



BUDGET SPEECH

Mr. Speaker,

It is because of the immense kindness of Almighty Allah, people of Sindh and our leadership that I stand before this august house to present the annual budget for the financial year 2019-20.

Mr. Speaker,

This is the second budget of our current term in Government. This budget reflects the vision of our leadership, continuation of our policies and unflinching determination to serve the people of this country and this province. Our sacrifices for the people and for democracy shall never fade from pages of history. It was a duty that was assigned to us by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah when he said, "You have to stand guard over the development and maintenance of democracy, social justice and equality of manhood in your own native soil. With faith, discipline and selfless devotion to duty, there is nothing worthwhile that you cannot achieve."

Mr. Speaker,

We have achieved. People of Sindh have generously reposed their trust in our policies. The selfless devotion of our leaders, their teachings and their love for the people of this country are the guiding beacon for every member of the Pakistan Peoples Party. We draw inspiration from the teachings of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtarama Benazir Bhutto. We see Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari as a manifestation of the true spirit of democratic ideals and selfless devotion to people and President Asif Ali Zardari as custodian of all our ideals and a true champion of democracy.

I want to reiterate that we are the servants of the people, we are custodians of their trust, we are committed to serving the people of Sindh regardless of caste, creed, gender or religion. Sindh belongs to its people; we want to ensure that every citizen of this land has an equal opportunity, that every citizen feels empowered. We cannot allow poverty and hunger to roam free in our land. We cannot allow illiteracy and disease to restrict growth and prosperity. We as the servants of people have to ensure quality education, healthcare and economic opportunities.

جناب اسپیکر،

ہم ایک نظریاتی جماعت سے وابستہ ہیں۔ ہمارا نظریہ اس ملک کو ایک اسلامی فلاحی ریاست بنانا ہے۔ ایک ایسی ریاست جسمیں ظلم و استبداد، تنگ نظری، فرقہ واریت، معاشی و سماجی استحصال کی کوئی جگہ نہ ہو۔ اپنے مقاصد کے حصول کے لئے ہم اپنے سیاسی مخالفین کی مدد کے بھی طلبگار ہیں۔ ترقی کا یہ سفر شاید اکیلے ممکن نہ ہو اور اسلئے ہم رب العزت سے دعا کرتے ہیں کہ ہم سب کو اس راہ میں یکجا کر دے۔ پاکستان پیپلز پارٹی کے دروازے ہر کسی کے لئے کھلے ہیں، ہم کسی سے کوئی بغض نہیں رکھتے اور نہ ہی انتقام پر یقین کرتے ہیں۔ میں اس مجلس سے درخواست کرونگا کہ آئیں ترقی کے اس سفر میں ہمارے ساتھ قدم اٹھائیں

خدا کرے کہ میری ارضِ پاک پر اترے
وہ فصلِ گل جسے اندیشہ زوال نہ ہو
یہاں جو پھول کھلے وہ کھلا رہے صدیوں
یہاں خزاں کو گزرنے کی بھی مجال نہ ہو
خدا کرے کہ مرے اک بھی ہم وطن کے لئے
حیاتِ جُرم نہ ہو، زندگی و بال نہ ہو

Mr. Speaker,

It is our firm belief that the devolution of power and subsequent equitable distribution of resources is the key to progress across the land. Provincial governments understand the issues unique to their provinces and are better equipped to handle them. They have a

mandate that they are duty bound to carry out, and the federal government in turn, is bound to facilitate them. Fact is, a federation is only as strong as its federation units - unfortunately Mr. Speaker, it seems the present federal government has decided otherwise. Through their sheer incompetence and unwillingness to perform, the federal government has deliberately put the welfare of the people of Pakistan at risk.

Whereas the PPP focused its energies towards serving the people, the current government seems to have no interest in actual work. They have failed consistently to reach their tax collection targets. With a record shortfall of almost 447 billion in 11 months, FBR performance reached an all-time low during the last one year. Consequently, Sindh has been deprived of its due share and we are enduring a shortfall of Rs.117.5 billion (BE basis) owing entirely to the federal government.

The apathy towards Sindh is not limited to this Mr. Speaker. In fact, the federal government has entirely ignored Sindh in its PSDP this year. With a mere 50 schemes kept for Sindh, we are getting a paltry 3.5% of the PSDP. The federal government's clear vendetta against Sindh and its people cannot be denied.

In contrast Mr. Speaker, the Sindh government has been not only achieving, but surpassing its tax collection targets. The SRB is the only tax entity that is consistently performing, unlike the federal

government entities, and those in other provinces. When sales tax was collected by federal government, the collection was Rs.16.6 billion in 2010-11. After the devolution, Sindh government gradually improved its collection and we collected Rs.100.0 billion in year 2017-18. We have set challenging target of Rs.145.0 billion for year 2019-20.

Now, I will present revised estimates for the year 2018-19

REVISED ESTIMATES 2018-19

Mr. Speaker,

The Federal Government has indicated that Federal Transfers have been revised from budgetary estimates of Rs.665.085 billion to Rs.631.543 billion. But, such claims are misleading. The Federal Government failed to assess its own fiscal position and erroneously communicated two different figures of revised Federal Transfers within a matter of days. In the last 11 months, Sindh has received only 492.135 billion on account of Federal Transfers and it is anticipated that by the end of Financial Year the shortfall will be 117.527 billion. The Federal Government blames the Federal Board of Revenue for poor revenue generation but seems totally oblivious of the fact that it is their responsibility to make structural reforms. It would be pertinent to mention that the Government of Sindh has offered the Federal Government to collect sales tax on goods on its behalf. As we believe that once devolved the returns from Sales Tax on Goods can be maximized as it has been done in case of Sales Tax on Services. Also, the Federal Government has shown no real intent

to develop consensus on 9th NFC award. The delay in the announcement of the award is at the expense of rights of provinces.

اک طرز تغافل ہے سوان کو مبارک
اک عرض تمنا ہے سو ہم کرتے رہیں گے

Mr. Speaker,

The provincial revenue targets have been revised from Rs.243.082 billion to Rs.240.746 billion. As a result, against an estimated budgetary amount of Rs.1.123 trillion, the revised receipts for Current Financial Year stand at Rs.940.777 billion.

Mr. Speaker,

Due to poor receipts, we had to cut down our development expenditure which now stands at Rs.172.941 billion for current financial year. This proved to be a major impediment to achieving our goals. Many development schemes that could have been completed have been delayed due to non-availability of funds. Similarly, on the Current Revenue Side estimates have been revised from Rs.773.237 billion to Rs.751.752 billion. The reduction on the current revenue side is primarily because of the severe austerity measures and strict financial discipline.

During the financial year 2018-19, we had to cut on the operating expenses. The Repair & Maintenance budget of the departments have been substantially reduced from Rs.30.8 billion to

Rs.26.8 billion. Also, the fourth quarter of budget under operating expenses has been partially released. Despite all the financial hardships we have tried to ensure that all health and educational facilities receive substantial budgetary allocations. We have not introduced major cuts in grants of social sector institutions. We have nurtured initiatives like SIUT, Indus Hospital, HANDS, Aman Foundation, Sindh Education Foundation etc. so that service delivery is not compromised.

Due to our interventions, we were able to revise our expenditure estimates from Rs.1.144 trillion to Rs.956.779 billion. As a result, the budget deficit for the current financial year comes to be Rs.16 billion against an expected Rs.20.457 billion. I must reiterate that we are able to control deficit only because of budgetary cuts as we timely adapted austerity measures. I am thankful to all the departments and offices that continued to serve the people despite of financial difficulties.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2019-20

Mr. Speaker,

The total receipts of the province for the financial year 2019-20 are estimated at Rs.1.218 trillion against an estimated expenditure of Rs.1.218 trillion. As Federal Transfers, the province is expected to receive Rs.835.375 billion. Receipts from Federal Government will account for 74% of the total receipts. It is pertinent

to highlight that Federal Government has failed to achieve its target in yesteryears. We have adapted the figures communicated to us by the Federal Government. We strongly apprehend that Federal Government will not be able achieve its target unless drastic structural changes are introduced. Failure to achieve its targets will create financial problems for the Provincial Government during the next financial year 2019-20. Our own provincial receipts are growing steadily and provincial revenue targets are increased from 243.082 billion to Rs.288.709 billion for next financial year.

On the current revenue side, the expenditure budget is estimated at Rs.870.217 billion which shows an increase of 12.5% over the current year allocation of Rs.773.237 billion. The 12% increase in expenditure is primarily in the employee related expenses which could not have been avoided. Similarly, the impact of increasing utilities has been absorbed. Our austerity policy shall continue during the next financial year. We have introduced major cuts in operating expenses. However, it would not be done at the cost of social sectors.

Mr. Speaker,

The Development portfolio for next financial year is Rs.283.5 billion which includes Rs.228 billion on account of Provincial and District ADP.

By now there is clear understanding within the Government of Sindh that “development” requires a medium to long -term strategy,

which is essential for allocating resources rationally keeping the overall objectives in sight. It is thus no longer, about year to year financing for a scattered set of schemes that will lead us to attain our goals that we have set for the “overall growth; job creation and better services” for our people.

Mr. Speaker,

It is in this perspective that I would be highlighting our challenges; attainments and future targets so that I am able to present a cohesive vision and performance and not just plain figures. Let me at the outset emphasize that in the last five years (FY 2013-14 to 2017-18) the Government of Sindh has made sizeable investments in the social, economic and infrastructure sectors for overall development of the province.

This approach is also reflective of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the province. The government has prioritized goals of Good Health and Wellbeing, Quality Education, Clean water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Decent work and Economic Growth. In addition, Gender Equality, and Climate Action are cross cutting goals.

As I move forward, I will put before the house, the overall attainments in last five years together with a review of the outgoing year and highlight next year’s target as a part of medium- term strategy.

Mr. Speaker,

I would like to highlight the injustice meted out to our province in the Federal PSDP. Overall size of the federal PSDP is Rs.951.0 billion with Rs.127.0 billion of Foreign Project Assistance (FPA). Out of above portfolio, Sindh specific schemes are 50 both ongoing and new with an allocation of Rs.33.7 billion. Further, total schemes included in the Federal PSDP 2019-20; which are executed by the Government of Sindh are 12 having an allocation of Rs.4.89 billion as compared to Rs.15.0 billion in 2018-19 and Rs.27.3 billion in 2017-18.

In terms of the Karachi portfolio; it may be recalled that the Prime Minister announced a package of Rs.162 billion for Karachi on March 30, 2019. There are only 19 Karachi based schemes with a total allocation of Rs.12.1 billion. The new schemes for Karachi are only 6 with an allocation of Rs.3.9 billion.

This year after assuming office in August 2018; we made adjustments in the Budget 2018-19 by reducing the size of the provincial ADP from Rs.252 billion to Rs.223 billion in the background of fiscal tightening and low transfers in the first quarter of the year. The uncertainties impacted the “development financing” in multiple ways; other than reduction in the overall kitty; it impacted timeliness as well.

Hence, Finance Department was able to release only Rs.130 billion (till June 3, 2019) against Provincial & District ADP. As against this total release, the total expenditure expected till end June

2019 is approximately Rs.110 billion. We acknowledge that the spending is even lower than releases and this is on account of delay and uncertainty which remained throughout the year. Despite this situation, the provincial departments are expected to complete 453 schemes by June 2019.

EDUCATION

Mr. Speaker,

Education is the most important criteria for individual as well as collective development of a society and a state and it is the basic bedrock upon which whole building of prosperity and human development stands. Education enlightens the masses and inculcates the values of tolerance, social justice and democracy. This is why when it comes to allocation of resources, education takes preference over all other sectors.

The allocation for school education is increased in non-development budget from Rs.170.832 in year 2018-19 billion to Rs.178.618 billion in next financial year 2019-20. Whereas, on development side, Rs.15.15 billion are allocated in ADP 2019-20.

Mr. Speaker,

We have developed Sindh Education Sector Plan & Roadmap (2019-23) through a consultative process. The civil society, intelligentsia and academia were taken on board considering them equal stakeholder in development of the society. The new sector plan focuses on providing additional classrooms to accommodate fresh entrants to the schools and ensuring a conducive environment in schools in terms of provision of clean drinking water facilities, toilets and compound walls to ensure retention of students especially girl students. Girls' education has been given a significant preference and sufficient funds have been proposed for girls' transportation in the rural areas in order to address the issue of low female participation in the schools.

We have also taken steps to bring the 'Out of School Children' into the educational system. In this connection, the Directorate of Literacy & Non-formal Education has been given significant allocation to partner with community-based organizations (CBOs) who would arrange for tutors, while the Government would provide school building in evening hours. The CBOs will be given management cost on 'per child basis'.

Mr. Speaker,

Public Private Partnership Node of School Education & Literacy Department has been strengthened to work in collaboration

with Education Management Organizations (EMOs) to impart quality education to the students.

Another area of our focus is early childhood education. Sindh has taken lead over other provinces, and has approved early childhood care and education policy. We have already established 1500 ECE classes in our government schools, while we plan to establish another 1500 ECE classes in the coming financial year 2019-20.

For the purpose of efficient management and evidence-based planning, the School Education & Literacy Department has conducted census of all government schools during January and February 2019 through the use of technology. Now we have real time accurate data available which will not only help to improve decision-making but will also enable us to utilize our resources optimally.

Mr. Speaker,

Under the School Education; major emphasis during year 2018-19 remained on the “Rehabilitation & Expansion of High Priority 4560 Schools”; The schools which had high enrolment and required adequate facilities of classrooms; washrooms; water; electricity and adequate teaching faculty to encourage better learning environment and create space for additional enrolment. The School Education Department would complete 1437 units by end June 2019. Further, 1973 Government Schools have been provided with Clean & Safe

Drinking Water facilities and another 367 schools will be provided with clean & Safe Drinking Water through a new development scheme.

The School Education portfolio has been allocated Rs.15.15 billion for 279 schemes (188 on-going and 91 new schemes). Further the major initiatives incorporated for next year are:

- ⇒ Construction of '06' Room Building for 20 Shelter-less Primary Schools
- ⇒ Rehabilitation of 113 Dangerous Primary Schools having high enrolment (with Additional Class Rooms and Provision of Missing Facilities)
- ⇒ Establishment of 35 Model School Complexes by converting Existing High Schools along with their Feeder Primary Schools into better Learning Centers
- ⇒ From the "High Priority 4,560 schools" 42 schemes both primary and secondary having 1,772 schools would be completed in 2019-20.

SINDH EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Mr. Speaker,

The Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) was earlier able to make a major breakthrough on the side of access; when it increased the enrolment from 256,000 to 550,000 (100%) in a record period of three years.

We are proposing an allocation of Rs.9.597 billion in the budget of Sindh Education Foundation for the next financial year 2019-20.

COLLEGE EDUCATION

Mr. Speaker,

The allocation for college education is increased in non-development budget from Rs.15.777 billion in the year 2018-19 to Rs.18.094 billion in next financial year 2019-20. Whereas, on development side, Rs.4 billion are allocated in ADP 2019-20.

Major development initiatives in College Education Department for ADP 2019-20 are:

- ⇒ 17 new degree colleges are planned to be established in districts of Karachi (Korangi, Malir, West), Hyderabad, Umerkot, Sukkur, Jamshoro, Shikarpur, Jacobabad and in Sanghar.
- ⇒ Construction / rehabilitation and provision of furniture is planned for existing colleges in different districts through different schemes
- ⇒ Provision of missing facilities for Gadap and PanoAkil Cadet Colleges has been proposed in 2019-20.

UNIVERSITIES AND BOARDS

Mr. Speaker,

The allocation for Universities & Boards Department is increased in non-development budget from Rs.9.529 billion in year 2018-19 to Rs.10.585 billion in next financial year 2019-20.

For the Universities and Boards; the Government has earmarked Rs.3.0 billion for FY 2019-20, through which various initiatives relating to higher education will be financed; such as:

- ⇒ Establishment of Center of Robotics, Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain - at Sukkur IBA University.
- ⇒ Establishment of Thar Institute of Technology, NED Campus of Tharparkar.
- ⇒ Establishment of Sindh University Campus at Badin; and Mirpurkhas

HEALTH

Mr. Speaker,

Health is a high priority with the Government of Sindh. Significant investments have been made over the years in the preventive program; primary health largely through PPHI. Many major health institutions/ hospitals have been provided funds both

through grants as well as development financing such as the SIUT, Indus Hospital, JIMS, JPMC, NICH, NICVD with its 8 Satellite Units and 9 Mobile Chest Pain Units in Karachi.

Mr. Speaker,

The current revenue expenditure of Health Department excluding medical education has been significantly increased by 19% from Rs.96.8 billion in CFY 2018-19 to Rs.114.4 billion in FY 2019-20.

For FY year 2018-19, Rs.13.5 billion was allocated for 170 schemes and by June 3, 2019, Rs. 4.61 billion were expended against a release of Rs.8.01 billion. 12 schemes are likely to be completed by June 2019, which will improve access to quality healthcare services. Few highlights of major achievements are as under:

- ⇒ A 50 bedded Medical & Surgical ICU; Casualty & OPD Departments have been established at the Liaquat University Hospital and Ghulam Muhammad Mahar Medical College Hospital, Sukkur.
- ⇒ “Strengthening of Monitoring & Surveillance of Health Systems”, has been launched with the assistance of USAID and a Health Management Information System (HMIS) has been developed for better governance;

- ⇒ Several multi-disciplinary services, like pediatric cardiology, have been added to SIUT;
- ⇒ Vaccinators' strength enhanced to 2,768. Recruitment of additional 1733 vaccinators is in process;
- ⇒ TB Control Program established 350TB DOTS Clinics; installed 110 machines for rapid diagnosis of TB and drug resistance within two hours, in public sector facilities.

Mr. Speaker,

For ADP 2019-20, the sector is being provided similar allocation as the out-going year of Rs.13.50 billion. Few of the major targets envisaged are:

- ⇒ Procurement of Machinery /Equipment for different departments at the CMC Hospital Larkana at an estimated cost of Rs.600 million.
- ⇒ Community Mental Health Services Program in Sindh with an estimated cost of Rs.275.00 million to improve the mental health services.
- ⇒ Maternal and Child Health Care Center at Jamshoro with grant assistance of JICA.
- ⇒ A 200- bedded Hospital has been planned for Sukkur either through PPP framework or through development financing.

It is expected that with completion of 43 schemes during 2019-20, service delivery would be further strengthened at all tiers. The effort would be reinforced through more effective implementation of preventive programs including Immunization, AIDS, Hepatitis, Malaria, TB Control, Blindness Control etc. for which a provision of Rs.4.08 billion has been earmarked.

Mr. Speaker,

It is unfortunate that Federal Government issued notification of taking over control of National Institute of Cardiovascular disease (NICVD), Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Centre (JPMC) and National Institute of Child Health (NICH), three major health facilities in the province without any discussion with Provincial Government on devising a mechanism for such transfer. This decision has created uncertainty and ambiguity that has affected the service delivery system. Ministry of National Health Service should have held preparatory meetings with the Provincial Government to have devised the mechanism. Provincial Government have already filed a review petition in the Supreme Court and expect that our contribution will be recognized and hope for the favourable outcome.

Provincial government has made significant investments in the three health facilities and some of our projects are in pipeline. Provincial Government with its hard work and dedication have made JMPC, NICVD and NICH state of the art Institutions with huge

budgetary allocation directed for their improvement and expansion. I would like to mention as to what extent we have increased resources to these institutes. I would only give you example of NICVD when Federal Government handed over to us its allocation was Rs.355 Million in the year 2011-12 and we have gradually increased its allocation to Rs.8.876 billion in 2018-19.

Mr. Speaker,

Our government has given special attention to manage cardiovascular diseases. In this regard, National Institute of Cardiovascular diseases (NICVD) has done commendable job and it is the biggest center for the treatment of heart attack and primary angioplasty in the world. It is providing timely and accessible cardiac services to the people of Sindh at their doorstep totally free of cost. I will just mention few of its services:

- ⇒ Earlier there were **six chest pain** units functional in Karachi. This year we added **three more units** in Karachi. This service is one of its kinds and is available for 24/7 throughout the year. Chest Pain Units are launched for speedy access and fast diagnosis with early initiation of treatment.
- ⇒ Also, I would like to mention that earlier we established **NICVD satellite centers at Tando Muhammad Khan, Larkano, Hyderabad and Sehwan** in collaboration with the Government of Sindh.

⇒ This year we established four new NICVD satellite centers at Khairpur, Sukkur, Mithi and Nawabshah These are modern and well equipped cardiac facilities are providing 100% free of cost, 24/7 cardiac emergency care by internationally and locally trained cardiac specialists, paramedical staff and technicians.

We have also improved infrastructure and service delivery at JPMC considerably. The emergency department in JMPC and its Cyber Knife Project have already begun functioning.

We feel the Provincial Government is running these institutions in a best possible way because we are very close to them. Therefore, Sindh government should be allowed to help them flourish further under its administrative control.

Mr. Speaker,

SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES UNDER PPP:

⇒ To provide better facilities with experienced and professional management, our Government handed over various Health Facilities of remote areas through PPP Node to reputable Partners likewise HANDS, Integrated Health Services(IHS), Medical Emergency Resilience Foundation (MERF) and INDUS Hospital for better treatment to the people of Sindh.

Mr. Speaker,

Grants to Public Sector Autonomous Institutions Sindh Institute of Urology & Transplantation: -

- ⇒ The Government of Sindh is providing Rs.5.6 billion to SIUT as a grant in next financial year (2019-20) to sustain its services at Karachi and for its new initiatives in other cities.
- ⇒ Considering the quality services of liver transplantation provided at Pir Abdul Qadir Shah Jeelani Institute of Medical Sciences, Gambat, District Khairpur Mirs, the Peoples Government has increased the grant by 60% from Rs.2.00 billion to Rs.3.6 billion during financial year 2019-20.
- ⇒ Considering the need of Blood Diseases treatment to the poor masses of the Province, the Peoples Government has allocated an amount of Rs.500.00 million for the financial year 2019-20.
- ⇒ An allocation of Rs. One Billion is earmarked for endowment fund for the welfare HIV/AIDS infected persons during financial year 2019-20

LAW AND ORDER

Mr. Speaker,

Law and Order situation is directly related to social as well as economic development of people. Our government has given continued priority to law and order as this sector is integral part of good governance. Resultantly law and order situation has significantly improved over the years. Sindh Government has been providing adequate resources to Police Department as well as other law enforcing agencies to ensure that they develop their capacity in the wake of challenges of law and order and terrorism. We have adopted three pronged strategy to combat law and order challenges; building capacity of Human Resource through trainings, utilizing latest technology particularly use of IT and recognizing the services of those who embrace Shahadat or get injured.

The allocation for Law & Order Sector is increased in non-development budget from Rs.100.483 in year 2018-19 billion to Rs.109.788 billion in next financial year 2019-20.

In the current financial year, numerous milestone were achieved, I would mention few of them:

- ⇒ I.T. Labs and Reporting Rooms at Offices and Police Stations throughout Sindh have been established.

- ⇒ Disbursement as **compensation** was made to Shaheed and injured personnel of security forces from the allocated **Rs.1000 Million**
- ⇒ The **training** to the newly recruited Police Constables has been provided at Pak Army Training Centers with the cost of **Rs.661 Million**.
- ⇒ Outstanding Performing Officers were granted cash rewards.
- ⇒ Five **Facilitation centers** will be established at Divisional level wherein common man will come for the redress of their grievances like issuance of character verification, report of loss of valuable things, complaint of the crime on the spot, missing child, domestic violence, vehicle theft etc, This is the landmark project of Sindh Police
- ⇒ **3690 Police Personnel** have been **recruited through NTS** and recruitment of **4507 Police Personnel** is under process.
- ⇒ Bomb Disposal Squads equipment has been enhanced with latest and modern technology.

Mr. Speaker,

A large number of schemes are proposed, particularly in the following areas for the financial year 2019-20:

- ⇒ Revamping of Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) and creating a professional & dedicated force styled as Counter Terrorism Force (CTF).
- ⇒ Sindh Police will establish additional 259 Reporting Rooms under an ADP scheme in the next financial year 2019-20 to streamline the processes and have easy access to the public.
- ⇒ In order to fill in the gaps of actual requirement of police force, we plan to create 3000 new Posts in different grades in budget 2019-20.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND POVERTY REDUCTION PROGRAM

Mr. Speaker,

The Government of Sindh has allocated Rs.12.3 billion for Social Protection and Poverty Reduction program in the development budget of 2019-20. Under this, there will be focus on 3 major interventions (i) Peoples Poverty Reduction Program (PPRP), (ii) Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) and (iii) Social Protection. The

ongoing umbrella program of Accelerated Action Plan (AAP) for improving Nutrition and containing malnourishment and stunting will be a cross cutting intervention across the three major interventions.

This is by now known to the house that; PPRP formerly the UC Based Poverty Reduction Programme (UCBPRP) was initially started as a pilot project in Shikarpur & Kashmore-Kandhkot and was then expanded to Tharparkar and Jacobabad. Since last year; it was taken to six more districts i.e. Khairpur, Sanghar, Badin, Thatta, Umerkot and Mirpurkhas. Further 8 more districts were added through EU funded SUCCESS program with grant assistance of 62.0 million Euro.

- ⇒ Under this program, by now more than 400,000 households have been mobilized; these households are provided with either interest free loans; skill development opportunities. We have added component of housing and micro enterprise to these interventions.
- ⇒ For FY 2019-20, PPRP will be expanded to six remaining districts i.e. Ghotki, Sukkur, Naushero Froze, Shaheed Benazirabad and Rural UCs of Hyderabad & Karachi.

Mr. Speaker,

Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS)

In the meanwhile; Government of Sindh has prepared a Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) with technical assistance of the European Union (EU); and this was approved by Sindh Cabinet in October 2019. The strategy has been developed for poverty alleviation in the rural and urban areas of the Province. The PRS will capitalize on the social capital created by PPRP and it will go further step towards poverty reduction through “development of Rural Growth Centres” for stimulating economic activities. It plans to address Urban Poverty through income generation activities.

Accelerated Action Plan (AAP) for Reduction of Stunting and Malnutrition.

Mr. Speaker,

The Government of Sindh is cognizant of the issue of vulnerability to hunger and malnutrition. It is a complex issue and requires long term, persistent efforts. The Government is highly sensitive to the issue and we wish to address this seriously.

In this context; a ten-year multi-sectorial Accelerated Action Plan (AAP) for Reduction of Stunting and Malnutrition stands approved. AAP aims at achieving the goal of reducing stunting from

48% to 30% by 2021 and then 15% by 2026. It is under implementation through the relevant Departments such as Health, Population Welfare, Local Government, Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries etc.

As I said, it requires persistent handling; during 2018-19; we were able to attain following milestones:

- ⇒ 1,401,133 children (5-59 months) have been screened and 77,648 malnourished children have been registered at Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP) sites. (167 OTP sites established)
- ⇒ 467,876 women (Pregnant Lactating Women (PLWs)) received TT2 vaccination
- ⇒ 338,432 Antenatal Care (ANC4) visits were conducted by the Lady Health Workers (LHWs) Community Midwives (CMWs) for counseling at community level and 157,649 ANC4 visits conducted at the facility level.
- ⇒ Ready to use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), Iron folic acid, deworming tablets, safe delivery kits etc. were provided at OTP sites.

⇒ 7995 Household received 5 goats and 10 hens; 55 Fish Ponds have been constructed; 200 farmer field schools set-up for on- job training related to agriculture and 555 kitchen garden demonstrations undertaken.

For 2019-20, we stand committed to larger and bigger gains in terms of improving nutrition; health care for containing malnutrition.

Mr. Speaker,

WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Sindh is the most urbanized province of the country having 34% of the country's urban population and we know that urbanization puts pressure on water supply, waste water treatment and disposal and solid waste management services. Given Sindh's population of 47.886 million; the estimated demand for drinking water is 1,538 MGD. The waste water generation is estimated at 1,076.6 MGD. Against the present demand of drinking water, there is a shortfall of 30% to 40% of water largely due to less availability, system losses and inadequate infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker,

In fiscal year of 2018-19, GoS provided Rs.37.73 billion for 267 water supply & sanitation schemes of Public Health Engineering and Local Government, of which 27 schemes have been completed. Overall releases and the expenditures remained low due to recent fiscal crunch. Rs.15.90 billion was released and Rs.7.87 billion could be spent by June 2019.

In 2019-20 ADP, Government has allocated Rs.35.90 billion. It is slightly lower than last year but it constitutes sizeable share of ADP. It is planned that of the 372 schemes, at least 218 would be completed.

- ⇒ PHED has included 13 schemes costing Rs.22.95 billion with allocation of Rs.6.25 billion in ADP 2019-20 relating to containing contamination of fresh water bodies. This includes “Elimination of Urban Sewerage Discharging in Irrigation Canals and Lakes” in Sindh Costing Rs.3.57 billion (Phase II).
- ⇒ Rehabilitation of non- functional water supply and drainage schemes in Sindh Phase- II Costing Rs.4.01 billion

WOMEN DEVELOPMENT, MINORITIES & EMPOWERMENT OF DISABLED PERSONS

Mr. Speaker,

Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah said that no nation can ever be worthy of its existence that cannot take its women along with men. No struggle can ever succeed without women participating side by side with men. World experience has proved it true that’s why, Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto also had strong

vision and commitment to improve the well being and social role of women in the society. We continue to follow the footsteps of our leader and have introduced the number of interventions to materialize these goals, be it through legislation, financial support or administrative measures, ultimately leading to social, economic, political and legal empowerment of women. The important legal measures includes legislation on women harassment, early child marriages, domestic violence etc.

Mr. Speaker,

Likewise, the issues of minorities have always remained a part of priority agenda from Quaid-e-Azam down to our great leaders Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, minorities have never been looked down upon and never neglected. We have spent a lot of money during every tenure of our Government for their overall welfare and well being. We have always provided adequate funding for renovations and reconstruction of their places of worships, extended grants to meet the requirements of the most abandoned sections of the minorities. Further, financial assistance is provided for medical treatment and scholarships to the deserving people of the minorities on regular basis each year.

Mr. Speaker,

Disabled persons are another section of the society, which needs our immediate attention and help. As a social responsibility, people's government has taken extra measures for their welfare and in order to sooth their pains and sufferings. In this regard, the Government has made some achievements during the last years and also plans to further improve the facilities in the coming year.

Our concern for the disabled persons is reflected from the fact that we have created a new full-fledged department for these special people so that Government may give focused attention on the issues of the neglected section of the society. The important interventions, which the peoples government is proud of introducing include:

- ⇒ Survey and Data collection of Persons including Children with Disabilities in the Province is under way which will be completed by June, 2019. It will help identify the number of disabled persons and will also improve planning and decision making
- ⇒ Establishment of Audio Visual Library at Govt. Special Education & Rehabilitation Complex at Gulistan-e-

Jauhar is also under process of procurement will be completed by June, 2019.

- ⇒ Stipend to all the enrolled Special Children have been granted @ Rs.2000/- per child per month.
- ⇒ Books are being transcribed to Braille System.
- ⇒ Promoting the extra- curricular activities amongst the special children.
- ⇒ Training program in different courses i.e. sign & Advance Sign Language, Braille Language, Montessori Teaching Method is under way at the Special Education Teachers Academy Sindh (SETAS), at Hyderabad, Department of empowerment of Person with Disabilities.

ROAD SECTOR

Mr. Speaker,

As per international standards the required road density for developed countries is 1 km per 1 sq. km and for developing countries it is 0.5 km/ sq. km. The road density in Sindh till 2017-18 was 0.41 km/ sq. km which is less than the international standards. Therefore, more efforts are required to improve the road density.

There were 559 schemes included in the ADP 2018-19, including 210 Road Sector schemes under Local Government Department. Total expenditure incurred by Local Govt. and Works & Services departments was Rs.28.0 billion and 182 schemes are expected to complete in June 2019. The major milestones attained are:

- ⇒ W/R of Thatta Pir Patho to Ghorabari road (40.62 kms).
- ⇒ Construction of New Bridges in Sindh (Shikarpur, Larkana, Khairpur, Sukkur, S.B.A, Jamshoro and Dadu).
- ⇒ Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Flyover Bridge Jail Phatak (Railway Crossing) Jacobabad.
- ⇒ Construction of Road along Kirthar Canal from Garhi Yaseen District Shikarpur to Garhi Kheero District Jacobabad (23.33 kms).
- ⇒ Construction and Improvement of Road Tando Muhammad Khan District (22 kms).
- ⇒ Construction of Flyover at Jamshoro Railway Crossing.

For the FY 2019-20, the total allocation for the W&S and LG Department is Rs.26. 86 billion and they have 431 schemes in hand. It is estimated that these Departments will be able to complete 192 schemes including following major schemes:

Sindh Provincial Road Improvement Project ADB Assisted
(328 kms @ cost of Rs.22.75 billion) this includes:

- ⇒ Thull to Kandhkot road (44 kms)
- ⇒ Sheranpur to Ratodero (36 kms)
- ⇒ Sanghar to Mirpurkhas via Sindhri (63 kms)
- ⇒ Tando Muhammad Khan to Badin (66 kms)
- ⇒ Digri to Naukot (55 kms)
- ⇒ Khyber to Sanghar via Tando Adam (64 kms)
- ⇒ Rehabilitation of Dual Carriageway from Steel Mill to Ghaghar Phatak 13.00 kms.

ENERGY

Mr. Speaker,

It is my utmost pleasure that the long term investments made by Pakistan Peoples Party Government over the years in infrastructure and service delivery have started producing results in all sectors like education, health, energy and roads. Here I would like to mention special contribution of Thar coal mining and power projects which have added 660 megawatts of electricity to the national grid this year. Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari while inaugurating the coal power plants termed it country's most

successful project envisioned by Shaheed Mohtaramma Benazir Bhutto and she believed that Thar's coal will provide electricity to whole Pakistan. Thar coal initiative will not only start a new era of social development of Sindh and Pakistan but also alleviate the long standing current account deficit of the country.

Mr. Speaker,

The allocation for Energy Sector increased in non-development budget from Rs.23.883 in year 2018-19 billion toRs.24.920 billion in next financial year 2019-20.

It is a fact that solution of energy crises of Pakistan lies with Sindh. Conventional energy from Thar coal and renewable energy from Jhimpir wind corridor will improve the energy mix profile and also fulfill our growing energy requirement.

Energy Department has facilitated in provision of electricity and gas to numerous villages. Different projects relating to provision of renewable energy to villages and schools were completed in the year 2018-19. Moreover, reconciliation of electric connections of Sindh Government and its entities with Hyderabad Electric Supply Company (HESCO), Sukkur Electric Power Company (SEPCO) and K-electric caused saving of billions of rupees.

Mr. Speaker,

For the coming year, an allocation of Rs.590.0 million has been earmarked for Electrification. It is planned to achieve following major milestones.

- ⇒ 570 villages are planned to be provided electricity by June 2020.
- ⇒ 248 Primary Health facilities to be given electricity through Solar PV technology.
- ⇒ Sindh Solar Energy project with World Bank support is to provide 420 MW on-grid and rooftop solar installations. 200,000 households in rural areas would be provided solar home systems.

IRRIGATION

Mr. Speaker,

The country is faced with water shortages and Sindh being a lower riparian faces severe water shortages as almost over 73 % of Sindh's region has brackish ground water. Sindh's irrigation system comprising of three barrages and fourteen major canals with total command area of 13.2 million acres and designed water carrying capacity of 134,000 cusecs. A large part of the infrastructure is over 5 decades old; requiring continuous maintenance spending.

The allocation for Irrigation Sector is increased in non-development budget from Rs.22.744 billion in year 2018-19 to Rs.23.070 billion in next financial year 2019-20.

With a view to conserve water, the Government plans to develop high efficiency irrigation systems; revive the freshwater bodies, build small dams and undertake lining for greater water availability. Due to limited surface water resources, it is believed that lining of main canals and minors will reduce conveyance losses from 15% to 30%. It is estimated that 285,371 acres of new land will be brought under cultivation with saving of 950 cusecs of water through lining of main canals and distributaries.

Mr. Speaker,

In the out-going year 2018-19, the Irrigation Sector was allocated Rs.33.0 billion and as against this Rs.22.1 billion were released on account of fiscal constraints. The Department was able to incur Rs.18.6 billion expenditure by 3rd June 2019. This expenditure facilitated in completing 56 schemes. Following Major Schemes Completed:

- ⇒ Drainage Scheme for District Badin at the cost of Rs.911.924 million.
- ⇒ Rehabilitation of Regulator on B S Feeder in Kashmore at the cost of Rs.1.37 billion.

- ⇒ Lining of Puran Distry in District Mirpurkhas at a cost of Rs.1.2 billion.
- ⇒ Protection Works to F P Bund in Hyderabad at a cost of Rs.2.28 billion.
- ⇒ Lining of Nabisar Branch Canal in Mirpurkhas at the cost of Rs.695.4 million.
- ⇒ Flood Protection Works in Kashmore at the cost of Rs.926.8 million.
- ⇒ Lining of Sattah Branch in District Sujawal at the cost of Rs.519.6 million.
- ⇒ Lining of Minors in District Daduat the cost of Rs.1.03 billion.
- ⇒ Construction of Re-charge Dams in Central Kohistan at the cost of Rs.877.0 million.
- ⇒ Construction of Two Dams in District Karachi at the cost of Rs.294.2million

Mr. Speaker,

Irrigation sector is being allocated Rs.22 billion in the ADP 2019-20 for 210.0 on-going schemes and 63 new schemes. The

Irrigation Department plans to undertake following major initiatives:

- ⇒ 163 schemes with allocation of Rs.11.5 billion are expected to be completed.
- ⇒ Rehabilitation Work on Guddu Barrage is under progress.
- ⇒ Rehabilitation & Replacement Works of Sukkur Barrage would be initiated with World Bank financing.
- ⇒ Lining of Naukot Branch System in Mirpurkhas with allocation of Rs.1.53 billion;
- ⇒ Installation of Solar Tube wells in District Khairpur at the cost of Rs.1.0 billion;
- ⇒ Drinking Water Scheme for Thar Region in Umerkot Rs.800 million;
- ⇒ Flood Protection Works Rs.834.213 Million.

INVESTMENT SECTOR

Mr. Speaker,

Sindh Government is working with the vision to develop and promote an investment friendly environment that boosts economic activity, brings value addition to all sectors of Economy and encourages Public Private Partnership for Socio-Economic development of Sindh. Government of Sindh has intervened to

improve the business climate & regulatory atmosphere for Ease of doing Business in Sindh. Doing business 2019 report ranked Pakistan at 136 out of 190 countries which is an improvement of 11 positions from 147 in 2018. Following activities will be initiated through Investment Department for the FY 2019-20.

Mr. Speaker,

Education City

Sindh Education City, spreading over 8900 acres, is one of the top most priority projects of the government of Sindh. Twenty local and foreign institutions have been allocated land to develop their academic campuses and some have completed their detailed design to commence construction of their campuses. The master plan of Education City has been completed and Government will start work on the first phase of infrastructure in the next year. This will be completed in five years at cost of Rs.13.9 billion.

Marble City

The Marble city Project in Karachi has tremendous investment and growth for the entrepreneurs based on high-end industrial knowledge, innovation and services. Marble city is planned over 300 acres of land along Northern bypass. The work on first phase of this project will be initiated in the next year and will be completed in five years at cost of Rs.2400 million.

Mr. Speaker,

Special Economic Zones

Keeping in view the great success of Special Economic Zones around the world, the government of Pakistan has passed Special Economic Zone Act, 2012. Sindh Investment Department is the supervisory authority for special Economic Zones in Sindh. It is pertinent to mention that first three zones have been granted with status of Special Economic Zone by GoP and all of them belong to Sindh which are following:

- ⇒ Khairpur Special Economic Zone
- ⇒ Bin Qasim Industrial Park
- ⇒ Korangi Creek Industrial Park

Another Special Economic Zone has also been approved which has been mentioned below

Dhabeji Special Economic Zone

The Government of Sindh has allocated 1530 acres of land to be developed as Dhabeji Special Economic Zone (DSEZ) in Thatta, a Priority Project under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which will facilitate the potential investors of china and other countries either start new enterprises or transfer their facilities to Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker,

Sindh Enterprise Development Fund (SEDF)

Sindh Enterprise Development Fund (SEDF) has been created by the government of Sindh to encourage investments in agri-business sector, inculcate entrepreneurial ability and to provide a major push to the wider agri-economy. SEDF has been able to mobilize private sector agri-business investments worth over Rs.9 billion, out of which projects worth Rs.4 billion have been implemented and remaining projects worth Rs.5 billion are in pipeline. This year government has placed Rs.442 Million for Financial Support for Doubling Rice Export from Sindh, Rs.55 Million for financial Support for Women entrepreneurship, Artisans and Farmers and Rs.240 million for Cotton Sector Value Addition Estate to increase production in agriculture and bring more Agri technology through private investors.

Sindh Investment Department is fully committed and dedicated in gathering support of foreign donor agencies. Presently, the concept of Technology Park is under consideration to be built in Karachi. This will be the first project of Information Technology which will attract foreign companies to invest in the field of Information Technology. Annual Development Schemes and special Economic zones will play key role in the economic development of the province. Moreover, substantial share in the budget of this year for this department will further enhance the capabilities which can enable us to propose new investment schemes for the province of Sindh.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Speaker,

Government of Sindh is cognizant of fact that for balanced growth of Sindh, urban development should address the infrastructure gaps for Karachi and simultaneously address the urban and municipal infrastructure needs of other major cities of Sindh. With this approach, GoS conducted Karachi Diagnostic Study, leading to Karachi Transformation Strategy for improving Karachi's liveability and enabling it to play its due role for provincial and national growth. The strategy resulted in various projects relating to Municipal Service Delivery, Urban Transport, Improved Urban Spaces, and Conducive Business Environment.

On the other hand; Urban Development Strategies for Hyderabad, Sukkur, and Larkana have been developed focusing on physical and economic development as well and environmental management of these cities and their hinterland.

Alongside, Development of Master Plans of 14 District Headquarter Towns have been undertaken. These focus on GIS database and mapping; long term strategic development with strategies for land use, zoning and economic development; short term priority infrastructure development; with a proposed implementation framework.

GoS under an MoU with Thar Foundation is also preparing Master Plan of Islamkot Town to facilitate it as the first SDGs complaint taluka of Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker,

In the context of Karachi; Government has unfolded a very robust implementation on ground, which is being augmented and speeded-up every year.

For coming FY, Government would focus on following amongst others:

- ⇒ S-III is a mega sewerage project costing Rs.36.11 billion and it is under implementation since last over a decade. It was 50% financed by Govt. of Pakistan. Unfortunately, the Federal Government has deleted this from PSDP 2019-20 after the decision of ECNEC that Federal Government will only finance 50% cost of original cost of Rs.7,900 million. Hence it has taken responsibility only for Rs.3.9 billion only.
- ⇒ Government of Sindh stands fully committed to this project. Work is in full swing in Lyari River Basin area. The treatment plant at Mauripur (TP-III) has been

rehabilitated to treat 77 MGD waste water and is operational. Work on Treatment Plant at Haroonabad (TP-I) having capacity of 100 MGD is planned to be completed by December 2019 enhancing the treatment capacity up to 177 MGD. In addition, out of 33.32 Kms of conduit /trunk sewers of Lyari basin, 28 Kms would be completed by July 2019. Similarly work on the Malir trunk sewers and treatment plant at Korangi (TP-IV) having capacity of 180 MGD would start during 2019-20. Sindh Government has kept an allocation of Rs.5.0billion in ADP 2019-20.

- ⇒ Implementation with 33% of financing by Federal another mega project; the K-IV with cost of Rs.25.55 billion is under implementation. Its 50% financed by Federal Government and it has provided Rs.6.99 billion. Govt. of Sindh has released Rs.7.96 billion and utilized this. The project is presently under review by NESPAK for its design and cost.
- ⇒ The Combined Effluent Treatment Plant costing Rs.11.8 billion is under Govt. By June, 2019, Rs.582.4 million was incurred on this project. The Federal Government has allocated Rs.500.0 million and the Government of Sindh has allocated Rs.2.0 billion for FY 2019-20.

Government of Sindh under the Mega Projects for Karachi City has invested Rs.29.0 billion during last three years (2016-17 to 2018-19) which has helped in completing 19 major projects of Karachi city.

Mr. Speaker,

For the coming FY, the Government of Sindh has earmarked Rs.36.0 billion under ADP 2019-20; in addition it has signed big investments worth US\$ 1.5 billion (Rs.226 billion) over a period of five years with International Development Partners for high priority sectors;

- ⇒ Karachi Neighborhood Improvement Project; a US\$98 million project aims to enhance public spaces in targeted neighborhoods; improve urban roads infrastructure and improve Ease of Doing Business. The project is already under execution.
- ⇒ Competitive and Livable City of Karachi (CLICK) is a US\$ 240 million intervention envisaging institutional strengthening & infrastructure financing of Local Councils in Karachi; overhaul of Urban Immoveable Property tax and improving Ease of Doing Business.
- ⇒ KWSSIP is a US\$ 105 million World Bank Assisted project, which focuses on long term strengthening of the KW&SB through multiple reforms.

- ⇒ BRT Yellow Line; US\$ 438 million project is yet another mega transport intervention for the city.
- ⇒ BRT RED Line: US\$ 561 million (ADB funded) has been approved and would soon be put into execution as one of the main transport corridor in the city.

AGRICULTURE

Mr. Speaker,

Agriculture plays a significant role in the country's economy and generates employment opportunities to more than 42.3% of the total work force and contributes 18.9% to the country's GDP. Sindh province's contribution in national production is 36% in rice, 29% in sugarcane, 34% in cotton and 15% in wheat.

For FY 2018-19, the Department incurred an expenditure of Rs.893.4 million by June 2019 as against releases of Rs.1.74 billion. The Department's allocation for ADP 2019-20 is pitched at Rs.8.4 billion, which includes Rs.4.7 billion of Foreign Assistance. It is expected that the department will attain following targets in the coming year:

- ⇒ Lining of 1850 watercourses through the Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPEP)
- ⇒ Subsidy for provision of 400 Thrashers, 400 Rotavators, 400 Zero tillage, 500 Auto loaders, 20,000 Power sprayers, 500 Tractor trollies to the farmers,

- ⇒ 200,000 meters On -Farm Drainage structures will be provided, 125,000 hectares land levelling will be made through precision land levelling equipment,
- ⇒ High Tunnel Farming for 150 acres; 870 farmers to be provided Drip Irrigation;

LIVESTOCK & FISHERIES

Mr. Speaker,

Livestock has an important role in promoting socio-economic development in rural areas. It contributed to 11.1% to national GDP and provided 58.9% of value addition in agriculture sector during 2017-18 in Pakistan. It is highly labour intensive and involves a large segment of rural work force. It is a source of cash income, providing a vital and often the only source of income for the rural household and playing an important role in poverty alleviation and foreign exchange earnings.

Mr. Speaker,

Under ADP 2018-19, 46 schemes including 02 new initiatives were taken-up. The amount released for this component was Rs.652.5 million; against which Rs.310.8 million were spent. Major achievements in 2018-19 are:

- ⇒ 23 veterinary centers established for providing basic veterinary services to farmers
- ⇒ 03 Artificial Insemination mobile units established
- ⇒ Preparation of (CPP) vaccines at Vaccine Production Unit Tando jam resulting in adequate vaccine production & disease control
- ⇒ 02 New Fish hatcheries established at Shikarpur & Naushero Feroz;
- ⇒ 8 million fish seed stocked in public waters to replenish the diminishing fish stocks;

The ADP 2019-20 allocation for Livestock & Fisheries is Rs.2.0 billion. It is expected that the Department would complete 20 schemes through this financing.

CLIMATE CHANGE & FOREST

Mr. Speaker,

Global warming has emerged as one of the major threats to our planet in this century and one of the major contributing factor to global warming is deforestation. Unfortunately Pakistan is amongst the list of top ten countries which are most vulnerable to climate change. Years of tree cutting have reduced the country's forest to approximately 2% of its ground area.

The Forest & Wildlife Department was given Rs.750.0 million in 2018-19 and as against releases of Rs.381.2million; Rs.316.4 million expenditure was incurred by June, 2019.The Department was able to achieve major milestones when they succeeded in planting Mangroves over 50,000 acres at coastal belt of Sindh.

Mr. Speaker,

For FY 2019-20, an allocation of Rs.1 billion has been earmarked. Tree plantation and enhancing green cover will be the major focus in the coming year. Irrigated Plantation will be done over 20,000 acres, reforestation in riverine forest on 80,000 acres, Road side and Canal side plantation on 600 kms, raising of 40 million nursery plants.

During next financial year; two major projects have been included in the Forest sector:

- ⇒ Plantation of One Billion trees under the, “Green Pakistan Program” with 50% funding by GOP and 50% by Government of Sindh, over a period of 5 years.

A “Sarsabz Sindh” project for making Sindh Green and Environment friendly with the target of 100 million tree plantation in next 5 years. The department will attain a target of 200,000 tree plantation in FY 2019-20.

WELFARE MEASURES

100% Pensioners on Direct Credit System

The Finance Department has achieved a milestone of converting all manual pensioners to DCS (Direct Credit System) leaving the Government of Punjab, KPK and Baluchistan behind. Now onwards, all the pensioners i.e. 200,667 in Sindh shall receive their monthly pension payments directly in their bank accounts at their door step with honour and dignity and without any trouble. All pension types have been shifted from the manual processing through cheques to online payment directly in bank accounts through SAP system.

CASH TRANSFERS TO THE MASSES

Benazir Income Support Program was vision of our leadership. Government of Sindh has launched cash transfer scheme to mitigate the effects of increasing prices of essential commodities and economic shocks. During the current financial year, Rs.4.2 billion are being disbursed as cash transfer amongst chronically poor that have been identified by Benazir Income Support Program. For the next fiscal an amount of Rs.4.2 billion will be disbursed. Under this measure, Rs.2,000 cash grant is distributed among the most as a Ramzan / Eid/ miscellaneous relief to the most needy persons registered under Benazir Income Support Programme, in a very transparent and efficient manner. An allocation of Rs.4.2 billion has been kept for this initiative for year 2018-19.

UNIVERSAL ACCIDENTAL INSURANCE SCHEME

Life is precious and we realize that it is our responsibility to ensure its safety. We feel sorry for every loss and especially accidental deaths are a cause of concern for us all. We have been trying to take measures to make our province more secure and accident free. However, to compensate for precious loss of life in case of accidents, we have launched Universal Accident Insurance Scheme. Under the scheme Rs.100,000/- are provided to relatives in case of accidental death. Rupees one billion are allocated for this initiative.

SCHOLARSHIPS STUDENTS SECURING A-1 GRADE

Scholarships to all Students Securing A-1 Grade in Matriculation and Intermediate: This scholarship shall be provided as an incentive to students for their efforts in securing higher grades, regardless of the family income in include motivation in them. The scholarship amount has been provided to students at different slabs for all educational boards of Sindh. A large number of deserving students will benefit from this schemes.

ABOLISHMENT OF REGISTRATION AND EXAMINATION FEE

Abolishment of Registration and Examination fee for all Matric and Intermediate Boards in Sindh: Under this scheme

both fee for all matric and intermediate boards has been abolished to benefit our students. This scheme will continue in year 2019-20.

RELIEF MEASURES

Now I would describe some of relief measures provided by Provincial Government from time to time to different sections of society, including Sindh Government Employees and Pensioners during current financial year 2017-18.

Increase in Salary of Govt. of Employees

- ⇒ The output of Government is directly related to the performance of every individual employee. All the employees of Government of Sindh have my gratitude. For next financial year 2019-20 we are proposing an increase of 15% in pay as Adhoc Relief Allowance of all Government employees and pensioners.
- ⇒ The government of Sindh has introduced Special Health Care Allowance and enhanced Health professional Allowance for BPS-17 to BPS-20 for doctors.
- ⇒ The compensation package for Shaheed and Injured personnel of Police Department has been doubled from Rs.5 Million to Rs.10 Million. Accordingly Rs.2 billion have been proposed in the budget 2019-20.

- ⇒ The minimum wage rate has been kept at par with the Federal Government at the rate of Rs.17, 500 per month.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP UNIT

Mr. Speaker,

It gives me immense pleasure to inform this august House that internationally renowned the Economist magazine's - Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) in its report "Infrascopes 2018" has ranked Government of Sindh's (GoS) PPP Unit as 6th best in all the Asian countries PPP Programs. The report evaluated the environment of PPPs across 17 countries and as an exception, only two regions Gujrat (India) and Sindh (Pakistan), based on their outstanding performance in PPPs were included. Sindh has also outperformed Federal PPP Program, which is 3 ranks lower at 9. This is a polite response to those who question the governance of Sindh Government. Apart from the recognition at the international level, the governance in Sindh can be witnessed in the outsourcing of more than hundred health facilities which are functioning extraordinarily under PPP Mode.

In education, more than 60,000 students in Sindh are getting decent education under PPP projects in addition to schools already outsourced to reputed organizations on competitive basis by the SEF. It shows private participation has brought about better environment and efficiency in the education sector in Sindh.

Mr. Speaker,

I am also delighted to inform the people of Ghotki and Kandhkot as very soon the construction of “Ghotki – Kandhkot bridge” with the project cost of Rs14 billion will start under PPP mode. The delay in starting the work was observed due to tough selection of the site which took months and now finally the design has been fixed at the original place. This Landmark project will immensely benefit the commuters and cargo movement between province of Baluchistan, Sindh and Punjab by reducing distance and saving precious time & fuel.

In addition to that I would like to share good news with people of Karachi that we are also going to launch the biggest infrastructure road project of Karachi “Malir Expressway” The project’s feasibility study has been completed and soon we will launch it under PPP mode. Another project “Link Road” for facilitating heavy traffic from N5 to M9 shall also be launched under PPP, next year.

Mr. Speaker,

Public Private Partnership is also the only solution to offset scarcity of funds as many more projects in PPPs shall ensure transparency, efficiency, private capital mobilization and creation of a system of deferred payments against upfront infrastructure development. Going forward, we intend to develop a structured mechanism to screen large infrastructure and social PPPs at the Planning stage so that greater value for money is attained.

Mr. Speaker,

GOVERNANCE REFORMS

Public Financial Management (PFM) Reforms

Public Financial Management is a cross-cutting theme that can affect public service delivery and economic development in the fashion it is practiced. Presently, the major efforts of reforms are focused on: institutional development, improvement in legal and regulatory framework, capacity building, transparency in budget formulation and execution, tax revenue mobilization.

Transparency in Budget Formulation & Execution

The Budget Strategy Paper (BSP) is now a regular feature to make budget formulation process more transparent and participative. Along with BSP, Quarterly Budget Execution Reports (QBERs) are published to ensure transparency in budget execution by providing detailed information on budget allocation (original and revised) and actual expenditure incurred during each quarter.

Institutional Development

Specifically, Government has established (i) Debt Management Unit to systematically manage provincial debt portfolio on modern lines; (ii) Tax Reform Unit to initiate evidence-led tax policy formulation, based on research and empirical analysis. It also lends support to coordination among provincial tax collecting agencies,

and better tax administration; (iii) Internal Audit Unit, initially in Finance, Education, Health, and Home Departments, prepared risk-based audit plan and conducted internal audits.

Improvement in Legal and Regulatory Framework

The notable efforts include preparation of (i) Public Finance Administration Act, 2018, (ii) Internal Audit Manual (iii) Internal Audit Charter, 2018, (iv) External Debt Manual, (v) Sindh Financial Rules, (vi) Treasury Rules, (vii) Capacity Development Strategy, (viii) Budget Manual; and (ix) Planning Manual.

Mr. Speaker,

Sindh Tax Revenue Mobilization

The tax receipts have increased from Rs.91.37 billion to Rs.185.62 billion (BE FY 2017-18) in three years after the implementation of STRMP. SRB publishes its quarterly and annual reports to publicly share its performance. STS collection has increased from Rs.33.67 billion to Rs.100 billion (BE FY 2017-18) during last 5 years, with 24.32% annual compound growth rate.

Property and Professional Tax Survey

The Government undertook a detailed on-ground digitized property and professional survey of Sukkur District to determine relevant increase in tax revenue. So far, in addition to the already recorded units of 39,590, the survey added 58,590 new units, making total units up to 98,064. It constitutes 148% increase.

Out of these units, 70,712 are in Sukkur, 15,485 are in Rohri, and 11,867 are in Pano Akil.

ICT Interventions

ADP Monitoring Dashboard is gradually shifting the manual system of monitoring and evaluation of the development schemes to an ICT-based one. This is an ongoing activity, which is adding value to monitoring and evaluation processes. In addition, a financial and fiscal dashboard is also being developed in Finance Department for transparency and better fiscal discipline. Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) connectivity is also being provided to 31 line departments for effective expenditure monitoring.

Capacity Development

Need-based specific capacity development trainings are being imparted related to the areas in public procurement, medium term budgeting framework, financial management, taxation, SAP, and advanced excel.

Procurement Certification and Procurement Performance Management System (PPMS)

Government of Sindh started capacity building/certification courses (in-class training as well as through Massive Open Online Courses - MOOC) in procurement rules and processes. So far, 555 officers/officials of Government of Sindh have been certified in procurement rules and processes. Additionally, a newly developed

Procurement Performance Management System (PPMS) has been launched to comply with the procurement procedures. It has registered more than 700 procuring agencies, and has uploaded bid evaluation data of more than 13,700 schemes. Now, all Notices Inviting Tenders (NITs) and Contracts are being processed through the PPMS.

Mr. Speaker,

CONCLUSION

We have always advocated for a balanced and responsible budget. That is what we believe in and that is what we presented today.

We are aware that we have challenges ahead. Although we have moved forward, but what we have covered till now are just a few steps, our destination is still a long way from here. But, I am certain that with the guidance of Almighty and His grace, we will tread on the path of opportunities, progress, prosperity and a long-lasting peace.

Here, I would like to thank the personnel of all the departments who have worked tirelessly for long hours to make this happen. In this regard, Finance Department, and Planning and Development Board stand out and hence deserve special praise at this point.

I would also like to thank all my peers and colleagues in this assembly, for their cooperation, for their innate desire of serving this

great land of Sindh, for their initiatives and contribution. None of these grand policies would have come to fruition without their support.

We are citizens of an ever-changing world. Every day dawns with a new challenge. I am sure that through the wisdom of this house and with the trust of people we will match the pace of change and propel this glorious land to future in a befitting manner. I want to reaffirm our resolve to the people that we will not languish and will strive to best of our abilities to realize their dreams of better today and future.

At the end, Mr. Speaker, I must again remind the Federal Government that its poor performance has a direct bearing on the performance of our Government. Though, I assure the people of Sindh that despite the hurdles we have never and will never compromise on service delivery. But, I fear that if such apathy on part of Federal Government towards the economic affairs of the country continues, I am afraid that it will be at the cost of our provincial and national goals. Our goal to serve the people of this great nation and realize their aspirations to the best of our abilities.

I will end my speech on this quote of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

“The theories, the dogmas and the scripts stand outside the gates of history. The dominant factor is the aspiration of the people and the ability to seek total identification with it.”

Let us join our hands today. In complete harmony should we stand.
We must strive to achieve our targets for the prosperity of Sindh and
the progress of Pakistan.

Pakistan Zindabad