loan Cooperative Societies for introducing modern banking facilities, including Core Banking Solution, Net Banking, ATM, RTGS, NEFT etc.

• Primary Cooperative Societies got permission to collect cashews from the source for Cashew Development Corporation.

• Primary Banks will be made responsible to give the customer’s share as loan in schemes being implemented to increase the utilization of Akshaya Energy facilities.

• To enable the availability of cement in low rates and to increase the business, service societies will be made by the dealers and stockists of Malabar Cements.

• Collection of coconuts from farmers have begun through cooperative societies.

• A pilot scheme to collect paddy from farmers, through cooperative societies, was implemented in Palakkad. As soon as the paddy is measured, the farmer will get money. It is then processed to rice and distributed through cooperative stores.

• A Rs. 15 crores yearly scheme with NCDC financial aid for the development of Raidco.

• Rs 734.40 lakhs of financial aid for Thrissur District Cooperative Society involved in collection and sale of paddy.

• To end corruption in Consumerfed, e-tender scheme was implemented.

• Representatives of cooperative societies were included in the Primary Purchase Committee.

• An Internal Audit Department was formed.

• Triveni stores were introduced in the online business sector.

• Under the leadership of Primary Cooperative Societies, 2,000 Neeti outlets and 1,500 Neeti medical stores were opened.

• Consumerfed that was in loss earned Rs 51 crores as profit.

• Rs 5 crores were allowed for Ramzan market and Rs 40 crores for Onam market. More than 3,600 Onam market outlets and more than 2,000 Christmas-New Year sales outlets were opened.

• Steps were taken to declare a State Cooperative Act.

• Special Cooperative Societies for Transgenders.

**Travel and Tourism**

• New Tourism rule that would help in overall development was framed.

• Kerala Tourism Regulatory Authority will identify traitors and prevent fraudsters and exploitation in the sector.

• Kerala Tourism Entrepreneurial Fund for increasing job opportunities in the tourism sector and to implement fresh ideas.

• Popular celebrities will be made the brand ambassador for the promotion of Kerala Tourism.

• Green Protocol is being implemented to save tourist centres from plastic waste.

• Tourism New Idea Meet and Investors’ Meet for attracting entrepreneurs and
Investment.

- Responsible tourism activity that is implemented in eight districts will be expanded to 14 districts.
- Investment Guidance Cell to advise and help NRI’s ready to invest capital.
- Steps to make all tourism centres friendly for physically challenged.
- River Cruise Tourism Circuit Scheme based on seven rivers coming under Kannur-Kasargod.
- Kalady-Malayattoor Pilgrim Tourism Circuit Scheme.
- A tourism circuit scheme, including Varkala, Sivagiri and surrounding areas.
- Second stage of Muziris Heritage Conservation Scheme is in progress.
- Foundation stone was laid for Thalassery Heritage Conservation Scheme which has begun functioning.
- Preliminary activities have begun for Alappuzha Heritage Conservation Scheme.
- The Rs 100 crore Jadayupara Tourism Scheme is in its final stage.

**Devaswom Department’s Achievements**

- Recruitments only through the Devaswom Recruitment Board.
- Scheduled Castes get appointment as priests in temples coming under Travancore Devaswom Board. More than 30 non-Brahmins became priests.
- ‘Devajalika’ online portal for submitting applications for Devaswom recruitment’s.
- Economic reservation in Devaswom recruitment for the first time in India. Economically backward members of Forward caste get 10 per cent reservation.
- Reservation quota for other backward classes will be increased.
- Special Devaswom Tribunal to take back unclaimed temple lands.
- Amendment of 1951 Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act for improving the skill and welfare of all employees and temples coming under the Malabar Devaswom Board.
- The term of Travancore Devaswom members was increased to two years. Honorarium and sitting fees were also increased timely.
- Overall development of Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple, Sabarimala and Guruvayoor temples, by including them under schemes such as ‘Swadeshi Darshan’ and ‘Prasad’.
- Development activities worth Rs 304 crores for Sabarimala alone.
- High-level Advisory Committee to monitor the development activities in Sabarimala, including the Master Plan.
- Construction of rest house complex for nine temples will begin soon.
- Inventory of gold and silver ornaments in temples coming under the Travancore Devaswom Board will be done and it will be
Special financial aid to ensure the protection of temple lakes, sacred groves and platforms built around sacred trees.

Interesting Schemes

Kerala Bank

Kerala Cooperative Bank is being formed uniting the State Cooperative Bank and 14 District Cooperative Banks. A Task Force has been formed with Nabard former Chief Manager V.R. Raveendranath as the Chairman based on an expert committee’s report prepared by Bengaluru IIM Professor M.S. Sreeram. Steps to form Kerala Cooperative Bank is in its final stage. It will be really useful for the public and the state.

Social Security Pension Through Cooperative Societies

A scheme was begun for distributing Social Security Pension to the beneficiaries at their home through cooperative societies. The pension was distributed in six stages.

In the first stage, Rs 1,672.34 crores were released. In the second stage, Rs 499.11 crores were released. In the third stage, Rs 538.69 crores were released while in the fourth stage, Rs 201.66 crores, in the fifth stage-Rs 1,100.66 crores and in the sixth stage-Rs 627.70 crores was released.

Support for KSRTC

To make necessary funds available for the distribution of KSRTC pension, Primary Farm Loan Societies were included from 14 districts in the state with Kerala State Cooperative Bank as the lead bank and a consortium was formed. In each month, for the distribution of pension, an amount will go from the consortium to the accounts in the name of beneficiary pensioners that have been opened in Primary Cooperative Bank/ Societies.
The nation is being forced to depend on solar and wind energy as there are a galore of obstacles in generating electricity through traditional means. While efforts are being channelled towards these comparatively less damaging means, some are attempting to sabotage the entire thing. A major highlight of the government in these past two years is its ability of being able to shine bright even amid the encircling gloom.

It has been two years since the state had forgotten its load-shedding and the power cut. Other than making available uninterrupted power supply to all, seven lakh new connections were established in this timespan. Procedures to obtain an electricity connection were simplified. The state became the first to have attained total electrification as a result. This is sustained by reducing the loss in transmission and distribution and increasing dependence on non-traditional energy resources. New HT/LT lines were drawn for more than 10,000 kilometres. In this time frame, 3964 transformers were established. Major gains include the ability to restart works of hydro power projects. This project, rolled out in association with the public and various institutions, enables rise in production of solar power and is expected to be a marked as a major milestone in the history of the state electricity board. That it was able to establish a friendly approach towards consumers in these two years is worth mentioning.
Achievements

Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB)

- Two years without power cut and load-shedding. Assures the same in future.
- Implemented total electrification, one of the major promise put forward in the election manifesto.
- New electricity connection made available to 6,94,201 people
- Kerala by May 2017, became the first state in India to have brought electricity to every home.
- Drawn new lines of 10,522 kilometres including 3,039 km of high tension (HT) line and 7,483 km of low-tension (LT) line.
- Reduced loss in power distribution by setting up 3,964 transformers.
- Identity card and ownership certificate alone are mandatory to get electricity connection.
- Residential homes, below 100 sq. mts in area or less than that, can get an electricity connection without producing ownership certificate.
- Homes of up to 1500 sq. mts can avail a connection based on temporary residential certificate.
- Distribution lines of 274.67 kilometres, including two 220 KV sub-stations and 20 sub-stations, were newly added.
- Under the Transgrid 2.0 Project, work commenced for 4 projects worth Rs. 992 crores.
- Completed constructing 110 KV line in Malappuram and Manjeri.
- Achieved production of 132.067 MW. This includes small scale hydro-power projects with a capacity of 22.10 MW, wind energy projects of 17 MW and solar power projects of 92.967 MW.
- Restarted construction works at Pallivasal (60 MW), Thottiyar (60 MW) and Chathankottunada.
- Loss in transmission and distribution was cut down by 104 million units in 2016-17 alone.
- ‘SHEP’ projects in Kakkayam, Bhoothathankettu, Peringalkuthu and Upper Kallar to be commissioned this year. This would increase production of 53 MW.
Land acquisition for eight projects in the final stage. Peruvannamuzhi and Chinnar projects to commence.

Grid based solar projects worth 500 MW to be established.

To build 25 new substations and draw 725 circuit kilometre transmission lines.

Aims to attain an increase of 635 MVA transmission capacity.

Electricity service centres to open for consumers in all district centres.

Projects in district centres worth Rs. 4,000 crores to be implemented in power distribution sector. By 2021, loss in distribution could be brought down to 10.58%.

Five lakh smart electricity metres to be set up in the next two years.

Solar power project of 5MW for the marshy land in Western Kallada in Kollam.

Windmill to produce 8MW electricity at Agali in Palakkad.

Special mechanism to charge e-auto batteries.

The finished solar park in Kasargod to start functioning soon. It aims to generate 50 MW in the beginning. The capacity would be doubled in Phase-2.

The first 110 KV Malappuram-Manjeri transmission line done using monopole to start working.

KSEB’s first independent 400 KV transmission line.

Akshaya Centres of Energy

Steps are on to open 140 Akshaya Urja Service Centres, called ‘Urja Mitra’, one each in an assembly constituency. The centres act as a technical assistance provider for the selection, establishment and upkeep of the renewable energy equipment. So far, 1,545 applications from entrepreneurs have been received. Selected centres would start functioning in the month of May/June.

Entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with C-DAC to establish a hybrid power plant – comprising solar panels, windmills and mechanisms – to store energy at Ramakkalmedu in Idukki. In Phase-1, construction of a 3MW solar plant would be inaugurated in June.

Loans at reduced interest rates would be made available through cooperative societies for people interested to use renewable energy projects. Able to start the project providing accidental insurance coverage of Rs. 3 lakhs and treatment assistance of Rs. 30,000 for approved technicians during duty time.

The state instituted the Akshaya Urja Award for best performance and achievement in the renewable energy sector. By serialising the activities of ANERT, electricity board and electrical inspectorate towards setting up of solar power stations, the state was able to attain a 12 MW capacity in the past one year.
project of Madakkathara-Areekode to begin.
- SCADA Control Centres come into realization in the cities of Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode.
- Every application to the electricity board will be received online.
- State-level launch of setting up boundary metres for electricity divisions.
- Publication of GIS power line map and network refurbishing activities of all 11 KV lines in the state.
- Office with most modern facilities for the Dam Safety Directorate in Pallam.

**Energy Management Centre**
- Distribution of LED bulbs in Panniyankara and New Mahi panchayats progressing.
- Implemented a 60 KW solar power project in Green Building. This comprises 30 KW grid connected solar, 20 KW UPS power supply, 10 KW CDAC-EMC research projects.
- Green Building becomes the first in government sector to win gold rating in LEED certification.
- Peelikode panchayat in Kasargod attains model status for power utilisation. It saved 12 lakh units of electricity.
- Peelikode to become India’s first incandescent lamp free panchayat.
- The 20 KV micro-hydro electric project at Kaduvetti in Thiruvananthapuram to be commissioned and handed over to the city corporation in May.

**Electrical Inspectorate**
- Facility in the Regional Metre Testing and Standards Laboratory in Thiruvananthapuram to examine transformer and LED equipment.
- Arrangements to be put in place at the Regional Metre Testing and Standards Laboratory in Kozhikode to examine 10 energy metres at a time.
- Software created for the Ease of Doing business.

**ANERT**
- Select schools, one each in 41 education districts, to have solar power plants worth 2 KW capacity.
- Solar power plants of 1.4 MW capacity to be established via KSEBL in collectorates and other government buildings.
- Solar mechanism to pump water to Kole wetlands. To be piloted in Ponnani and Thrissur.
- ANERT developed a mobile application called Saura Veedhi via Startup Mission. This is to stock-take on renewable energy equipment.

**Noteworthy projects**

**Total electrification : Nation’s pride**
A major promise the government has put forward in its election manifesto was total electrification in the state. In a well-disciplined manner, this could be attained in the first year itself. Being the first state in India to have achieved this target, Kerala has become the nation’s pride. The department of electricity was able to provide power to all households sans power cut or load-shedding. In the first month of May 2017 came an announcement making Kerala the first fully electrified state. This has been kept intact in the first year of the government. By making avail of electricity to all applicants based on identity card, seven lakh new connections were established. New lines, of more than 10,000 kilometres, were drawn. In this time period, there was a huge leap in the electricity production sector.
Our Government, On the right track

The Global warming dries out the ground water every year. The Water Resources Department performs well braving this grave situation. The manner in which the Department handled the severe draught last year is an important achievement. Drinking water was distributed without any hindrance in all areas that come under the purview of Water Authority. Especially in Thiruvananthapuram it was an adventurous and scientific task. It was made possible with the active participation of various departments.

People are now conscious of conserving our water resources. But we have to be more conscious of the conservation and of a draught like situation. Many models have been created for protecting rivers with the active participation of people. The rejuvenation of the river Varattar, which was in a moribund state, is a splendid example.

The Water Resources Department is implementing Rs 90 Cr. activities. This is part of Water Conservation Mission which comes under the purview of HarithaKeralam Mission. Administrative Sanction was given for the renovation of 536 ponds. Renovation of canals in order to ensure the availability of water in small canals, Construction of facilities in order to ensure extra water conservation, Completion of lift irrigation projects, construction of motor sheds, irrigation facilities have been increased in 2792 hectare land as a result of preventive measures for restricting the entry of saline water are some of the many feathers adorning the cap of the Water Resources Department.
• Braved the severe draught in 2017 through effective preventive measures.

• Stringent Legislation, banning dumping waste into rivers and other water bodies, came into effect.

• It was assured that the project that connects Pamba- Achankovil Rivers with the river Vaipar in Tamilnadu will not be implemented unless Kerala sanctions it.

• Muvattupuzha project can be commissioned completely by March 2019.

• Under the Meenachal scheme, construction and water distribution were completed in the last phase of Piravam Branch canal, distributaries of Onakkor and south kakkadu sub canal.

• Yearly maintenance of Idamalayar irrigation project was completed immediately and irrigation was done completely through the main canal and up to 9 km through low level canal.

• The work of the parallel bridge at Bhoothathankettu is in progress. This is being done with rupees 17 cr., allotted under DRIP Project. This is included in Periyar valley irrigation project and funded by world bank.

• Facilities have done to avail boat service to attract the tourists after the construction of check dam in Bhoothathankettu. The work of Children’s park and garden also had completed.

• Water was brought in 14142 hectares of land through Chalakkudi ‘Idathukara Valathukara’ canal.

• By considering the needs of farmers, water was brought to the tail end of RB canal and up to 37 km of LB Canal in Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta district under Pamba irrigation project.

• Activities have started for making detailed project report of second phase of the pamba action plan to make the river pollutant free and to protect the river Pamba by incorporating different departments.

• ‘Vazhani’ project was completed under the DRIP Scheme with the help of World Bank.

• Daily 50 MLD canal water was brought to the sasthamcotta water purification plant to distribute water for Kollam corporation.

• 45 activities have completed to avail irrigation facilities and to solve drinking water issues by strengthening Neyyar irrigation canal under Neyyar irrigation project.

• A project is in progress to protect Neyyar dam and to increase the facilities with the help of world bank fund worth 5.89 crore rupees.

• With the administrative sanction of Government different small-scale irrigation projects under NABARD, kabani,
Bhavani sub wetland projects, Thalappali package, class I, class II worth 140.4 crore are under progression.

- Actions have taken for the renovation of 529 ponds.

The project of making 5000 open wells rechargeable and installing of rain water harvesting facilities with a capacity of 10,000 litres is going on in 24 gramapanchayaths.

During the pilgrimage time at Sabarimala temple drinking water needs to be provided effectively. In order to implement this, various drinking water distribution units were established in the area.

Steps were taken to ensure that the percentage of families that received water rose from 30% to now 50%. 1.17 lakh families are now able to avail fresh drinking water whereas 2.55 lakh families have found such schemes and initiatives useful in improving their day to day life.

Kuttanad package- Under this package in the financial year 2016-17, many activities were initiated then and such initiatives are set to be completed immediately. Under the Central scheme of 2010 the ‘KEL-1’ scheme also received approval. In March 2016, ‘KEL-2’, which included Rani, Chitira, C&D lake floor protection and outer Bund strategies were completed in September 2016 itself.

Central nod to the project of Rs 379.05 cr for the protection of outer bund of 231 paddy fields that come in KEL-3 Scheme. In Onattukara region, drainage measures were implemented as to combat floods in 12 regions at the expenditure of 248.39 crore rupees. Both these schemes were approved by the Central Government before their implementation.

Flood regulators and preventive measures were taken and transformed accordingly to enable water harvesting activities in these rivers.

Open well recharging schemes at an expenditure of 39.68 lakh rupees were completed in various districts. In the financial year 2017-18, 157 lakh rupees were sanctioned for the recharging activities.

Bore wells related construction initiated in open deserted areas in the district of Palakkad. As a part of this initiative small scale drinking water schemes are also being executed.

1,985 lakh rupees have got administrative sanction for the renovation on existing work of inefficient lift irrigation scheme.

The 2nd phase of the Jalanidhi scheme has to be executed within the time period of 31st December 2018. Granted sanction for removing of soil and mud that pollute water bodies. The actions taken in the testing stage of the project have reached the final stage in the Chulliar Dam and Mangalam Dam. In light of the success of this project this scheme shall be extended to other major water bodies too.

Noteworthy schemes

Mechanised Manhole Cleaning – New Scheme

The dangerous manhole cleaning process shall now be made possible by robots. Sewage pipes and manholes provide a difficulty of cleaning them and to combat this issue, robots created by Gen Robotics, a start up enterprise is set to undertake this task. The Chief Minister has inaugurated this scheme on Feb 26th of this year. Cooperating with Kerala Start-up Mission [KSUM], in order to implement market and develop these innovative ideas and products was the scheme, Kerala Water Authority Innovations Zone [KWAIZ]. As part of this scheme the mechanised manhole cleaning was initiated.
2. Revival of rivers

The revival of the Varattar is a highlighting model. People celebrated the new life that was breathed into this river, which is a part of Pamba, by conducting a ‘snakeboat race’ here. The department has taken necessary steps to introduce activities and to ensure protection of these rivers. With the use of new media frequent social outings, election procedures and collections of funds were initiated.

For the stabilization of the revival of the Varattar river, 7.70 crore rupees has been funded as an administrative sanction for the second stage. KITCO has been assigned by the department to conduct an environmental impact study of these rivers.

Like this model, many renewal activities of Kolarayar, Khanapuzhayar, Poonoorar, Kuttamperoorar rivers were successful with the cooperation of the public. Support was offered by various departments. The first phase Pamba action plan was executed under the Water Authority and Devaswom Board. The second phase project report is in progress.

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J Mercykutty Amma
Minister for Fisheries and Harbour Engineering

CASTING NET FOR NEW AVENUES

Merciful Vision: Minister for Fisheries J Mercykutty Amma oversees the construction of homes for the fishermen
For the first time in Kerala, a scheme has been implemented to give Rs 10 lakhs to make sure the security of the fishermen and their families who live within 50 m. from the coast. This 10 lakh is used for finding land and building homes for them. So far 750 people have been the beneficiaries. Under the ‘Home for the Homeless’ 1200 houses have been constructed and handed over.

Close to 200 houses have been built in 3.2 acres at Muttathara for those who have been living in temporary shelter for the last five years at Valiyathura School.

Initiatives have been taken to build flats in Karode and Adimalathura in Thiruvananthapuram. In cooperation with Kollam Corporation, flats are being built for the fishermen in the district.

**Light of Literacy**

In order to improve literacy among the fishermen community in Kollam, Ernakulam and Kozhikode, a project called Asksharasagaram has been launched.

Free coaching for medical entrance, PSC and bank exams are given for the children of fishermen. Four-teen students got admissions in MBBS and Engineering colleges.

**Chemical Free Fish**

Mobile fish marketing units have started functioning in Thiruvananthapuram to distribute chemical-free fish without compromising on quality. Legislation is in the final phase against adding chemicals and harmful materials in fish.

**Firm decisions for inland fish development**

Efforts have been taken to increase inland fish farming. Fresh water fish harvesting in small ponds, prawn farming, paddy-field fish harvesting have been encouraged in Alappuzha, Kottayam and Thrissur districts. Over 30 ‘Matsya Bhavans’ have been built. To meet the requirement of 12 crore juvenile fish, intense hatchery programmes have been set in place. Construction works of hatcheries have been completed at Thevally, East Kallada, Kulathupuzha in Kollam, Kallanod in Kozhikode and Neyyar, Varkala and Odayam in Thiruvananthapuram districts.

**Three fishing harbors go functional**
Harbor engineering department has estimated an amount of Rs 84.5 crore for the activities in 2017-18. The department is executing the projects worth Rs 143 crore including an amount of Rs 88.5 crore from the Central Government.

Even though there are 24 harbors in the state, only a few are functional. Since the LDF government came into power, three harbors have been commissioned. Thalai in Kannur, Chettuva in Thrissur and Koilandi in Kozhikode are functioning from April onwards. Works are undergoing to complete the construction of 11 harbors.

**Construction works have been completed in:**

Kanayankkodu fish landing centre for Rs 97 lakhs, Kandekadavu Vijayam Canal for Rs 172 lakhs, Kadap-pukada Cheliyekkara bridge for Rs 187 lakh and Puthanchira Perumbukunnu Pakarapalli bridge in Thrissur for Rs 95 lakhs.

Works are under way in building 230 roads in nine coastal districts at a cost of Rs 108 crore.

**CASHEW BOARD**

**New hope for Cashew Corporation**

The many activities earmarked under the Cashew Board give a new lease of life to the industry, which is facing some tough time. Many schemes are being worked out to smoothen the functioning of factories, to improve productivity and to protect labor rights.

**Moratorium on bank actions**

The government has taken steps to declare moratorium on banks actions against non functioning cashew factories till May 31. As a result of the meetings between banks and the chief minister decisions have been taken to avail of activity fund and to stop levying interest for the non-functioning cashew factories till 31st. The banks will scrutinize the project reports resubmitted by the factory owners.

**At a glance**

- One-time settlement has been arrived at with the banks which have lent loans of Rs 80 crore to reduce Cashew Corporation’s debt.
- Closed cashew factories in public sector have been opened and made functional.
- Around 400 factories are opened and are functioning as a result of actions taken for the reopening of 800 cashew factories including 40 factories in public sector.
- Cashew Corporation and CAPEX are in action to collect cashew from private sector.
- Price determining council has been instituted to buy cashews.
- Actions have been taken to extend cashew cultivation to the land of Forest, Agriculture and Revenue Departments through Cashew Development Corporation.
- KMFR Act was amended to protect price.
- ‘Matysa Fed’ is empowered to ensure fair value for
the fish

- Adlaths and fish festivals were conducted in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Ernakulam and Malappuram.
- 11 coastal Maveli stores have been opened.
- New accommodation facilities with house, sanitation facilities, hygiene and drinking water projects for the fishermen by spending Rs 150 crore.

Cashew board

New hope for cashew corporation.
Cashew board was established to protect industry from the exploiters and gives a new hope to the cashew industry. Many schemes are there to enhance the functioning of factories, to enhance more employment days and to protect labor rights in legal manner.

Moratorium for bank actions.
Moratorium has declared as result of intensive meetings between the bank and chief minister to avail activity fund and to avoid interest for the non-functioning cashew factories till 31st. The bank will examine renewal projects submitted by the factory owners and will take wise decision regarding the seed capital and avoiding interest.

- Rs 30 crore for the development of fisheries technical schools
- Rs 2.25 crore as interest subsidy for fisherwomen
- Empowerment of fishermen welfare societies
- Medical camps and awareness activities by spending Rs 3 crores
- Adoption of children who have lost their parents
- Common Facility Centres at Arattupuzha, Alappad, Njarakkal, Pozhiyoor
- Renovation of fish processing units in Shakhikulangara, Chavakkad and Poovar
- Costal Skill Scheme by spending Rs 45 lakh
- New project worth Rs 3.9 lakh to increase fish production and stock
- Rs 10 crore to increase efficiency of farms hatchery and nursery
- Rs 45 crore for popular fish farming and Rs 2 crore for ornamental fish farming.
- Rs 24 lakh for ‘live’ fish market; Rs 1 crore to buy fishing materials
- Fisheries Management Councils in every district
- NABARD project worth Rs 584 crore to complete the construction of 11 harbors.
- Construction of Chellanam Fishing Harbor in Ernakulam District.
Remarkable signs of development have been seen within the short period of the LDF Government in the industrial sector. Companies that were not profitable during previous government’s period now show a record profit. Companies such as K.M.L.L, Travancore Titanium and Travancore Cochin Chemical have reaped profits from the first quarter itself.

Plan allocation for Public Sectors has been raised from Rs 100 crore to Rs 310 crore this year. Government took professional policies into consideration for the renovation of companies. The companies like TELK, K.E.L, Autokast and K.A.L are in their final stage of modernization. The government is now moving forward with the expansion mission in private sector institutions like K.M.M.L, Travancore Titanium, Malabar Cements, etc. To produce valuable products like titanium metal from black sand. The studies and project for the establishment of an industrial complex is under progress.

The ‘Kerala Investment Promotion and Facilitation Act 2017’, was declared for implementing the ‘Ease of doing business’. Through this, the government envisages an industrial friendly ambience in the state and for the acceleration of industrial growth. For this, improvements were implemented in government laws, orders, single-window facility, facilities in basic infrastructure, general application form for permission. Seven Acts were amended through this. By executing these ideas, the Government is expecting a revolutionary change in the industrial sector.
‘Kerala Minerals and Metals’ (K.M.M.L), recorded Rs 190.78 crore as profit, which is a great achievement in its history. Last year, at the same time ‘K.M.M.L’ had Rs 40 crore as its profit. As part of improving the existing production capacity of plant in ‘K.M.M.L’, a project at a budget of Rs 64 crore is progressing. Including this, projects worth Rs 120 Cr are also in the pipeline.

‘Travancore- Cochin Chemicals Limited’ (TCCL) has improved its production and made a profit of Rs 27.95 crore. Last year, the profit was Rs 6.33 Cr. To start TCCL’s ‘HCL Synthetic Unit’, Rs 10.23 crore project is progressing.

A scheme of cost Rs 285 crore for handling of the production of cement and raw materials required for the production of cement in the 7 acre land taken as lease by Malabar Cements Limited from Cochin Port Trust. The scheme is under consideration.

Measures have been taken to start an Industrial Complex for value added products of Titanium. The total cost will be Rs 3500 Cr. It will be implemented at Panmana in Kollam district. The initial process for taking up land for this complex is going on through KINFRA.

For the renewal of Autokast, Rs 10 crore project is going on.

G V Raja Sports School, Thiruvananthapuram; Sports Division, Kannur:

As part of the program for raising the institutions taken over by this Department from the Education Department, viz., the GV Raja Sports School, Thiruvananthapuram, and the Sports Division, Kannur, to international standards, administrative sanction has been accorded for the grant of Rs. 5 Crores and 45 lakhs to the former, and Rs. 3 Crores and 95 lakhs to the latter. Works on these projects are in progress. Administrative sanction has also been accorded for Rs. One Crore for the appointment of trainers during the next academic year. The aim is raise the level of these two institutions to international standards.

Through the scheme of free uniform to school students, many job opportunities are created in hand-loom
sector.
State Virology Institute is being constructed with a total cost of Rs 500 Cr. ‘Meds Park’ is a joint effort of ‘Sree Chithra Institue of medical Science is also being built with an estimate of Rs 180 Cr.

With the aim of development in Ayurvedic sector, a Global Ayurvedic Village is being setup in 7.5 acre land at Thonnakkal in Thiruvananthapuram. The first phase has been completed.

Measures have been taken to start Advanced Technology &Industrial Park in the 10 acre land of KINFRA at Puzhakkal in Thrussur district.

The construction work of the Industrial Park in 82 acres at Ottappalam in Palakkad district has been completed. The allotment procedures are at its first step.

The procedures have completed for acquiring land for establishing Industrial Park at 150 acres at Mattannur in Kannur district.

Administrative sanction of Rs 23 Cr. for buying mining land for Kerala Ceramics Limited

A scheme has been evolved to start an Advanced Technology Park in 10 acres at Ramanattukara in the Kozhikode district. It is still progressing.

First level activities have started for finding apt land for starting and developing Industrial Sector near airports and harbours. The Government has given administrative sanction for acquiring 3,617 acres of land. It is calculated that Rs 2,060 crore is needed for acquiring the above mentioned land.

The previous government had passed the amendment of increasing the mining distance in quarries to 100 metres in 2015. This amendment was passed when other states and Central government laws had given permission for 50 meters distance. Due to this, 2,500 small quarries were closed which brought about a scarcity of raw materials. To solve this problem, the LDF government has closed the amendment and restated the above law to 50 meters in the state.

The Mega Project, Life Science Park will be set up at Thonnakkal in Thiruvananthapuram. For this, 200 acre land has been acquired.

Petro Chemical Park of FACT will be set up in 600 acre at Kochi The project will be implemented at a cost of Rs 1864 Cr funded by KIFB.

Defense Park will be set up in 60 acres at Ottappalam for producing defensive products.

Mega Food Park at Kanjikode in Palakkad. Total cost is Rs 121 Cr. Work is in progress.

THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

The main activities of this department are: to arrange training to sportspersons so that they are rendered fit to participate in National and International arena, by arranging basic infrastructure, and encouraging competitions, and to render financial assistance to individual outstanding athletes and to Sports Clubs.

Play for Health:
In order to ensure that every child can access all facilities to participate in sports from the primary school level itself, this project aims at providing every child from standard one to four a minimum standard of physical fitness. As a first step, this project was tried out in five schools. Administrative sanction has been accorded to extend it to 26 schools.

Sports Development Fund:
The Sports Development Fund is being constituted in order to undertake Sports Development programs and projects with Public Private Participation. It is envisaged to expand the scope of the project by seeking the assistance of private business houses to expand basic infrastructure facilities and for the benefit of Sportspersons.

Sports Engineering Wing:
The Engineering Wing formed under this Department is providing technical assistance for the building of stadia in Kerala.

Development of Basic Infrastructure:
Work is in progress, under a scheme known as the “Legacy Plan”, to modernize the stadia built for the National Games. The aim is to provide excellent facilities in all of them.
Under the Sports Department, Rs. Seven Crores have been earmarked and work has been started to build synthetic football court, volleyball and shuttle (courts) at Kannambra, in the Palakkat district.

Administrative sanction has been accorded and work started to provide synthetic courts for basketball, volleyball, and shuttle, at a cost of Rs three crores at the Kottayil Higher Secondary School in the Palakkat district.

Administrative sanction for Rs. 5 crores and seven lakhs has been accorded for a synthetic football ground at the Kunnamkulam Boys Higher Secondary School in the Thrissur district.

An amount of Rupees Eight crores and 31 lakhs has been sanctioned for providing synthetic athletic track and football ground in the Sripadom stadium at Attingal in the Thiruvananthapuram district. Work has been started on the football ground.

Work has nearly been completed on the swimming pools at Kakkad and Pinarayi in the Kannur district.

Administrative sanction has been accorded for raising the Thrissur Aquatic Complex, which has already produced excellent swimmers, to international standards at Rs. 7 Crores and 35 lakhs. Steps are being contemplated to complete the work in a time-bound program.

Administrative sanction has been accorded for Rs. One crore for modernizing the Raja Kesava Das swimming pool at Alapuzha, which has been not in use for a long time.

25 stadia under the scheme for building playgrounds in every Panchayat/Municipality, six stadia included in the Of these, the KIIFB Board has approved of 11 stadia. Worldwide tenders have been invited for seven of them. The KIIFB Board has approved works totaling Rs. 264 Crores for 14 stadia.

**The Kerala State Youth Commission.**

The Kerala State Youth Commission is a statutory body created by law in order to safeguard the rights of the youth, and to empower them. It has carried out: conscientization programs in schools/colleges and in SC / ST colonies, against the misuse of alcoholic drinks and psychedelic drugs, district-level “adalat”s and seminars, and activities like Job Portal, publicity posters, Declaration that “We have no castes”, etc. A Budget provision of Rs. One crore has been made; expenditure so far is Rs. 42.09 lakhs. A list of the activities undertaken by the Commission is below:

Conscientization programs against alcoholic drinks, psychedelic drugs, cyber crimes, etc., in colleges;

Trained three activists in each district, and convened programs as mentioned above;

**Conscientization programs in SC / ST colonies;**

Arranged further conscientization programs through selected activists in the most settlements most vulnerable to such abuses and for sexual offences against women, viz., colonies of SC, ST, and other socially disadvantaged people.

**International Youth Day:**

Programs were arranged at the Vivekananda Park at Kowdiar, Thiruvananthapuram, and at the University College Thiruvananthapuram, on the 12th and the 13th January 2018, along with the Kerala State Youth Welfare Board.

**“Adalat”s at District Level:**

Arrangements are being made to hold “adalats” at each district in order to redress grievances and occasions when they have been denied justice, and to enable them to file complaints.

**District level seminars:**

The Commission convened Seminars / symposia / Workshops in nine districts to make the youth aware of their rights, the equality between the sexes, the dignity of labour, cyber crimes, etc.

**National Seminar:**

The Commission has decided to conduct a National Seminar on the topic, Agreeing to Disagree, on the 15th, 16th and 17th of March 2018.
Job Portal:
The Commission has decided to collaborate with the Kerala State Youth Welfare Board to conduct a Job Portal to help the youth to locate and secure excellent job opportunities.

Declaration that “We have no Caste”:
To oppose caste consciousness, it has been decided a program entitled “elsaimaha mazhamashire riranimahasao” (this is what appears in the Malayalam copy – seems to be meaningless; may please be checked) at Calicut.

Studies and Surveys:
The Commission had conducted a study of the young people in Edamalakkudy, and submitted a report to Government. A study of the affairs of the young in an Attappady colony is under way by the Sociology Department of the Feroke College, Kozhikode.

THE KERALA STATE SPORTS COUNCIL

The Operation Olympia Project
This Project, viz., the “Operation Olympia Project”, has been envisaged by the Kerala State Sports Council in order to improve the prospects of our athletes gaining medals in the 2020 and 2024 Olympics, by imparting training equaling world level standards in the disciplines mentioned below to selected athletes of the State.

Items:
Athletics, boxing, cycling, swimming, shooting, and wrestling, at Thiruvananthapuram; badminton at Ernakulam, canoeing and kayaking at Kollam, fencing at Kannur, rowing at Alapuzha, and archery at Wayanad. It is targeted at providing training to 210 athletes in eleven disciplines.

KERALA KAYIKA KSHAMATHA MISSION (KERALA PHYSICAL FITNESS MISSION).
This Mission has been modeled on the lines of the Mass Literacy Mission that had enabled the achievement of 100% literacy in the State. It aims at ensuring physical fitness and perfect health to every division of the people of Kerala.

In order to implement this program, the people of Kerala will be categorized into the following four groups:
- School students from the nursery classes to the fourth standard;
- Students from the fifth standard to the Plus Two level;
- The University Level (College Level);
- From Young people to the Aged.

This program will be implemented by the Kerala State Sports Council with the collaboration of the Education Department, the Health Department, the Local Self Government Department, and other Departments too.

The Medical Insurance Scheme
The star athletes of Kerala, the Kerala athletes who represent the State at the National Championships, the athletes of the GV Raja Sports School, the Kannur Sports Division, the employees of the Council, the Trainers, members of the District and the State Sports Councils, and athletes belonging or associated with the athletic activities of all types – all these are intended to be covered under a Medical Insurance scheme.

The Sports Complex at Panampally Nagar
An amount of Rs. 4.95 Crores had been sanctioned by the State Government after the stadium at Panampally Nagar,

The Youth Icon Award:
The Commission honours with the conferment of the “Youth Icon Award” young people who distinguish themselves in arts, culture, literature, sports, agriculture, social welfare, etc.. The awardees this year were: Prithviraj the cinema actor, C K Vineeth the athlete, P V Shaji from the literary field, Varun Chandran the industrialist, Asha Rani for social welfare work, Rajesh Krishna the Agriculturist, etc.
Our Government, On the right track

Our Government, On the right track

Financial Assistance to Kumari P U Chitra

The Malayali athlete, Kumari (Ms) P U Chitra had won gold in the 1500-meter event, at the Asian Athletic Championship held at Bhubanesvar in Odissa from the 6th to the 9th July 2017. In order to enable her to continue training, the Council had included her in the “Elite” scheme for the grant of financial assistance at the rate of Rs. 500/- per day, and also granted her a monthly scholarship of Rs. 10,000/- under the Dr. A.P.J. Kalam Scholarship scheme.

The distribution of Cash Awards to the Winners of the 22nd Asian Athletic Championships.

Cash award of Rupees One Crore was given to the Kerala athletes who were the winners of the Medals at the 22nd Asian Athletics Championship Meets held at Bhubanesvar in Odissa, from the 6th-9th of July, 2017. Awards were distributed as follows: For those winning medals in individual items: Rs. 10 Lakh each for those winning Gold medals, Rs. 7 Lakh for each silver medal winner, and Rs. 5 Lakh for each bronze medal winner. For those winning medals in team events: Rs. 5 lakhs for those winning gold medals; Rs. 3.5 lakhs for those winning silver; and Rs. 2.5. lakhs for bronze.

Dr. A.P.J. Kalam Scholarship

The Dr. A.P.J. Kalam Scholarships have been instituted for the benefit of outstanding athletes, and is awarded at the rate of Rs. 10,000/- per month each to seven athletes.

College Games

The Kerala State Sports Council aims to provide a venue available for all College-going athletes, under the scheme designated “College Games”.

Events under “College Games” were organized in various stadiums in the Kozhikode district from the 1st of March to the 3rd, 2018.

The award amounts were increased from those for the previous year. Last year, the Colleges winning the first three positions were awarded, Rs. 10,000/-, Rs. 7,500/-, and Rs. 5,000/-respectively. This year, the were raised to, Rs. 15,000/-, Rs. 10,000/- and Rs. 7,500/-respectively.

Awards for winners of individual items were also raised respectively as follows: from Rs. 1,500/-, Rs. 1,000/- and Rs. 750/- to Rs. 2,000/-, Rs. 1,500/- and Rs. 1,000/-. For the College that won the over-all Championship, the award was Rs. 1,00,000/-. Individual champions were also granted cash awards.

Cash Awards to Athletes:

- Arrears of cash awards due to winners at National and International events due from 2013 to 2016, during the regime of the previous (UDF) government, amounting to Rupees Two Crores and seventy eight lakhs, were paid off by the present (LDF) Government.
- The Education Department has sanctioned the payment of Rs. Two Crores and fifty four lakhs to winners at School Games level, accrued during the regime of the previous (UDF) Government, and left in arrears.

Appointments under the Sports Quota:

- Four athletes who had maintained Olympic level performances during the 35th National Games held in Kerala were appointed to Gazetted posts in the Home and the Forest Departments.
- 68 athletes who had won medals at individual and team events were appointed in the category of LD Clerks.
- The star Indian Footballer, Sri. C.K.Vineeth, who was dismissed from the Central Government service Accountant General’s Office, was appointed as an Assistant in the State Secretariat.
- The Kerala State Electricity Board appointed 15 athletes, both men and women, from the disciplines of football and basketball. (Steps are under way for the appointment of eleven athletes, men and women, from the disciplines of Volleyball, Football, Basketball, Badminton, and Tennis).
- 61 athletes were appointed in the Kerala Police, representing Football, Basketball, Athletics, Handball, Swimming and Judo. (Steps are in progress for the appointment of three women athletes representing Woman’s Volleyball.)
- A special cell has been constituted under the Public Administration Department to take speedy steps to make appointments to the Sports Quota, for vacancies arising from 2010 to 2014. It is expected that the certificates will be verified and 248 appointments made within one month.

belonging to the Kerala State Sports Council, had been the venue of the Under 17 World Cup Football Matches held at Kochi. The amount is intended to make the grounds of the stadium suitable as a practice ground and to modernize its facilities. This stadium has been used for the FIFA under 17 matches.
Our Government, On the right track

Forest and Animal Husbandry and Zoos

Adv. K Raju
Minister for Forest, Animal Husbandry and Zoo

adding life to wild

Ensuring the protection of wildlife and nature: Minister for Forest Adv. K Raju

Forest conservation
To control invasion of forest borders a survey was conducted and blocks were constructed this year also. A record of 23712 blocks was founded after determining the border.

A satellite fire alert system has been established to detect wild fire.
316.4014 Hect.ors of land in Kasargod, Thrissur, Palakkad, Idukki, Kottayam and Pathanamtitta have been declared as reserve forest. Among this, 58.0803 hectors are mangrove forest.
10 new forest stations have been opened.
Training of section and beat forest officers has been conducted.
To make sandal available to the public legally, six timber depots in Kulathupuzha, Konni, Veetur, Chaliyam, Kannoth and Parappa have been made into small scale certified agency.
Contract system in forest service
Contract system in forest service has been renewed for work efficiency and transparency.

Training
A new scheme to give training to the beat police officers including women, while entering the service was executed.
Scheme and syllabus for the training of tribal watchers selected through special recruitment have been submitted for the approval.
Nine training programs were conducted at forestry training college.
Induction training conducted for forest drivers, wildlife assistants, section foresters, deputy range forest officers and range forest officers.
Wayanad wild life sanctuary – As part of self voluntary rehabilitation Fifty-seven families have been rehabilitated in five settlements.

Zoological Park, Puthoor
This project is being executed with the financial support of KIFB. An amount of Rs130.93 crore has allotted for the first phase and Rs 183.77 cr for the second phase. DPR of the first phase is submitted for the approval.

Eight quarters in two complexes have completed. The central public work department has transferred an amount of Rs 10.29 cr for the construction of birds nest, cages of black mon-key, lion-tailed monkey and wild buffaloes. The construction works were inaugurated.

Organisation of People alert council
204 public warning centers have been founded across the state in the panchayath and municipality level with the cooperation of locals, representatives and the forest officers to simplify the man animal conflict.

Early warning SMS alert system
Early warning SMS alert system was executed at 65 highly populated regions in the state to give warning about the stepping of wild animals and elephants. The functioning of these system is controlled by the control rooms in Sulthan Batherei, Mannarkadu, Malayattor, Munnar and Punaloor.

Social forestation
In accordance with ‘HarithaKeralam Mission’ and World Environment Day, 12413 people partici-pated to clean 169 ponds. Seventeen tonnes of waste were collected and removed.

72.05 lakh tree saplings were produced and distributed at the 9th phase of Haritha Keralam Mission.

Forest Management Information system
1. Extension of wireless communication network
This project was started at 2016 and is still continuing to extend the inter communication to the level of station/section to enhance the efficiency of the forest department.

2. E-office
An initiative was taken to give training for the forest department officers regarding the ex-ecution of e-office system.

Services of veterinary doctors
With the incidents of wild animal attacks on the rise, the government has created vacancy for one chief forest veterinary doctor and 12 assistant forest veterinary officers to reduce man-animal conflict, and to ensure the care of elephants and that of wild animals.

Online system for the application of
compensation against wild animal attack
Online system has been launched for the application of compensation against wild animal attack. This helps to speed up the payment of compensation.

Use and development of wild watch mobile app
In order to reduce man-animal attack, a mobile app called Wild Watch was developed. This was experimentally executed in Pamba, Erumeli and Plappali. This app helps to give alert about wild invasions and helps to take precautions. During the Sabarimala festival 94 animal invasions were found through this app and was able to take further precautions.

Goals to achieve as part of the anniversary
Construction of 40 forest stations
Declaration of sandal reserve, Attapadi
Modernization of fire training center Arippa
Social forestation
Operation jannabhumi
Aged acasia trees are marked and the timber quantity is determined to acouion the wood to get more profit. Acasia trees planted in public places and institutions are a threat to the people. The harvested acasia trees are replaced with other sets of one year aged flowering saplings with high yielding and medicinal values.

Operation golden trinity
The tree saplings that are high yielding, flowering and having medicinal values are produced and freely distributed among the students. There saplings will made and distributed among the public at the cost of 45 rupees. This project will start at world environment day of 2019.

Forest management information system
Kerala forest department is planning to launch wireless communication network in coordination with analog wireless system. the blue print for the wireless system is already completed with the help of the control room. The system will compensate the the issues of communication gap in the forest conservation activities.

E office
Forest department is planning to launch e office a digital file flow system with the help of NIC and KSITM to ensure the transparency efficiency and unification and to avoid the late processing of the file. This project is planning to execute on forest headquarters at the first phase and will be ex-tended to the circle office on the second phase.

Video conferencing system.
A video conferencing system is being planned to connect 7 circle locations and the Kerala forest head-quarters. The project will be executed with the cooperation of C-DIT. This system will help to increase the efficiency of protection activities and will make the meetings of supervision easy. the project also helps to overcome the delay and expense in the activities and is executing on circle level in the first phase and on division level in the second phase.

Seniority chart in the state level
District level seniority list of the beat forest officers is coordinated and prepared in the in the state level to make the promotion and transfer more transparent.

Wayanad wild animal sanctuary – self voluntary rehabilitation
An amount of 100.00 core rupees availed by the Central Government and the share amount of 8.48 rs from State Government will be used to rehab the deserved candidates of Chettiyalathoor settlement and the revenue land will be entrusted with the government itself.

Construction of elephant defence wall
As the continuation of 9.25km elephant defence wall from Valayamchal to Larimkappu in Kannur division, another defence wall of 2.13 km will be constructed.

Elephant rehabilitation center in Kottor
Under the forest department an elephant protection center was established at Kottur in 56 hectors on the year 2007. With the help financial help of KIIFB, the center will be expanded to 176 hectors and will take up to an international level. Initial steps for this have started.

Zoological park in puthoor
The construction works of the cages of birds, lion tailed monkey, black monkey and wild buffaloes will be finished. the electrification, water distribution, waste canal construction of the first phase activities will be taken from PWD and make available.

Kalavara soil collection and distribution
With the Environment clearance from Kollam district level environment impact studies, soil is collected again from milpalam and chozhiyakodu. the cost of this collected soil is renewed and distributed for building constructions from the soil distribution center called kalavara.

Marketing Vanashti products through Trifed
Vanasheri products, pure tribal products which are produced by the tribal people are marketed through the forest department can now find a new market through Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) and trifeds product can be sold out vice versa.

Construction of electric fence
In order to reduce the man-wild animal conflict, an electric fence of length of 23km will be constructed at Kottiyor and Taliparamba range.

**Rail fencing**
Rail fencing will be constructed in south Wayanad division, North wayanad division and Palakkad division that have intense wild animal attacks.

**Declaration of mangroves as reserve forests**
Notification will be issued to declare 54.695 hector mangrove forest in Kasargod division as as re-serve forests.

**Increasing the financial support for victims of wild attacks**
The Government will take action to increase the compensation amount for the wild animal attacks. An amount of Rs 10 lakhs will be given to the family of deceased who were the victims of wild animal attacks, Rs 2 lakhs for the death caused by the snake bite outside the forest, Rs2 lakhs for the permanently handicapped and maximum Rs 1 lakh for the injured people.

**Availing elephants in Armed force and renovation of RRT**
Armed force which works in different regions of the state helps the department in the activities of returning the wild animals. Like the elephants in Wayanad Armed Force, the department tries to give special training in Tamil Nadu to the elephants under the forest department’s camp. An amount of Rs 25 lakhs is availed for this. Along with this 32 lakh rupees is availed in the financial year of 2017 for the renovation of 8 RRTs. The activities for the renovation works have started.

**Extension of wild watch mobile app**
Actions will take to extend the Wild watch app system to the RRT’s of Forest Department which was successfully experimented in Plappalli, Pamba and Erumeli during the Sabarimala festival of 2017.

**Diary Development**
Cattle farming is one of the important sectors in agriculture, which plays a prominent role in Indian economy. From 2011-12 the total capital value for farming (including grain, forest conservation, cattle and fish farming) is on the decrease. But the cattle rearing are still continuing as 4%. The value addition of cattle farming was 21.80 % in 2011-12 and was increased to 25.7 % in 215-16. Because of the scorching summer and demonetization value addition of cattle farming became 29.14 % in 2016-17. It is estimated that the value addition will hike up to 30% in 2017-18.

Kerala has witnessed a proud development and advancement in dairy farming after this very ministry has came into supremacy. Milk production has now reached a satisfactory stage when compared to other domestic products such as fruits, vegetables, rice, egg, meat and cashew crops. Kerala is self sufficient enough to produce 81% of the milk that is needed. It is estimated that around 8 lakhs families depend on dairy farming. Among this around 3.5 lakh farmers used to measures the milk in dairy cooperative societies. The Government has already declared that by December 2018 Kerala will attain self sufficiency in milk production. Even though there were many crucial and odd circumstances in the dairy development activities, with the proper interventions from the Government, different agencies and departments helped to attain a stability in the field.

**Drastic rise in milk production through cooperative societies.**
Kerala has witnessed a rise in the milk production through the milk societies during the year 2016-17 and 2017-18. Government’s assessment about the
role of dairy cooperative societies in the stable milk production was very true and a new awakening has befallen in the dairy sector. ‘Diary Kerala ’ had given immense support to the projects manifested by the Government.

**Increase in the cattle milk production efficiency**

The milk production efficiency of the hybrid cattle was 8.62 litre per day in 2014-15 and this was increased to 10.22 litre per day in 2017. Kerala shines in second position in the milk production efficiency (Punjab is in the first position) and all became true because of the proper interventions from the Government.

Around 4.7 litres of milk were imported per day in 2015-16 and in 2018 February it was reduced into 2 lakhs litres. This shows that Kerala has increase in the domestic production and is stepping towards the self sufficiency.

**Financial support for the farmers who are in debt**

Financial support of 5 crore rupees was allotted to the farmers who are suffering from the debt due to the death of milking cows and their low yielding capacities. It is first time in Kerala such a project was launched and was a relief for the dairy farmers.

**Empowerment of dairy cooperative society**

At present there are 3683 dairy societies under the department. This government was able to wit-ness drastic change in the society by giving quality services and schemes. KIOSK and automatic milk storage units were established in selected societies and automation, hygienic milk room production, processing plants and farmer facilitation centers were founded. By these systems, dairy farmers got better profit and the activities were transparent in nature. During the year 2016-17, development projects were done by spending 19.5 crore rupees. 28 new dairy units were registered in 2016-17 and 27 dairy units were renewed. Actions have taken to modernize 658 dairy units.

The government has allotted 25.85 core rupees for the milk room production, processing plants milk, milk products, water and cattle food. equipped to analysis hundreds of factors including the proper interventions from the Government.

Around 4.7 litres of milk were imported per day in 2015-16 and in 2018 February it was reduced into 2 lakhs litres. This shows that Kerala has increase in the domestic production and is stepping towards the self sufficiency.

**Milk quality investigation in the checkpost.**

In order to ensure the quality of the milk from other states milk quality investigation facility has started in the check post border. This facility has arranged in the Meenakshipuram check post, Pa-lakkad district in the year 2017-18. Actions have taken to implement same facility in Aryankavu and Parassala checkpost. The Government has allocated 10 new posts to the dairy department to ex-ecute this facility.

**Total insurance protection for dairy farmers and cattle**

Actions have taken to implement total insurance protection policy for the dairy farmers and their cattle. This scheme will help the farmers to ensure their socio economic security. This will be ex-ecuted with the cooperation of Milma, regional unions and dairy welfare board.

**Financial help package for the other agencies in Dairy region**

The government has executed the project worth 5 cr rupees for the social security projects and basic development activities in Wayanad and Bhramagiri societies. The Government has included 50lakh rupees in the new budget for welfare activities.

An amount of 25 lakh rupees has estimated for the dairy development activities in Wayanad district during 2017-18 year. The initial activities have started.

**Subsidy for cattle feed through direct benefit transfer**

Under the cow-food subsidy scheme, 2 lakh farmers got profit in one rupees rate per one liter milk and total 12.50 crore was spend in 2016-17. Apart from this mineral mixture worth 1 crore was distributed by spending 1 crore rupees. The farmers will get financial assistance through the DBT system has enhanced the transparency of this scheme. An amount of 15 cr rupees has estimated for this project during 2018-19.

**Rural notification activities-a new awakening**

As part of the rural notification activities, quality awareness programs, consumer inter-views, agriculture programs, organization of school dairy clubs, exhibitions and trainings through dairy training centers have done by spending 4.5 crores during the year2016-17. Awards were given to best farmer, ksheerasahakari award and another award to dairy farmer who had good yield. Along with that those farmers who lost their cattle because of the natural disaster, sudden illness, accidental death have given financial assistance. Other activities like Cattle expo, dairy expo and total insurance scheme, geomapping of departmental assets and high-tech dairy units for NR'S have executed. An amount of 5.45 cr rupees has estimated for
Our Government, On the right track

The government has took over dairy farmer’s welfare pension.

Welfare pension for dairy farmers have increased from 500 rs to 1100 rs. The Government has allotted 32.89 crore rupees for this and the amount has transferred to the welfare board. This activity to take over dairy farmer’s welfare pension is a step stone in the dairy development.

Additional share for implementing the benefit as per section 80 of dairy society staff

By the renewal of milk price chart, the margin of dairy society 4% was increased to 8%. Thus the dairy society employees got service benefits. Along with this managerial subsidy (122 lakh) was given to the dairy society in the year 2017-18.

New dairy development units

10 new dairy development units have made functional in 2016-17 which have increased the momentum of development.

Farmer parliament, dairy expo and media award.

As part of the rural notification activities dairy seminar, farmer parliament, technical seminars, media award distributions and dairy expo by including various agencies have executed during 2016-17. Dairy meeting of 2017-18 was conducted at Kozhikode.

Basic development of dairy training centers

Dairy training centers in Kottayam, Alathoor and Kozhikode was promoted into model dairy training centers by allotting around 60 lakh rupees. Around 4000 dairy farmers and employees are getting the benefits of this.

Project allocation and priority from local self institutions for dairy development.

Local self institutions have given a better priority for the dairy development during the year 2016-17 and 2017-2018. In the year 2016-17, the subsidy allocation of 3 rupees was increased to 4 rupees. This was a relief for the dairy farmers in this field. Around 72 crore rupees was spent in the year 2016-17 and around 93 crore rupees was spent in 2017-18 through the local self institutions.

By considering the issues regarding the posting in Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Malabar region, the Government has executed a recruitment committee to ensure the transparency in the postings.

Affiliations for dairy societies.

According to the regional union bylaw and cooperative law and order, a circular was given by the director to give membership to the deserved ones. The Government had victory in the High Court regarding this. As a result of this hundreds of dairy societies got membership in Milma.

New schemes executing through Dairy Development Department

Kerala has witnessed drastic changes in milk production sector and is stepping towards self sufficiency with the execution of new projects and the schemes.

‘Ksheera Gramam’ scheme was executed by selecting the Panchayats with more milk production efficiency under the Milk Shed Development Project. By the year 2016-17 the project was executed in three panchayat from three districts by spending an amount of 333.66 lakh rupees. This project was executed in Eroor in Kollam district, Udayanapuram in kottayam and vellankallor in Thrissur district. Other than this, in the year 2017-18, 500 lakh rupees was spent on this project to execute on the Panchayts such as Chirayinkeezhu in Thiruvananthapuram, Idmulaykal in kollam, Mannancheri in Alappuzha, Chazhoor in Thrissur, Parali in Palakkad district. This project became a decisive factor in the local development of the panchayts also. With the execution of ‘ksheera gramam’ scheme of 2017-18, 1050 milking cows and 225 heifers were brought newly to the Kerala.

‘Samagra Ksheera’ development project of 2016-17 was completed in Kollam and Ernakulam by effectively spending an amount of 11.66 crore rupees. 2895 milking cows and 550 heifer were distributed through this project.

Dairy zone Organization project was executed first time in the year 2017-18. The project is on its final stage by selecting 50 zones to organize special dairy zones. Financial support was given to buy 4122 milking cows and 1170 heifer as part of this project.

The Government has approved the project to construct new Heifer Park which includes 100 heifers by the year 2018-19. An amount of 77.5 lakh rupees is the expenditure. The Government is planning to execute ‘Calf Adoption Project’ by the year 2018-19 to protect the calf from the birth to 4 months. The project aims to adopt 2000 calves. All these project are included in the 2018-19 budget.

The Government has given approval to start 20 dairy farms on industrial basis on the year 2017-18, by the assessment that many youth and the NRI people are interested in this field.
ARCHIVING TRADITION

Committed to uplifting Kerala: Minister for Ports Kadannappalli Ramachandran with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan
To give impetus to the state’s commercial and industrial development, the government has adopted various time-bound measures to make the Ports well-equipped.

As many as 17 non-major ports are operating under the Ports Department and their development stands critical to the state’s overall growth.

Adequate measures were in place for the timely construction of Vizhinjam International Terminal.

The government is duty bound to conserve our rich heritage and nourish the culture of the state. Archive Department, Archaeology Department and Museum Department were made people-friendly and several projects were chalked out to bring these departments on a par with other key departments of the state. Archives and Archaeology departments will be opportunely and scientifically reconstituted by appointing an expert panel who will submit a study report. Close to 180 historical spots were given protected monument tags under the Archaeology Department.

**Ports on the Path of Development**

A special purpose vehicle (SPV) called Azheekal Port Ltd was constituted for the development of the port. A technical consultant was appointed to execute the project through KIIFB funds to the tune of Rs 500 crore. Efforts are on to include this venture under the ‘Sagarmala project’ to seek Central assistance. Mechanical dredging, which costs Rs 4.9 crore, to increase the depth of the Azheekal port is progressing.

The construction of a passenger terminal, at a cost of Rs 20 crore, at Kollam port is in the final stage. As part of linking Kollam port with national highway, a 112 km road stretching from Kollam port to Kochipalamoodu was built at a cost of Rs 7 crore. This has considerably eased cargo movement through roads.

In Kodungalloor, the phase-II mechanical dredging worth Rs 15 crore was inaugurated. Works to increase the depth of the port is fast progressing. An agreement was inked with Malabar Ports Co to develop Ponnani harbour under public-private partnership mode at a cost of Rs 763 crore. ‘Broke water’ has started functioning. To facilitate smooth shipping activities at Kozhikode port, the construction of ‘Facia Wall’ at a cost of Rs 63.18 lakh is under way. Waiting rooms for export-import employees at Kozhikode and Beypore ports are getting ready.

**Museums at par with International Standards**

Various efforts are on to elevate the standards of museums to international level. As part of this, a detailed project report is ready for Napier Museum conservation at an estimated cost of Rs 2.5 crore, the work for which will begin in 2018-19. Plans are also afoot to develop Manuscript Museum under Archives Department and Padmanabhapuram Palace at Thakkala under Archeology Department. The palace, which has found its place on the UNESCO World Heritage List, will soon introduce an online booking, and presently has visitor-friendly ticket counters and differently-abled-friendly toilets. The Natural History Museum in Thiruvananthapuram will be thrown open to public in three months after refurbishing it as per international standards. The Sree Chitra Art Gallery was opened after renovation. As part of making museums disabled-friendly, free toilets were constructed on Thiruvananthapuram Museum premises. Elevators, special toilets, ramps and wheelchairs are some facilities introduced at Thrissur Museum.
Various development works are under way at V K Krishnamenon Memorial museum at Kozhikode. These include installing 11 renowned paintings of Raja Ravi Varma and launching of 3D theatre.

A Central government aid of Rs 26 lakh was allotted for book cataloguing work in connection with the renovation of Thiruvananthapuram Museum Library. 25 per cent of the expenses will be borne by the state government.

**Heritage Museums at all Districts**

Each district will set up its own heritage museum that sheds light on the history and heritage of the district concerned. An amount of Rs 650 lakh was earmarked in the budget for the purpose. A heritage museum at Kungichira, Wayanad on a sprawling 11 acres of land, and a district museum at Idukki will soon be opened to the public.

**Signature museum**

To preserve the signatures of renowned personalities, a Signature Museum is getting ready in Thiruvananthapuram. Over 1 lakh palm leaf manuscripts are being scientifically preserved. Steps were taken to scientifically preserve and digitize ancient historic records. Administrative sanction was accorded to set up a Heritage Port Museum in Alappuzha.

**Expansion of Numismatics**

Measures were taken to strengthen the study of coins at the Numismatics Department under Archaeology Department. All artefacts which are of archeological relevance will be recorded by the Digital Inventory Department. The state-wide expansion activities of Numismatics Department and publishing research journals on coin study and excavation are other projects in the pipeline.

**Maritime Institute**

Formalities are ready to start courses at Kerala Maritime Society’s institute at Kodungalloor from June. The construction of the institute at Neendakara is progressing on a fast-track mode. The Nabard-aided project at a cost of Rs 29.33 crore will be completed in May 2018.

**At a glance:**

- Further steps are on for taking over 3.29 acres of Kovilakam land for the development of Beypore port.
- Administrative sanction to purchase 45 OJ tugs for Beypore and Azheekal ports.
- Water sports to be introduced at Alappuzha, Kozhikode and Vizhinjam ports.
- Indian Port Rail Corp Ltd has entrusted ............. to prepare a detailed project report to build road connecting national highways and rail connectivity to the nearest railway stations for the ports of Azheekal, Beypore and Kollam.
- Alappuzha Guest house, staff quarters, renovated signal station, office complex, guest house near Valiyathura Directorate building, staff quarters etc were inaugurated.

- Kozhikode Guest house (Marine Bungalow) is being refurbished.

- Vadakara Port office to be inaugurated in April.

- Fund to the tune 1.70 crore okayed to build compound wall and protection wall along Valiyathura coast.

- Measures are on to start port archives at Thalassery port. The staff quarters at Thalassery will be inaugurated in April.

**Hydrographic Survey**

The headquarters building of Hydrographic Survey Wing set up at a cost of Rs 2.60 crore became operational.

Hydrographic survey works of Kochi Water Metro project completed.

**Archaeology, Archives Department**

School of Epigraphy to be elevated to national level in order to make it a learning-cum-training centre for scripts.

Will undertake and complete works related to the conservation of Chettuva Fort and Pallipuram Fort in Thrissur district.

To start a YouTube channel for publicizing the activities of the Department.

To conduct programmes within and outside the state for creating awareness on state’s heritage.

Vazhuvelil Tharavadu at Aranmula, the ancestral home of poet Sugathakumari that stands testimony to state’s rich archaeological and architectural heritage, was declared a protected monument by the Archaeology Department.

Payyannur old police station, that was once the focal point of national freedom struggle, was declared protected monument and conservation measures completed.

The vast coin collection with the Archaeology Department was studied and documented in detail and efforts taken to disseminate the details to students and public.

Active participation of the Archaeology Department at Kerala Delhi Heritage Fest held under the auspices of Cultural Affairs Department.

Successfully completed sourcing of exhibits for the Idukki District Heritage Museum through public-student partnership.

Malabar’s Heritage Fest that shouts about Malabar’s cultural heritage was held from March 24-26 in Kannur.

**Archives Department**

Conducted an awareness programme ‘Pazhamayude peruma, Ente Nanma’ traversing all districts from Kasaragod to Thiruvananthapuram highlighting the significance of historical records.

Training with regard to the protection and management of various historical records kept at various government departments conducted in three areas.

Exhibition of historical records conducted in an area spanning half-a-kilometer on Thiruvananthapuram Museum premises in connection with Loka Kerala Sabha.

Conducted extensive study tours on history to help the new generation get a feel of the state’s culture and heritage.

Hosted language meets for the development and publicity of Malayalam.

An exhibition offering glimpses into the cultural heritage of the state was organized. The traditional palm-leaf manuscripts, historical tomes and records were showcased.
NEW AGE
NEW SKILLS

The aim of the Government is to implement a novel work culture. Action has been taken to execute the minimum wage law. From May first onwards, no money can be claimed by the workers if they do not do their work. The new government policy will be declared soon. The government is giving priority for increasing the skills of workers and job seekers according to the changes happening in the field of science and technology. It is possible to create gender equality and ‘women-friendly’ ambience in work places. The government will appreciate all workers that had helped in the development of the state.

Skill Development goes hi tech

The government is giving high priority for job skill development. The State Nypunya Development Mission is endorsed with the task of Kerala Academy for Skill Development for imparting professional training for improving the job skill of the youth. The purpose is to make the youth ready for taking up jobs that keep pace with time. Training programmes are continuously conducted for skill development. Starting a World Skills Lyceum, for research and promoting novel ideas, is also in consideration.

Grading

Grading system has been implemented for establishments across the state. Hospitals, textile shops, IT establishments, financial sectors will go through grading in the first phase. The purpose of
grading is to create a better employer-employee relationship through the welfare of the employees, good customer satisfaction and hygienic surroundings for clean environment. Best establishments will be awarded with Diamond, Golden, and Silver Awards.

**Fixing the renewed minimum wages**

In the state, 80 job divisions are under the minimum wages law. Measures have been taken to reconstitute the Minimum Wages Advisory Board in order to renew all minimum wages orders that have completed five years. Renewal of Minimum Wages has already been implemented in 23 different sectors including private hospitals. 14 Welfare Boards and 13 Industrial related committees have also been reconstituted.

**Special Consideration for Plantation Sector.**

The government is examining the suggestions put forward by the high level committee on the findings of Justice Krishnan Nair Commission on the issues in the plantation sector. The meeting presided over by the Chief Minister took many resolutions after considering the recommendations of the Plantation Labour Committee. The homeless in the plantation sector will get homes having 400 Sq.ft.

**Labour policy**

Government is standing with the workers for the protection of workers and labor rights and to ensure social safety. Kerala is becoming an employer-employee friendly state. A fully satisfied workforce and their dedicated work will uplift the social and economic growth of the State. For this, a new labour policy will be implemented.

**Benefits**

- Welfare Pensions have been raised from 600 rupees to 1,100 rupees.
- The income limit for Farmer’s Welfare Pension has been increased from 11,000 rupees to 1 lakh rupees.
- In this period with the Government’s financial aid, 1,52,857 beneficiaries were given 345,79,24,400 rupees. Using various Welfare Board Fund 30, 37, 38 beneficiaries were given 640, 89, 50911 rupees.
- Financial aid of Rs. 25,000 to the dependents of 120 deceased workers under ‘Estate Work-
ers Relief’ Scheme.

- Financial aid of Rs 43,50,000 to 1150 beneficiaries in the unorganized sector under the ‘Aswas’ Scheme for daily wages workers in that sector.
- Ex-gratia financial aid to workers of wound up coir, plantation, public sector establishments and factories.
- Distribution of Onam Kit through Plantation Relief Committee for workers of wound up plantations.
- The workers of closed down cashew nut factories were given 2000 rupees Ex gratia and 10kg rice last Onam.
- Tree Climbing Labors Pension Scheme. 36533 beneficiaries were given 4, 04, 31000 rupees.
- Through Welfare Boards 2455 women were given 3 crore rupees in connection with their delivery expense.

**Labour law Enforcement**

- Efficient Intervention for solving labour disputes.
- Of the 9,395 labour disputes, 5,139 were settled through discussions.
- Strengthening of enforcement division:
  - 86,536 Inspections; 13,334 Prosecution; 16,887 Claim Petition; Unexpected Inspections in different sectors.
  - Task Force to eliminate child labour.

**RSBY/CHIS**

- Registration in Rashtriya Swasthya Bema Yojana/ Samagra Arogya Insurance Scheme has been increased.
- 34,84,724 families are provided with Health Protection.
- Free Medical Treatment for 12 lakh people.
- According to Chis Plus Scheme 102498 beneficiaries are provided with 83, 58, 70,745 rupees medical benefit. 17, 35,567 families having senior citizens are given medical coverage of Rs 30,000 as per the scheme.

**Labour laws**

- Employee friendly amendment in labour laws.
- Departmental subcommittee for studying
the suggestions of Union Government on the issue of integrating various labour laws and welfare schemes

- E-Payment facility for workers in the unorganized sector for ensuring wages.
- Samagra Insurance scheme for workers from other states under the name ‘Aavas’.
- Bhavanam Foundation
- Action is taken to give housing facilities for workers with low wage under the Bhavanam Foundation of Kerala.
- The first project under the Janani Scheme which provides a flat with 2 bedrooms for labourers with low wages has been completed at Adimali in Idukki. 215 flats of 645 sq. ft each have been completed.

New Schemes

- Studio apartments in cities for women employees and workers.
- ‘Thozhilali Shrestta Award’ for the best workers.
- Labour Data Bank

Industrial Training Department

- 9 new ITI’s started.
- Measures are in full swing to upgrade 10 it is to international standard with the aid of KIIFB.
- Actions are progressing for raising the ITI’s of Dhanuvachapuram, Kollam, Chengannur, Ettumanoor, Kattappana, Chalakudy, Malampuzha, Koyilandi, Kannura and Kaiyur to international level.
- Measures have been taken for transforming the ITI at Chackai in thrivananthapuram and that in Kozhikode to international into international standard.
- Grading system will be executed in ITI’s on the basis of its excellence and physical situations. Decision to place new ITI in Chithirapuram. Trades with low job opportunities will be stopped and new trades will start.
- From the next academic year onwards, accident insurance will be arranged to ITI trainees.
- 134 new posts were created in the business training department after this Government came into rule. 393 postings were completed.
- 6,669 people got jobs through job fairs conducted by Industrial Training Department.
- Through the ITI placement cell 3,727 people acquired jobs.

India Skills Kerala 2018

A Skill competition will be conducted with the joint participation of Industrial Development Department and Kerla Academy of Skill Excellence (KASE). The last phase is scheduled on April 28, 29 and 30, 2018.

National Employment Service

Employment Department became worthy of the ‘Chief Minister’s Award for Social Service’. The award was given based on factors like modernization of e-employment exchanges, efficient working of employability centers and career development centers.

Strengthening of Vocational Guidance Units

As part of this scheme students and trainees are provided with guidance on higher studies, job selection, improvements based on jobs which would lead them to better growth. These function with all District Employment Exchanges and Universities.

Niyukthi
Niyukthi job fair will be conducted with the thought of helping people get jobs by bringing together the job seekers and employers from private sector. 7 job fairs were conducted in places like Thiruvananthapuram, Kozhikode and Eranakulam districts. 6795 got jobs and 19962 have been promised employment.

Saranya

This scheme gives interest free loans for doing business to widows and dependent women who have registered in the employment exchange. After this government came into power, 35.25 crore rupees was provided for this scheme. 7002 women were the beneficiaries.

Kesaru (Self Employment Loan Scheme)

Maximum one lakh rupees is given to the unemployed registered with the employment exchange for doing business. 20% subsidy is allowed for this scheme. 1.33 crore rupees was given as subsidy during 2016-2017. 720 unemployed people started business. During 2017-2018, 1.34 crore rupees was given as subsidy to 745 unemployed people.

Kaivalya

To raise the ‘differently abled’ people in our society, the LDF government has started this new project. 505 beneficiaries in 2016-17. 1.68 Crore rupees spent in 2016-17. 1 crore rupees has been spent so far in 2017-18 for 703 beneficiaries. After this government came into power, 20,130 people were posted in various jobs through employment exchanges.
tion of finding jobs for those who have registered in the employment exchanges but unfortunate of having a job till 50. This project will benefit those who are within the age limit of 50-65. It will be executed in 2018-19. For the execution of this scheme, 50 lakh rupees has been earmarked from the 2018-19 budget.

Insurance Medical Services

- E.S.I scheme was completely executed in 14 districts in the state.
- The number of the employees who registered in the scheme was 7.8 lakh in May 2016. It has increased to 9.64 lakh.
- Sanction has been given to start 18 new E.S.I dispensaries. For that, 162 posts were created.
- Pharmacy outlets started functioning, giving medicines for 5 days to the patients who come for treatment in the E.S.I Hospitals. For this, 9 pharmacists’ posts (contract) were created.
- For checking the quality of medicines, Drug Testing Laboratories have started functioning.
- With the co-operation of Haritha Mission, Organic farming has started in E.S.I hospitals.

Excise

- A model de addiction centre with international standard will be built at Kinaloor, Kozhikkode.
- Strict action will be taken against drugs and Cannabis. NDPS cases are taken with special vigil. After this government came into power 9,064 NDPA cases were taken. It is an all-time record.
- Because of the new liquor policy, the production illegal alcohol is reduced. Enforcement action has been strengthened. 39,913 Abkari cases were registered.
- Awareness programmes against alcohol has strengthened in schools. It has been decided to raise the minimum age limit to 23 for using alcohol.
- Measures are taken to form a Toddy Board in the state.
- Janamaithri Circle offices sanctioned at Devikulam at Idukki and at Nilamboor at Malappuram. 20 new posts allotted for Janamaithri Circle office.
- In all Excise Range offices, at the rate of 1 person per office, 138 Women Civil Excise Officer posts were created.
- The work is improving to create 414 women civil excise officer posts.
- 100 scooters were bought for the Women Patrol Squad.
- Excise towers will be built in Kottayam, Palakkad, Thrissur and Wayanad districts with a 50 crore rupee budget.
- Mobile Liquor Examination Laboratory has started functioning in the north zone for strengthening the enforcement activities against illegal alcohol.
Our Government, On the right track

CLASSROOMS GO HI TECH

Tete-e-tete with the promising prodigies. Chief Minister Pianaryi Vijayan with students as part of the inauguration of making 5000 classrooms hi-tech. Education Minister Prof. C. Ravendranath is also present.
Achievements of the Education Department

The details of schemes implemented under the Educational Department are as shown below:

- As part of the Nava Kerala Mission, a scheme to protect General Education was initiated.
- Steps were taken to protect and strengthen the general education sector.
- The previous government had ordered to close down seven schools, including Malapparamb and the previous government also took steps to close down four schools due to business interests. Now, the government has included these schools under it.
- Steps are being taken to modify the sections of the Kerala Education Act (KE Act) that gives District Educational Officers the power to close down schools.
- Steps were taken so that textbooks would be distributed effectively on time. Considering the weight of textbooks, the books will be divided into three volumes.
- Till Class VIII, regardless of APL / BPL, all students will get a uniform. In the next year, children of Classes I to V will have uniform made from handloom cloth.
- School students will have free insurance schemes. If the parents of a child passes away, he/she will get Rs. 50,000/- as fixed deposit.
- The salary of people preparing lunch at schools were also increased and also the amount spent for preparing the food. The daily wages for this will be between Rs. 400/- to Rs. 475/-.
- Around 4,000 teachers who lost their jobs due to less number of children were re-appointed.
- Teachers Bank was brought under rules. Professional methods were accepted for appointing teachers and transferring them. Required amendments were made in Kerala Education Rules for this.
- The system of collecting money from children of Classes I to VIII for the Kalotsavam was stopped and Rs. 4 crores was sanctioned by the government for conducting Kalotsavam.
- Honorarium of pre-primary teachers and maids were increased.
- The salary of teachers in substitute schools (Multi-Grade Learning Centres) was increased.
- The salary of resource teachers for Inclusive Education of the Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) was also increased.
- Steps were taken to construct organic garden varieties to turn the vision ‘Campus, A Textbook’ into reality. This would help children as well as others to learn about farming and a rich variety of life and its organic variety.
- 141 Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) schools were made equivalent to government schools by creating extra posts and the teaching/non-teaching staff shortage issue was solved.
- Steps were taken to appoint art and sport teachers in Government UP Schools.
- As part of spreading hi-tech education, the service of a master trainer was made available for each sub-district under IT@ school.
The number of seats were increased from higher secondary to degree-level courses. Facilities were arranged so that more students can study.

The posting of teaching/ non-teaching staff, who were appointed in 2015-16, for new and upgraded schools were accepted according to rules and the problem existing in the sector was solved.

It was ordered to post staff on daily wages in schools that did not have the required number of children.

In Higher Secondary Schools, around 3,000 teachers were working without wages as posts were not created. Daily wages were allowed for such teachers, who come around 3,000 in number (Rs 70 crores).

Steps were taken so that merit and social justice can be maintained in Engineering educational sector. We could ensure that only those who have passed entrance differently when compared to the previous year got admission in management seats of Self-financing colleges. The merit seat fees of Self-financing colleges were accordingly reduced. Admission procedures were completed on time.

Two new Post Graduate courses were allowed in Thiruvananthapuram Government Engineering College.

One course each was allowed for Kasargod and Cherthala Government Polytechnic Mechanical Branches.

26 Posts were allowed for Thiruvananthapuram Central Polytechnic College that lost AICTE accreditation. For re-accreditation, the basic facilities suggested by the AICTE were implemented.

Clear instructions were given for allowing new courses and colleges in the higher educational sector. Rules were delivered for the same.

The required number of teacher posts were created and declared for M.A. Tamil and M.Com courses in Munnar Government College.

In Kalpetta N.M.S.M. Govt. College, M.A. Mass Communication and Journalism, M.A. Economics courses were allowed.

In Mananthavady Govt. College, M.A. English, M.A. Development Economics courses were allowed.

In Thalassery, Dharmadom Govt. Brennen College, B.Sc. Statistics and M.Sc. Zoology courses were allowed.

In Govt. College, Kattappana, M.A. Economics and B.Sc. Chemistry courses were allowed.

University Syndicates were re-organized.

Steps were taken to conduct University exams more effectively and timely and to improve the academic relationship between Universities.

Essential steps were taken to print exam calendars earlier, to conduct exams using modern technology to make it free of errors and also to avoid the delay in the declaration of results.

Steps were taken to ensure that the Complaint Cell and public cooperative departments were working effectively.

A committee was formed, including five Vice-Chancellors to study and implement the chances of beginning a research journal and to conduct workshops for discussing the research results of each University.

According to the Central Government’s Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) Scheme, under Infrastructural Grants, Rs 72 crores and 87 lakhs were distributed to 15
Under RUSA, two colleges that received fresh accreditation were given Rs 1 crores each, Kerala University’s Academic Staff College was given Rs 50 lakhs and an Equity Initiative was given Rs 2 crore and 50 lakhs.

As an acceptance for using Preparatory Grant timely, Rs 4 crores and 61 lakh was allowed under this category. Kerala is the second state receiving this in India.

Steps were taken to launch 10 Skill Development Centres under Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP) Scheme.

Centre for Continuing Education (CCEK) received the Excellence Award for the Best Training and Test Preparation Institute given by Emerging Kerala and D.C. Media.

CCEK and Trade Department entered into a contract to begin job based courses.

CCEK’s new centre at Kallyassery in Kannur will soon begin its functioning.

Along with those mentioned above, the details of schemes that would be implemented in the next year are being added below:

- Steps were taken to make 45,000 classrooms into hi-tech quality in high school and higher secondary-level.
- Steps were taken to make one school in each Assembly segment into a Centre of Excellence.
- 229 schools in government sector will get Rs 3 crores each to better facilities.
- Special schemes will be implemented in Heritage Schools that have crossed a 200 year milestone.
- ‘Shraddha’ scheme will be launched to understand the social, economic and mental troubles faced by children and to raise the abilities of children who are not able to focus on their studies. For this, Rs 3 crores was set aside in the year 2017-18.
- A scheme to uplift the State Institute of Educational Technology as a centre for preparing a digital introduction based on its curriculum.
- The government fund for School Kalotsavam was increased from Rs 4 crores to Rs 6 crores.
- Steps were taken to modernize school libraries and laboratories.
- Steps were taken to launch arts-sports and cultural parks to favour and give facilities for art and sports education and to turn the schools to basic centres for health-mental-cultural development.
- A scheme to launch Autism Parks for children facing physical and mental challenges to ensure their growth and development.
- A scheme to launch talent labs for identifying and developing the inherent talents in children will be initiated.
- Ideal Lab scheme for setting up international-level high quality labs in schools.
- Special scheme to turn Universities into Centres of Excellence. In the first stage, scheme is set to grant Rs 240 crores to Kochi University.
- A centre will be launched in Engineering Colleges to create and develop materials. Village Technical Development Centre will also be initiated.
- Kairali Research Awards to encourage and let children who excel in research activities do further research and studies.
REVAMPING PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Flagging of novel initiatives: Minister for Transport A K Saseendran
The Supreme Court has instructed that measures should be taken to reduce the number of accidents and the deaths by 10%. In 2018, the Kerala Road Safety Authority had been established and, accordingly the schemes are being implemented. To ensure safety on roads, and to keep a check on accidents, a ‘Model Safe Corridor’ scheme is being implemented from Kazhakoottam to Adoor. It is aimed to extend of this scheme across the state.

**Road Safety Authority**

In a taluk among all Medical Colleges and District Hospitals in the government sector.

**Trauma Care Facility**

Deaths due to road accidents mainly occur when there is a head injury. Since the first 48 hours is really important in saving the lives of those involved in such an accident, trauma care facility has to be effectively implemented.

A facility has to be effectively implemented for giving effective treatment and care to accident victims.

For providing health care, at least one government hospital should specialize in trauma care facility

in the government sector.

A facility should also be made wherein any private hospital that comes ahead to cooperate with the government to provide trauma care to needy for saving lives, by using the facilities available in the government health sector, will get back the amount they spend for the same.

**‘Safe Path’**

The activities of Kerala Road Safety Authority is being carried out under the Road Safety Committee appointed by the respected Supreme Court. Though it was decided in beginning a trauma care facility in important hospitals found closer to National Highways and State Highways, it has still not become functional due to some technical reasons. Though it is being planned currently to implement the scheme by providing money for primary care to anyone involved in major accidents, it is being considered whether the Road Safety Authority itself will be able to provide Rs.75,000/- during critical stages. With this aim, Kerala Road Safety Authority has framed the scheme ‘Safe Path’ and it will be implemented with the support of the Health Department.

For running the new ambulance facility, it has been decided to form a Corpus Fund. It has also been decided to enter into an agreement with ambulances in the private sector and to ensure their quality. It has been decided to launch a Centralized call centre, to select an agency for this and to get the amount required from the Road Fund Board. As soon as this scheme will turn into reality, we will be able to reduce the number of road accident deaths to a great extent. There is no doubt that this scheme will be a golden mark among the road safety

**Black Spots**

National Transportation Planning and Research Centre (NATPAC) has found out that on our roads, there are 275 block spots where accidents happen regularly. To implement accident control measures here, schemes are being framed with the support of the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Public Works Department, Police and World Bank, along with the ‘challenge fund’ received from Kerala State Transport Project (KSTP).

For the new ambulance facility, it has been decided to form a Corpus Fund. It has also been decided to enter into an agreement with ambulances in the private sector and to ensure their quality. It has been decided to launch a Centralized call centre, to select an agency for this and to get the amount required from the Road Fund Board. As soon as this scheme will turn into reality, we will be able to reduce the number of road accident deaths to a great extent. There is no doubt that this scheme will be a golden mark among the road safety
Our Government, On the right track

**Smart Traffic Classroom**
Through the Police Department, a ‘Smart Traffic Classroom’ project is being implemented to create awareness about traffic rules among the students.

**Traffic Signals**
To avoid traffic jams in important junctions in the state and to reduce the number of accidents, Kerala Road Safety Authority mainly allows funds for installing traffic signal lights.

**Hazardous Vehicles—Training for Staff**
A scheme has been accepted for providing training to staff involved in driving high-risk vehicles such as gas tankers, petrol tankers, heavy goods vehicles etc. The Police Department has been made responsible to provide training to staff for dealing with such accident situations.

**Sky Walk Project**
Giving importance to the safety of pedestrians, a Sky Walk Project is being implemented in Kottayam. A project is being framed to construct footpaths and over-bridges in busy East Fort, Medical College, Cotton Hill School etc.

**Reduction in Accident Rate**
The overall functioning of Kerala Road Safety Authority has helped in reducing the number of accidents. When compared to 2016, the number of vehicles in the state has increased to 6%. But the functioning of Kerala Road Safety Authority has helped in reducing the accident rate by 2.37% and death rate by 5.27%.

The government has pledged to make Kerala Road Safety Authority fully functional to achieve the instructions given by the Supreme Court Committee. In such a situation, a full-time Road Safety Commissioner needs to be appointed for unifying and guiding the functioning of the Kerala Road Safety Authority. The respected Supreme Court Committee has also insisted for Road Safety. According to Section 9 of the current Act, the Transport Commissioner is the Road Safety Commissioner. A Bill has been presented in the Assembly to amend this Act and appoint a Commissioner for road safety alone.

**Scientific Training for Driving**
Those who train the drivers have a major role in ensuring road safety. While one is being trained to drive itself, road rules have to be followed. This can be conditioned by the trainer. But it has been found now that such a kind of training is not being provided. To provide scientific training for all the driving trainers in the state, a scheme is being implemented by the government in Edappal Institute of Driving, Training & Research (IDTR).
### Road Accidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>3,177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>3,126</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3,058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2,765</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2,925</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>2,502</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>2,817</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2,414</td>
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<table>
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<th>Number of Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>823</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>613</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>654</td>
</tr>
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</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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</thead>
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<td>2014</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>10,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>11,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>10,896</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2018 January: 983 accidents (2017 January: 1,060 accidents))

### V) Jeep Accidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Accident</th>
<th>Number of Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>767</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### VI) Auto-rickshaws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>5,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>5,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>4,572</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### VII) Two Wheelers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>17,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>21,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>20,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>23,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>22,459</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2018 January: 2,155 accidents (2017 January: 1,976 accidents))

### VIII) Unknown Vehicles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,868</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As part of ‘Aardram’ project, 170 selected Primary Health Centre’s were raised to Family Health Centres. 68 Family Health Centres are already opened. Dialysis units have been placed in 44 district/taluk hospitals. Super Specialty facilities have started in district and general hospitals.

- A new hospital was setup at Ponnani in Malappuram district especially for women and children.
- Regional Public Health Lab has started at Sultanbetheri in Wayanad.
- An awareness campaign ‘Arogya Jagrata’, was started to prevent communicable diseases.
• Measles–Rubella vaccination campaign was executed
• Paralysis Control Clinic has started in selected district hospitals
• For chronic pulmonary disease patients CPQD (Shwas) clinics have started.
• The procedures to appoint 232 staff nurses and 232 physiotherapists on contract basis for the working of palliative care units in all public health centres are on its way.
• Programme for decreasing infant and maternity mortality rate:
• Clinical Establishment Act: It is necessary to ensure that all health institutions (hospitals, clinics, labs, pharmacies) in government-private sector are working as per rule. The law conditions which is necessary for this is absent today. Clinical Establishment Act is a law for ensuring the quality and functioning of clinic institutions.

State Health Policy
For the successful handling of characteristics of public–health environmental problems of Kerala, a combined effort of both the government and people is necessary. Aiming this, the government had decided to organize State Health Policy, for submitting the necessary instructions needed for this, a committee was formed and appointed 7 members including Dr.B.Iqbal as its Chairman and Dr.K.P.Arvindan as its Convener. This committee also included experts from both public-health sectors and Ayurveda-homeopathy sector in Kerala. The draft copy of the health policy was accepted by the cabinet.

- State Health Policy: The government had decided to organize State Health Policy, for submitting the necessary instructions needed for this, a committee was formed and appointed 7 members including Dr.B.Iqbal as its Chairman and Dr.K.P.Arvindan as its Convener.

E-health project: India’s first mission to enable E-governance and to computerize the entire activity of the institutions that provide services using modern medical science in the state. The doctor can access patient’s previous details through the computer, even though the patient may have previously received treatment from other hospitals. The treatment cost can also be reduced through avoiding repeated check-up.

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION—AROGYA KERALAM

- For the first time in India, ‘Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence’ (SAFE) kit, has been executed in Kerala for collecting evidence in a scientific manner by collecting all the required samples after the complete necessary testing of the victim of sexual
harassment

- ‘Biomedical Equipment Maintenance and Management’ programme started for ensuring improved services for patients and the correct use of medical equipments.
- Kerala Medical Services Corporation provided medical equipments like labour table, pulse oximeter, autoclave and operation table in hospitals having the facility for birth delivery.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT**

- 253 handicapped people who work under the temporary posting through employment exchange have now been appointed permanently.
- The activities under the ‘Mandhahasa’ scheme for the free distribution of artificial dental implants for senior citizens are progressing.
- The ‘Insight’ project is executing for giving training for autism affected children through information technology.
- The implementation of schemes for Transgender people like skill development, driving, training, distributions of ID cards for further studies are in progress.
- The scheme ‘Vidya Jyothi’ started to provide benefits to financially backward handicapped students for buying study materials and uniforms.
- The scheme ‘Vidhyakiranam’, started to provide education benefits to the children of handicapped parents.

**SOCIAL SAFETY MISSION**

- ‘Vayomithram’ scheme for ensuring the health safety of age-old citizens above 65 years old. When this government came to power, the scheme was only in 38 municipalities but now within one and a half year it has spread to 84 municipalities.
- The ‘Huger Free City’ scheme of providing free food for those who accidentally reach in town areas is progressing in Thiruvananthapuram, Malappuram, Kollam, Kozhikode districts.
- The scheme ‘Sruthi Tharangam’ has been executed to provide speaking ability through Auditory Verbal Rehabilitation

**E-health project**

E-health project is India’s first mission to enable E-governance and to computerize the entire activity of the institutions that provide services using modern medical science in the state. The doctor can access patient’s previous details through the computer, even though the patient may have previously received treatment from other hospitals. Through avoiding repeated check-up, the treatment cost can also be reduced. Not only this but also welfare scheme and treatment benefit made easily available for the patients.
and hearing ability through Cochlear Implantation Surgery for children below 5 years having hearing disability.

- The scheme ‘Anuyatra’ has started by the state government to have a comprehensive intervention in handicapped divisions.
- For Juvenile diabetics affected children, a scheme has started which is named as ‘Mittayi’.
- ‘Snehapuram’ to ensure educational benefits for children who are financially backward and either their father or mother or both passed away.
- ‘Kathoram’ scheme to detect and solve the hearing disability of children at its early stage.
- ‘We Care’- This scheme is conceived as a way of financing and collecting fund for welfare programmes and individual beneficial programmes by Kerala Social Safety mission.
- ‘Samashwasam’ scheme- monthly financial aid is provided to those who have frequent dialysis because of Kidney failure, those who have undergone kidney-liver transplantation surgery, hemophilia patients and to sickle cell anemia patients.
- ‘Swavalamban’ scheme- executed through the Union Ministry of Social Justice for the differently-abled people joined in this scheme with the help of Kerala Social Justice Department and Kerala Social Security Mission.

WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

ANGANVADI HONORARIUM

- Solved the complaints of the Anganvadi employees that the honorarium is not fully received. It has been ordered that Rs 72.58 Cr, the arrears in the honorarium of Anganvadi workers, must be transfer credited by the local self government concerned. Only after this transfer credit, the local bides are allowed to spend money from Development fund.
- A force known as ‘Kaithangu’ was formed to prevent the violence against women and children.
- 40 lakhs rupees is earmarked for the scheme ‘Deeptha’ which provides financial aid for the professional education of the children of widows whose annual income is fewer than 3 lakhs.
- The ‘Kaaval’ scheme is executed to improve the mental and social state of children who do not abide by the law. The ‘Ujwala Balyam’ scheme is executed to give awards to those students who excel in arts, sports, social fields and science.
- Sarana Balyam scheme is executed in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha, Kottayam districts to make them free of child labour and child begging.
- Mobile Crush scheme is started to take care of the children of other state workers.
- Campaigns are organized in district levels for the rehabilitation of the children living in
slums.

- ‘Sakhi One Stop Centre’ started functioning in Thiruvananthapuram district to provide services like medical, police and legal aid and counseling for the women and children who face violence.
- 121 Anganvadis in the state are decided to uplift as model Anganvadis. The construction of 87 model Anganvadis are completed.
- Vanitharatnam’ award was distributed to those women who excelled in different areas as part of the International Woman’s Day.

KERALA STATE WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

- The Finishing school has trained 186 members in this period. ASAP, Kerala Rutronix, NORKA Roots, FRAT, Municipal Corporation of Kannur, SC-ST Department, Kerala Furniture Consortium and LSGIs have joined together to begin new courses.
- ‘Mithra 181’ women helpline scheme functioning 24 hours started. The toll-free number 181 gives information about important hospitals, police stations, ambulance service and welfare schemes.
- Ladies hostels will start functioning in all district headquarters.
- Job training centres will start functioning in two Tribal areas in 2017-18 aiming a complete development and welfare of Tribal women.
- Loan fest is organized in all districts for women

STATE CHILD RIGHTS PROTECTION COMMISSION

- Actions are taken to ensure the welfare of children and families at Edamalakudi by improving hospital facilities, electrification, transportation, internet facilities.
- Actions are taken to provide compensations in the right time as per the special court orders to those children subject to sexual crimes.
- The commission has called for a meeting in the initial level with experts to provide guidelines to ensure safety for children in schools.

KERALA WOMEN’S COMMISSION

- A short-stay home is functioning in Thiruvananthapuram district under the women’s commission for the temporary relocation of women who are subject to domestic violence and are exiled from home.
- Pre-marriage workshops are organized in all districts by the Women’s Commission to impart awareness among the youngsters and to reduce their mental stress. The ‘Kalalayajyothi’ is implemented in school-college levels in all districts by the Women’s Commission to make awareness among the students. 174 Kalalayajyothi are organized in this financial year.
- Trainings are provided for the members of Jagratha Samathis in all districts. Six training programmes are organized in this financial year.

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION

- Made sure that all the medicines are available in Karunya Community Pharmacies.
- 85% medicines were distributed through hospitals under the Health Department and Medical Education Department.
- The medicines like anti venom, vaccination medicines, anti-rabies vaccination, medicines used for mental diseases treatment, Insulin etc are made available without delay.
- Dialysis centres were completed in 17 hospitals in the state. Cath Lab facility has been introduced in 2 medical colleges and 9 district General hospitals. 11 Karunya Pharmacies started in different Government hospitals.

MAKING MEDICAL COLLEGES CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

- Got the approval for more than 70 Post Graduation seats in last two years. Compared to other states, Kerala got more seats.
- New Medical College started at Paripalli in Kollam. 473 posts were created. 100 students got M.B.B.S admission here last year.
- As part of renewing the pattern of staff nurse, 721 nurse postings were created in Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Kottayam,
Our Government, On the right track

Thrissur and Kozhikode Medical colleges.

- A decision was taken to start Surgical Oncology, Medical Oncology and Onco Pathology in 5 medical colleges to give R.C.C model treatment. For this 105 posts were created.
- In Kerala for the first time, D.M Endocrinology course got approval from M.C.I.
- In Alappuzha Medical College, 2 seats were approved for D.M Nephrology and started functioning.
- For the first time in Kerala, Public Health Dentistry M.D.S course started at Kottayam Dental College.
- As part of the expansion of Pediatrics-Cardiology department of S.A.T hospital in Thiruvananthapuram, a new Pediatric-Cardiology Cath Labs has been allowed.
- For the expansion of this division as first step of starting Reproductive Medicine Super Speciality division (MCH) at S.A.T, posts of professor, associate professor and assistant professor were created.
- In the Thiruvananthapuram Medical College modern facilities like D.S.A and C.T equipment were installed. (8 crore).
- In order to control the crowd in O.P section, token system was implemented.
- Master plan for the development of Medical Colleges is under progress. A 400 crore rupee is sanctioned for the Thiruvananthapuram Medical College as first step of the scheme.
- Mother and Child care block for Ernakulam Medical College. For the construction of Super Speciality Block Quarters Rs 310 Cr allocated through ‘KIIFB’.
- 25 crore for the construction of Image centre at Ernakulam Medical College.
- Permission has been given for installing an 11 crore rupees MRI machine in the Alappuzha Medical College
- The construction work of Pharmacy College at Kottayam Medical College is progressing.
- At the Thrissur Medical College the functioning of Cath lab in the Cardiology department have started. For this 19 posts were created. Along with this 14 posts have been created for starting the Cardio thoracic division.
- 30 lakh rupees were provided for giving Dialysis Kit for Kidney patients at Kozhikode Medical College. Along with this 22 crore rupee was allotted for buying equipments required in the hospital.

STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY

- HIV infected persons will be given free anti-retroviral medicines through 10 centres.
- Transgender T.I safety scheme executed.
- All HIV AID’s patients were included in Chis Health Insurance scheme irrespective of the criteria of income

AYURVEDA

- Sanction was given to construct international research institute of Ayurveda at Kannur for the research and development of Ayurveda.
- For development of Ayurveda Education, in 2018-19 budget 1 crore rupees is estimated for initial expenses of a new Ayurveda College.
- 1 crore rupees is estimated for a new Mental Health Care hospital in association with Ayurveda College.
- New theatre and lab room setup with modern facilities in Hospital for Women and Children, Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram.

HOMEOPATHY DEPARTMENT

- Government started Cancer Pain and Palliative Care Centres in hospitals of all districts.
- Homeo-dispensary is upgraded as Model Homeo-dispensary in every district.

FOOD SAFETY DEPARTMENT

- New scheme called ‘Complete Food Safety Gramapanchayat’ formed in order to ensure complete food safety in gramapanchayaths of Kerala and this was executed in 50 panchayaths in 2016-17 and also completed in 100 panchayaths in 2017-18.
- ‘Quick Response Team’ scheme executed to resolve ‘food safety’ complaints.
The Public Works department has a remarkable role in improving the state’s basic infrastructure facilities. Despite having an efficient team of technical experts and employees on board for implementing works like construction and protection of roads, bridges and buildings, it is found that little attention is paid for the efficient execution of this system. Since this government came into power, much emphasis has been laid towards increasing the efficiency of employees on the technical front and conducts awareness. Efforts have been taken to revamp the department and wipe out the stereotypical notions the public has about it. Workshop and training sessions have been provided to engineers regarding construction methods using new technological standards. This has been part of implementing novel ideas in construction, experimental modelling, transparent and corruption free ways of execution and availing service benefits through proper means. This is aimed by the slogan, ‘Changing Times and Novel Ways of Construction’. Corresponding changes and quality standards start reflecting in the works of the department.
Road Development: National Highway will be expanded to four lanes

Work to make the NH 66, which is part of Economic Corridor in the Bharatmala Project, into a four-lane highway is progressing from Kasargod to Kazhakkottam. For this, 3A notification has already been issued.

Work has begun on Kozhikode bypass, Thalasseri-Mahi bypass, Neeleswaram railway over-bridge. Tender process has been completed in Thalappadi to Kalikadavu in Kasargod district has been completed, and awaiting Centre’s approval. Tender process is under way in areas where notification has already been issued.

By this November all work will begin on NH66, according to National Highway Authority of India.

DPR is being prepared to construct bridges in Mooradu and Paloli (Kozhikode district) as stand-alone.

Work will be completed soon on Vadakkanchery-Thrissur four lane road. Kuthiran Tunnel, which is part of the project, is in its final stage of construction.

Centre’s recommendation has been received to make 45-metre road under Bharatmala Project (Kochi-Moovattupuzha-Theni-Madurai Road, Kollam-Madurai Road, Kazhakkottam-Mukkola Road).

State Highways and District Roads in BM & BC category

The State Highways and Districts Road are gradually being upgraded to BM & BC roads. Total 1787 roads have been modernized (last year 959kms and this year 828km so far).

Works on all the bypasses will be completed.

Construction has been under way in 21 bypasses since the LDF government came into power.

Eighteen bypasses are being built with the financial help of KIFB.

Kollam and Alappuzha bypasses on the national
highway will be completed this year itself.
Malappuram-Kottapadi bypass is open to traffic.
Kozhikode-Panniyankara and Ernakulam-Eroor railway over bridges have been completed.
Smart Road Project will be implemented.
Works are in progress on Kazhakkoottam-Adoor under KSTP project at a cost of Rs 146 crore.

**Hill Highway**

Budget allocation of Rs 3500 Cr (from KIIFB) for the Hill Highway project from Kasargodu to Parassala (total 1251km)
Hill highway project is under construction in 110 kms in Kannur district.
For the first time in the state, a maintenance department has been formed to undertake protection and maintenance of highways and roads.
All tenders are done through e-tender.

**Environment-friendly construction**
Initiatives have been taken to put in practice environment-friendly construction. Design and architecture sections will be modernized and developed. Two regional offices started functioning in Ernakulam and Kozhikkode for the design division.

**Registration department**

1. New services based on the slogan ‘New Times, New Service’ began.
2. In order to make corruption-free offices, e-payment facility is put in place for payment of fee for services including registration in the sub-registrar office.
3. An arrangement to pay fee using DD was made during the demonitisation phase.
4. Sub-registrar offices at Sultan Bathery, Perinthalmanna and Rajapuram were inaugurated. Works of Venganoor, Meenachal and Mancheswaram offices also started.
5. As part of improving basic infrastructure, existing buildings are renovated. Administrative sanction accorded to construct 48 sub-registrar offices and three registration complexes situated in age-old and rented buildings. This is for Rs 100 crores. A sum of Rs 131.64 lakhs sanctioned for the maintenance works of 16 sub-registrar offices.
6. Departmental transfers implemented in a transparent, grievance and corruption free manner.
7. E-stamping project implemented to curtail the spread of fake stamp papers.
8. Welfare benefits for document writers and stamp vendors increased.
9. Distributed identity card for license holding document writers.

**Projects under plan**

1. Steps to be taken to register documents of any property at any sub-registrar office. Also, there will be facilities to digitise and make avail the digital copy to the applicants. Computerisation of e-filing and chit registration to be implemented.
2. A policy document for the Department of Registration to be announced.

**RAILWAY**

Kerala Rail Development Limited (KRDCL), a joint venture company under Government of Kerala and Ministry of Railways, is functioning at 49:51 stakes. Eight projects have been put forward under the aegis of the company aiming the basic railway development.
Phase one

1. Rapid Rail Transit System (Suburban Rail Project) for 126 kms in the Thiruvananthapuram-Chengannur route.
2. Thalassery-Mysuru way of 206.5 kms.
3. Rejuvenating and restarting the old railway station in Ernakulam.
4. Setting up a railway station and container terminal for the Cochin International Airport by establishing a Triangular Line.
5. Vizhinjam-Balaramapuram Line, the 12km line connecting Vizhinjam terminal to the Thiruvananthapuram-Kanyakumari route.

Phase two

1. A connector between the proposed Erumeli-Punalur Angamaly-Sabari line to the Kolam-Sengottai route. This is of 65 kms.
2. Ettumanoor-Palai link line, and connecting the proposed Angamaly-Sabari route to the Thiruvananthapuram-Ernakulam line. (15 kms)
3. Nilambur-Nanjngud line. A route connecting the Nilambur railway station to the Nanjngud railway station of 236 kms.

Suggestions to speed up the basic development in railways

1. **New routes**
   1. Angamaly-Sabari route
   2. Thirunavaya-Guruvayoor line
   3. Kochi-Madurai rail route
   4. Kanhangad-Panathur-Kaniyoor railway line

2. **Track doubling**
   1. Doubling of the Harippad-Ernakulam, Thiruvalla-Kuruppumthara lines.
   2. Electrification of rail routes.
   3. Safety and security for train travellers
   4. Building Rail over bridges
   5. Cleanliness in trains and basic requirements in trains and railway stations
   6. Replacing dated coaches with new LHB coaches
   7. Raising the standards of 21 railway station in Kerala. To elevate Thiruvananthapuram, Kozhikode and Ernakulam stations to international standards along with central stations in other districts.
   8. Sanctioning of peninsular zone with the Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram and Konkan Railway divisions in Kerala.
   9. To take measures to raise the Nemom railway station an additional hub of the Thiruvananthapuram central station.
   10. Raising the capacity of the Chief Administrative Office in Kochi for the efficient execution of construction activities in Kerala’s railway section.
   11. Installing bio-toilet facility for all trains that run through Kerala in the light of declaring the state Open Defecation Free.
   13. Steps on to set up 3,4 lines from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasargod.

Land acquisition

Development activities are hit when timely acquisition of required land does not take place. To sort this out, a special officer has to be appointed in the state-level. Besides, assistant collectors can be given additional task to do land acquisition for the Railways.
Adv. V.S. Sunil Kumar
(Minister for Agriculture)

FOR A MUCH GREENER KERALA

Making young minds green: Minister for Agriculture Adv. V.S. Sunil Kumar with students
Within just 20 months after the LDF Government came to power, it was successful in bringing about many prominent changes in the field of agriculture. We are entering the third year of governance contentedly due to this. Through the Department of Agriculture, the government has been implementing all the promises that were made in the election manifesto one-by-one. The government has been moving ahead earnestly and striving hard to change the face of Kerala’s agricultural sector within five years. We are greatly inspired by the numerous activities that we could do within this period that brought visible changes in the sector.

Agriculture is the focus point of our economy. As it was not given proper care, paddy fields were increasingly getting converted to barren lands. But after this government came to power, with the support of people, we could start paddy cultivation afresh in 34,000 acres of land.

This year, we were successful in beginning farming in maximum number of barren lands in Kollam and Kottayam districts. The situation is not different in other districts too. With an aim to improve paddy cultivation, the period from Malayalam Year Chingam 1, 1192 to Chingam 1, 1193 was observed as the State Paddy Year. To help small-scale farmers, 415 small-scale rice mills and 13 rice mills with processing units have started functioning. Through this, small-scale farmers can process their yield and bring it to the market in the required brand through ‘Padashekhara Samithis’ (committees formed for collecting harvest from the land of cultivation).

We are now successfully doing paddy cultivation with public support in Rani Lake that had laid barren for 20 years, in Metran Lake, Aranmula Airport area, Avalappandi in Kozhikode District, Puthuppally Naalumanikkattu in Kottayam district and the barren land of Santosh Madhavan in Mala. We have done mapping and have found out all barren lands in each panchyat.

In our state, there has been tremendous growth in the cultivation of vegetables. This was achieved by inviting people’s interest towards vegetable farming. In 2015-16, vegetable farming was done in 46,000 hectares of land. After this government came to power, it rose to cultivation in 55,000 hectares of land. The yield from vegetable farming increased from 6 lakh metric tonnes to 10 lakh metric tonnes. As part of the scheme, vegetable seed packs were given for free to 63 lakh families.

All the vegetable saplings that are required by the state are being provided by the Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Council Keralam (VFPCK) nursery at Nadukkara in Ernakulam. This nursery has the capacity to produce two crore saplings.

For collecting the vegetables, 1,034 cool chambers were installed this year. As part of the scheme, 14 mini poly houses, 39 nurseries and 2,316 rain shelters were installed. For promoting vegetable farming in
rubber plantations, vegetable farming was started afresh in 280 hectares of land. Usually during festive seasons such as Onam and Vishu, there is an uncontrollable rise in the price of vegetables. But during the past two years, during Onam and Vishu, there was fruitful business interference during the festive period. During Onam, the Agricultural Department, Horticorp, VFPCK etc joined together for selling vegetables, not affected by pesticides, through 1,350 outlets. The produce was purchased from farmers at a higher rate and was sold in outlets by reducing the price by 30 per cent of the market rate. From Kerala alone, 3,042 metric tonnes of vegetables were collected from farmers by the Agricultural Department, Horticorp and VFPCK. In total, 4,143 metric tonnes of vegetables were sold in the previous Onam season.

By successfully interfering in the market, the government could control price hike and this was indeed a great achievement. While the production of certain vegetables are not controlled, after meeting the market demand, they lose their demand in market and thereby lead to be sold at low rates. A crop calendar was formed to regulate the production of vegetables, according to the market demand.

Another interesting interference was done in Plant Health Clinics. Including 14 new centres, 84 Agro Service Centres began functioning in 2017-18 and 202 Plant Health Clinics, including 50 new ones, too began operations. Under the scheme to facilitate healthy soil and for maintaining productive capacity, financial aid to add lime to soil, etc., has been increased from Rs. 3,000 per hectare to Rs. 5,400.

When this government came to power, Rs 93 crores was yet to be released as aid for natural calamities. Under this head, the government distributed Rs 105.36 crores till now. In Wayanad, where the farmers have been facing difficult times due to the fall in price and natural calamities, Rs. 18 crores was sanctioned. Haritha Keerthi Award is given to the government farm that is well looked after. This time, we increased the number of awards from one to three.

By earning Geographic Index Registration for our native produce, the government aims to improve its status to an international-level. The government was successful in getting Geographic Index Registration for good quality Marayoor Jaggery. Efforts are underway to earn Geographic Index Registration for Kanthalloor garlic, Kaippad rice, Panthalam jaggery, Sreenarayanapuram blonde cucumber, Thirur betel leaf, etc.

A special farm sector was formed to increase the production of vegetables from Vattavada and Kanthalloor zones. A special officer was also designated for this. Through this, the vegetables could be collected during the Onam season and distributed through the outlets of Agricultural Department and Horticorp. Farmers got reasonable profit also through this.

For the first time in history, farmers were given incentive for delivering vegetables. At the rate of Rs 2 per kg of vegetables, Rs 15 lakhs were distributed in Kanthalloor and Vattavada zones. For years, there was a demand to start a bank in Vattavada where lenders were otherwise charging huge interest from the poor farmers. To save the farmers from middlemen and those who charge huge interest for loans, there was not a single branch of any bank in Vattavada. A branch of Kerala Grameen Bank was started here with the support of the Agricultural Department. The inaugural ceremony was held on December 30.

A Debit-cum-credit card was introduced in the name ‘Haritha Card’ so that the farmers will get loans at low interest rate. The Agricultural Department and the Kerala Grameen Bank is implementing this scheme together.

Rules related to the sale and usage of pesticides were made more strict. Strict instructions were given to Pesticide Inspectors to visit and examine Manure and Pesticide sales outlets. District-level Inspection Squads were formed to find out whether banned pesticides are being sold and also to check whether law is being maintained.

We can in no way accept or support corruption and
unlawful practices. Steps were taken to make the Agricultural Department free of corruption. In the departments where irregularities were found, including Kerala State Seed Development Authority, Engineering section of Agricultural Department, Horticorp, Kerafed, Vazhakkulam Pineapple Company, State Horticulture Mission, VFPCK, etc., strict actions were taken against the officials responsible and Vigilance inquiry was ordered. It was decided to implement social audit in Agricultural Department and on September 1, 2017, on the 30th anniversary of the formation of Krishi Bhavans, Social Audit was declared in the Agricultural Department.

‘Pooppoli’ farm exhibition and seminars are being held in the Farm Research Centre at Ambalavazhal in Wayanad district, considering the vast scope of flower cultivation. This gained international attention.

‘Pooppoli’ was organised as part of forming a special farm zone for growing flowers, with Wayanad as the centre.

Steps were taken to introduce Community Radio service to introduce farmers to fresh topics related to agriculture and also for spreading knowledge and awareness. The first community radio service will be implemented in Alappuzha district.

Farmers can also communicate their troubles directly to the Agricultural Minister through this radio service. For this, with the help of Small Farmers’ Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), in each month’s first Wednesday, a special phone-in programme is held in the evening. At other times, to address all concerns and queries related to farming, a call centre functions from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m.

Now, news discussions always cover Attappady. The grief-stricken face of Madhu, who was alleged to have committed theft for a meal, still haunts us. The Agricultural Department has realised that the tribal people not only require rice, green gram and Bengal gram but their native grains as food. With this knowledge, the Agricultural Department is interfering in Attappady.

To protect the grains used by the Attappady tribals and to ensure them food security, Attappady was declared as a special agricultural zone for small food grains. A Special Officer has also been designated to unify the activities of the Millet Village formed for small food grains such as pearl millet (‘thina’), ragi, finger millet (‘Koovaraku’), sorghum (‘manicholam’), barnyard millet (‘kuthiravali’), small millet (‘chama’) etc.

Small grains were cultivated in 150 acres, legumes in 500 acres and vegetables in 37.5 acres of land. In total, 1,287 acres of land were under cultivation. The Millet Village Scheme that is being implemented in three years by spending Rs 687 lakhs is a beginning of the total agricultural development in Attappady. The Millet Village Scheme that is presented with pride by the Agricultural Department has turned into a great inspiration for the tribal farmers.

Based on the organic farm system introduced by the previous LDF Government, schemes have been formed to encourage organic farming in the state. The Agricultural Department and VFPCK have been implementing good agricultural practices, certification based on the same and also steps for certification under Participatory Guarantee System are being taken.

The vegetables cultivated using only organic methods in the state are collected from the farmers at a rate higher than the market value and is sold in the brand name ‘Kerala Organic’. Large-scale organic rice cultivation and vegetable farming have begun under the leadership of students with schools and colleges as the centre. It is still progressing with better results.

Crop insurance is important to retain our farmers in the agricultural sector. The insurance amount of paddy, vegetables and spices were increased at a high rate for the first time in 21 years of the state’s history which was a great relief for the farmers. The insurance amount of coconut trees were increased from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000 per tree; for banana plant, it was increased from Rs 50 to Rs 300 per plant; for paddy, it was increased from Rs 15,000 per hectare to Rs 35,000. For ginger the insurance amount was
increased from Rs 40,000 per hectare to Rs 80,000; for turmeric, it was increased from Rs 40,000 to Rs 60,000; for coffee plant, the price for a single plant was Rs 75. This was increased to Rs 350. Not much was changed in the premium amount.

In 2016-17, 2,478 farmers received Rs 159.87 lakhs as insurance for crop loss and in 2017-18, 5,705 farmers received Rs 305.68 lakhs as insurance amount for crop loss. Now, mango trees and small food grains have also been brought under insurance coverage.

The farmers affected by Ockhi were given the deserving amount within two weeks. Apart from this, Central Government schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Crop Insurance Scheme based on seasons etc. are all being implemented by the Agricultural Department.

Through farm refinement and adding the value of crops, the government aims at increasing the profit. With this aim, an international workshop ‘Vaiga’ was organised in Thiruvananthapuram in 2016 and in Thrissur in 2017. National and international-level experts and farmers participated in the workshop. This programme played a great role in promoting agriculture among farmers and youth.

The former UDF Government had not released Rs 287.25 crores farmers’ pension for 22 months, till May 2016. But after this government came to power, Rs 700 crores were released as farmers’ pension. The farmers’ pension amount which was Rs 500 was increased first to Rs 1,000 and later to Rs 1,100. The pending pension of farmers till September 2017 has been released. Now, the pending pension amount of just six months is to be released. As soon as the money is received, this amount will also be released to the farmers.

The long-term demand of farm labourers for salary reformation was implemented. Measures were also taken to make casual labourers as permanent employees and to make daily wage labourers as casual employees.

The first Agro Hyper Market in India began functioning as Kerala Sree in Thrissur. Agro Hyper Markets will soon begin functioning in Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode metro cities. The entire seeds required by Kerala is now being produced here itself and we are achieving self-sustainability.

Aiming farm refinement, Kerala’s first Agro Park will begin functioning from Thrissur this year. This Agro Park will be based on the yields from banana plant, honey and jackfruit. The other Agro Parks will soon become operational through Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIIFB).

After this government came to power, 76 ‘Keragramam’ (coconut villages) were formed in 250 hectares of land each. Through this scheme, coconut farmers are able to use scientific methods to maintain their plants, and also get facilities to cut down infected trees and to plant new saplings.

The government decided to implement Nalikera Mission (Coconut Mission) and the steps for the same are progressing. To utilise the coconuts fully, Malayalam month Chingam 1, 1193 to Chingam 1, 1194 (2017-18) is being observed as Kerala Coconut Year. As part of this, to encourage coconut farming in the state, 44 Coconut Villages are being formed. Kuttanad, Thrissur Kohi fields, Onattukara, Pokkoli fields, Palakkad, Kaippad and Wayanad regions have been declared as special farm zones for paddy cultivation. Special farm zones have been declared for cultivating various varieties of plants and works have begun.

Devikulam, Kanjikkuzhi, Pazhayannoor, Chittoor-Kollankode, Wayanad, and Vamanapuram are areas marked for vegetable farming; spices are cultivated in Wayanad and Idukki; banana in Thrissur; flowers and fruits in Idukki and Wayanad; coconuts in Thrissur, Palakkad and Kozhikode; mangoes in Chittoor and Kollancode; pineapple in Moovattupuzha; jackfruit in Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Thrissur; medicinal plants in Thrissur, Malappuram and Wayanad and gingelly plant will be cultivated in Onattukara.

In Kanthalloor-Vattavada areas, vegetables that can be cultivated in winter season are planted and Attappadi was declared as a special zone for small food grains. Honey Mission has been functioning
Our Government, On the right track

through the State Horticulture Mission. Steps were taken to make the farmers aware about the research results in Kerala Agricultural University. For the first time in history, a tribal farmer Shri. Cheruvayal Raman’s name was nominated to the General Council of Kerala Agricultural University. The rules for formation of Farmers’ Welfare Board is in the final stage. After finalising all necessary steps, Farmers’ Welfare Board will be formed in the next Assembly meet.

The Agricultural Department and Soil Survey and Soil Conservation Directorate have been jointly implementing schemes through Sujalam Suphalam (Good water, Good Yield) which is a sub mission of Haritha Keralam (Green Kerala) Project. These departments have been implementing the main activities of Haritha Keralam Mission, especially the field-level activities. Before Haritha Keralam Mission began functioning, the Agricultural Department was able to achieve good yield from farming in barren lands in areas, including Rani Kayal. Organic farming, production and purification of organic fertilisers were encouraged.

Pepper farming was implemented in 3,700 hectares of land by including it in the Wayanad package. In 5,000 hectares of land, joint steps were taken against farm lands going dry and in 1,679 hectares of land, organic farming was done.

25 Trichoderma production units, 50 gardens for exhibition, 10 front line demonstrations, eight farmers’ field schools etc. were launched. In the Bio Control Lab functioning at Mannuthy in Thrissur, friendly soil bacteria such as Trichoderma, Pseudomomas, etc., are being produced and distributed.

From this year, Bacillus thuringiensis, Entomopathogenic nematodes (E.P.N) etc. are also being produced and will be distributed. Within the last two years, 344 tonnes talc based products, 29,000 litre liquid products, and 61,127 cc Trico cards were produced and distributed.

In this lab, high quality tissue culture plants are produced. Within the last two years, 16 lakh tissue culture banana plants, more than two lakh orchid saplings and more than one lakh medicinal plants have been produced and distributed. Within the next two months, more than four lakh banana plants will be ready for distribution.

During the previous UDF Government’s tenure from 2011-16, 66 farmer suicide cases were reported from our state. But the activities done by the government for farmers’ welfare and farm development helped in preventing farmers from committing suicide in the state. According to the data available in the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), in 2017, the number of farmers’ suicide in Kerala was zero. At the same time, in several other states in India, the rate of farmers’ suicide was high. (Maharashtra-3,030, Telangana-1,368, Karnataka-1,198, Chattisgarh-854, Madhya Pradesh-709 and Tamil Nadu-604).

We are not claiming that we could earn everything within two years. But, within this short period, we could successfully interfere in numerous areas in the state’s agricultural sector which is indeed a historical achievement.

The Agricultural Department is striving hard to carry forward these successful activities in a better way in the coming years too. Creative interference is required to uplift the status of farmers in the society. Rather than considering it as a job taken up by someone who has no other job, farm facilities should be timely improved so that more people will take up this job with pride and excitement. We will be able to achieve cent per cent success in this mission only through combined activities of families, schools, political parties, welfare organisations, religious institutions and also with the cooperation of people from all levels in the society.

While the State Government’s activities in this path are turning unending, creative public support for our works will give us strength. Let us be partners together in this mission to gain back our lost farm habits and goodness in the villages.
On December 2nd, 2013, the National Food Security Act was declared in the state. In the first week of 2015, as ration cards were being renewed to find out its top beneficiaries, according to the Food Safety Rules, the pre-populated forum was distributed to card owners and their details were collected. But till May 2016, no decision was taken on this matter.

After this government came into power, a draft list was published with the details that were collected. Based on this, ration was distributed to card owners from November 1st, 2016 as per the National Food Security Act.

The term, 2017-18 can be described as a milestone in the State’s Public Distribution System. More than 330 food-grain traders were completely kept away from the Public Distribution System. Steps were taken to collect food grains from intermediary godowns and distribute it directly to the ration shops. This is being continued even now.

Along with this, a new system was started through which the public would receive an SMS when their share of ration has arrived at the shop.
Another major step in the Public Distribution System was that, Electronic Point of Sale (e-POS) machines with biometric facility could be established in all ration shops. As part of this, e-POS machines could be established in 60 ration shops in Karunagappally taluk, as a pilot project on January 6th, 2018. These machines are functioning without any complaints. In April, e-POS machines could be installed in all ration shops across the state.

Apart from this, a contract was signed with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, for a social audit of activities in the Public Distribution System.

Kerala is a consumer state. Therefore, food grains including rice and pulses that are required by the state will have to be imported from other states. In such a situation, it was realized that planning is essential, considering the production of other states and also in other situations. So, a ‘Price Monitoring Cell’ has been formed under the leadership of the Civil Supplies Director that conducts timely meetings and informs the government from time-to-time about developments, after conducting fact surveys.

Supplyco has been selected as the accredited agency to implement the National Food Security Act of 2013, in the state. As it is a special mission undertaken by Supplyco, it was found that the service of the current officials were not sufficient to continue Public Distribution, according to its rules. So, a declaration was made announcing 318 posts in various grades.

Apart from this, Supplyco began functioning under a new Manager (National Food Safety Information) post, equivalent to that of the District Supply Officer, formed a separate cell and began its functioning from April 1st, 2018.

**Other Important Achievements**

- The printing and distribution of ration cards that were pending could now be completed.
- People who were included in the beneficiary list illegally, were identified and accordingly

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<tr>
<th>Serial No.</th>
<th>Subsidy Products</th>
<th>Price (in Rs.)</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Green Gram</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1 kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Urud Dal Ball</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>1kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Big Bengal Gram</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>1kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cow Beans</td>
<td>45</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Black Gram</td>
<td>60</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Chilly</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1 kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Coriander seeds</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Sugar</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Coconut Oil</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jaya Rice</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Kuruva Rice</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Matta Rice</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Unboiled or Raw Rice</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ration card owners get goods from the Maveli store each month, according to the quantity and rate mentioned above.
removed.

Those who have four-wheelers on their own; Government, Quasi-Government, Public Sector and Cooperative Bank staff; those with houses that are 1,000 sq. feet. wide etc. were found out using special technical knowledge and removed from the list of top beneficiaries getting ration. Around 2.65 lakh people were avoided like this. That many real beneficiaries will be added in the new list.

The applications of those without ration cards are now being accepted. Till now, 40,000 applications have been received. Ration cards will be available in seven days, as soon as a facility will be available to receive applications online.

To ensure transparency in ration distribution, a portal has begun functioning. The technical facilities are ready so that the public can view the portal, the details of ration distribution done using each card, the quantity of ration food grains in each shop, the distribution order, etc.

A package was declared for ration store owners to ensure that each store owner will get at least Rs 16,000 as benefit.

Distribution of flour, that was not done for some time by the ration shops, restarted. Apart from flour, distribution of powdered rice, ‘Sooji Rava’ (obtained from wheat), etc., are under the government’s consideration.

There was a promise that the price of 13 subsidy products distributed through Supplyco will not be increased. This was implemented.

After this government came to power, 21 Maveli stores, 10 Super Markets, 2 people’s bazaars, etc. were initiated.

Every year, special markets are held during the Onam, Ramzan, Christmas and Easter season.

In the economic years 2016-17 and 2017-18, the government sanctioned Rs. 200 crores each for market interference.

Supplyco gave Rs. 431 crores in the economic year 2016-17 and around Rs. 500 crore in 2017-18 as subsidy to the people.

PRS Loan Scheme was introduced to collect paddy from farmers.
In the economic year 2017-18, 3.01 lakh metric tonnes of paddy was collected. Through the PRS loan, Rs 531.34 crores was distributed.

For the ‘Hunger Free Kerala’ scheme, Rs 70 lakhs was kept aside this economic year. A pilot scheme was implemented in Alappuzha district.

Apart from this, a scheme to distribute ration items directly to tribal areas was introduced in the Thrissur district in July 2017.

**In 2018-19, the department is planning to implement elaborate schemes:**

1) Renovation of Ration Shops: As part of renovating ration shops, steps will be taken to give a single colour to all shops and name boards, stock boards, etc., which will be kept in all shops.

2) Intermediary godowns essential for the Public Distribution Sector will be constructed with the help of the Revenue Department. Steps will be taken to achieve this.

3) The Commissionerate of Civil Supplies will be fully computerized.

4) Steps have been taken to conduct a social audit in the Public Distribution System.

5) Currently, a single mobile patrol unit is functioning in the state. As part of strengthening inspection, steps will be taken to increase the number of patrol units to four.

6) Steps will be taken to form a separate Consumer Directorate.

7) Steps were taken to form a separate Consumer Law for the state.

8) The state will frame rules to implement Online marketing/ Direct Selling, etc.

9) Creating a consumer awareness and monitoring the activities of School Consumer Clubs, etc. will be made more efficient.

10) A state-level resource centre will be initiated. District-level desks will be opened for sharing consumer details.

**Legal Metrology Department**

- Inauguration of Headquarters and Laboratory Complex
- The construction activities at the Headquarters of Legal Metrology Department and Laboratory Complex building are progressing in Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram. If the electrical, electronic and interior work gets completed in the seven-floor building, where civil works have been completed, the building may be used by the department during the last week of April. Through this, the office of the presiding officer of the department, South Zone Deputy Controller’s Office, Assistant Controller Offices (General and Flying Squad), Senior Inspector Office, Senior Inspector Office Auto, Inspector Office and labs such as Gold Purity Testing Lab, Working Standard and Secondary Standard Laboratories and Vehicle Tank Calibration Unit will be able to function. Thus various services of the department can be utilized by the public in a single building.

I) **Online Services of the Department**

a) Licenses, Packer Registration, etc., received from the department can also be available online to the public through the Legal Metrology Operation Management System.

b) To know any details regarding the department and also to raise complaints, a toll free number and a mobile app will be made. After this gets launched and as soon as a complaint is received, it will be passed on to the nearest mobile labs of the department, having GPS and other facilities. Within a few hours, a solution will be found for the complaint.

Both the schemes cited above will be implemented in the current economic year.

II) **More Posts**

After this government came to power, in order to strengthen the functioning of the Legal Metrology Department, an order has been given to create 21 Ministerial posts.
Gains of the Dept.
Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB)
KIIFB has taken creating and developing infrastructural facilities to new heights. Creation of a Rs 50,000 crores worth infrastructure facility in five years and financial aid for works worth Rs 20,000 crores.

KIIFB Activities in Construction Stage:
- Rs. 639 crores for roads and bridges.
- Rs. 100 crores for other Public works.
- 4,775 schools get Rs. 494 crores from the KIIFB.
- Rs. 149 crores for modern facilities in Govt. Hospitals.
- Rs. 324 crores for buying new buses for the KSRTC.
- Rs. 823 crores for K Phone.
- Rs. 338 crores for drinking water schemes.
- Rs. 129 crores for Model Residential Schools and Hostels.
- Rs. 268 crores for sports infrastructural facilities.
- KIIFB Activities under Progress:
  Schemes for which Tender Has Been Finalised
  ➢ PWD - Rs. 822 crores
  ➢ Health - Rs. 145 crores
  ➢ Schools - Rs. 897 crores.

Treasury
- Full details of all financial transactions in 223 Treasuries in the Central Database.
- Details of around 5.5 lakh pensioners in the Central Database.
- Core Banking facility for Treasury Savings Bank transactions. Complete Treasury transactions using online facility.
- Facility to deposit money at any time to the government through online facility.
- Treasury Wide Area Network (WAN) connecting 223 Treasuries and the Data
Centre.
- Facility to process challan from Akshaya Centres and branches of 10 banks connected with the e-Treasury.
- Kerala is one of the states in India where Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) has been completed.
- Facility to take challan using debit/credit cards of all banks.
- Net banking facility for those having Treasury Savings Bank account.
- Steps are being made to install ATMs for Treasury Banks by cooperating with other banks.
- Mobile application for pensioners and Treasury Savings Bank (TSB) dealers.
- Electronic Pension Payment Order (e-PPO) for pensioners.

**Lottery**
- In the Golden Jubilee Year, Lottery sale earned a revenue of Rs 10,000 crores.
- 18 new offices and 113 posts.
- The price of all tickets changed to Rs 30.
- 5% increase in gifts.
- The revenue from lotteries will be completely used for social welfare activities.
- Strict lawful action against written lottery and one-digit lottery.
Modern facilities to prevent fake tickets.

- To prevent fake lotteries, each ticket will have 5 safety lines.
- Security facility which is monitored by C-DIT.
- CCTV cameras for all offices.
- Computers and other facilities for all offices.
- Integrated programme for modernising the department.
- To meet increasing work load, two high-end servers for the department and hardware installation in 37 offices.
- New software with the help of National Informatics Centre (NIC).
- Formation of Virtual ID Card with help from those with technical knowledge.
- Biometric Attendance Management System for the effective marking of attendance.
- New Regional Audit Office based in Kozhikode for completing audit related work on time.
- Strict action against other illicit state lotteries. 216 cases were registered.
- 64,500 patients get Rs. 727 crores worth treatment under the Karunya scheme.
- Financial aid given for those with kidney related ailments was increased from Rs 2 lakhs to Rs 3 lakhs.
- New software for proper and effective implementation of the Karunya Scheme.
- Lottery Welfare Board
- 13,065 people get memberships in the Welfare Board.
- Rs 1,500 increase in the bonus.
- All members of the Welfare Board will get two uniforms.
- Three wheelers for 200 differently abled persons.
- Family meets and ‘Arts and Sports’ competitions for all members of the Welfare Board were conducted in district and state levels as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.
- Steps to increase aid given to Welfare Board members for treatment, marriage and funeral ceremonies.
Kerala State Financial Enterprises

- KSFE Branches will be included in Core Banking chain. Kasbah software was fully installed in all branches.
- Remarkable growth in the KSFE business. The total business in March 2016 being Rs 29,213 crores. In March 2018, it was Rs 35,490 crores.
- 22% increase in transactions.
- Profit increased from Rs 36 crores to Rs 178 crores.
- The Government Treasury gets Rs 170 crores as dividend, guarantee commission, etc.
- 1,544 PSC recruitments in the KSFE in two years.
- NRI Chitty’s become functional. Fully web-based Chitty.
- Special facilities that will give insurance to NRI Malayalis and the option to deposit their Chitty fund in pension funds.
- Through NRI Chitty, KSFE will be directly taking part in Kerala’s development.
- Mobile app available for customers and dealers by 2018-19.

Business Tax

Kerala is dealing with a challenge regarding its growth rate. Although it has been several months since the Goods and Service Tax (GST) was implemented, Goods and Service Tax Network (GSTN) is not fully functional. Due to this, there has been a great reduction in the Integrated Goods and Service Tax (IGST) earning that should have been received by the state through inter-state businesses. When the return filing gets completed, the IGST that will be received from other states will at least be doubled.

e-Way Bill

It was decided to implement e-way Bill from February to inspect inter-state movement of goods. But due to technical issues, it was only implemented in April.

As check posts have been stopped on a trial basis, cameras were installed for a pilot project at Walayar check post to examine inter-state movement of goods at the border, by scanning the number plates of vehicles and comparing it with GSTN’s e-Way Bill portal to track vehicles moving without a bill.

As GST was implemented and based on reduction in tax rate, the price of products should have been reduced. But high-end companies were not ready to reduce the price of goods following the tax reduction. To take action against companies and businessmen reaping unreasonably high profit, the Anti-Profiting Law exists. But this is not getting implemented successfully. An Anti-Profiteering Committee was formed in the state and it has collected important information and has also submitted complaints to the Central Authority.
NAAM MUNNOTTU

Unique in presentation, Naam Munnottu, the weekly Integrative Television Programme of the Chief Minister has become one of the much sought after programmes. Through this, the CM communicates, discusses and debates with the public on various developmental issues implemented by the Government. Changes are visible and we are marching forward.

Sunday 7.30 PM Doordarshan, Asianet News, Mathrubhumi, Reporter
Sunday 8 PM News 18 Keralam  Monday 7.30 PM Media One  10 PM Doordarshan (Repeat)
Thursday 9.30 PM People Channel  Friday 10.30 PM Kairali
Saturday 8 PM Kairali (Repeat)  5.30 PM People Channel (Repeat)