

41. **Punjab Young Entrepreneur Programme:** Punjabi's are known for their entrepreneurial leadership but unfortunately our education system in the past did not focus on development of these essential entrepreneurial skills in students studying in schools. We believe that entrepreneurial skill is the main pillar of strength of our society and on this strong foundation, we intend to march forward. Punjab Young Entrepreneur Programme is a start-up programme where class 11<sup>th</sup> students would be encouraged to propose their original business ideas, which would be supported by the Government by providing seed money @ ₹2000 per student. This programme is aimed to instill financial and leadership skills in the students, which would equip them to take charge of their careers later in their life. I propose an allocation of ₹50 crore during FY 2022-23 for this purpose.

42. AAP Government is committed to take education to the next level and would continue providing adequate budgetary support to all on-going schemes, few such schemes have been outlined below:

- a. **Mid-Day Meal:** An allocation of ₹473 crore has been made in FY 2022-23 for providing Mid-Day Meal to 17 lakh students i.e. an increase of 35% over FY 2021-22 (BE).
- b. **Samagraha Siksha Abhiyaan:** ₹1,351 crore have been proposed this year as against ₹1,231 crore in FY 2021-22 (RE).
- c. **Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for OBC Students:** I propose an allocation of ₹67 crore for providing scholarship to one lakh OBC students in FY 2022-23.
- d. **Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC Students:** ₹79 crore is proposed for providing scholarship to 2.40 lakh SC students during FY 2022-23.

## HIGHER EDUCATION

43. India Skill Report 2022 tells that only 46.20% of graduates are employable in India. Punjab, unfortunately neither features in the list of top providers of employable people nor in employability. This Government aims to improve the quality of higher education by making educational institutions dynamic, demand-driven, quality conscious, efficient and forward looking. The focus would not only be on discipline-based teaching but also on skill-based teaching.

44. Punjabi University, Patiala, initially mandated primarily to develop and promote our mother-tongue Punjabi has evolved as a multi-disciplinary educational system. However, it has become a victim of mismanagement in the past and so to revive this University, I allocate ₹200 crore in FY 2022-23 to tide over the ongoing financial crisis.

45. **Provision of Infrastructure Facilities in Nine New Libraries:** I propose an allocation of ₹30 crore in FY 2022-23 for providing infrastructure facilities in libraries of Government Colleges of 9 districts i.e Tarn Taran, Barnala, Ludhiana, Fazilka, Malerkotla, Moga, Pathankot, Sri Muktsar Sahib and Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar.

46. **CM Scholarship to General Category Students for Giving Concession in University Fee:** In order to encourage the students of poor families especially of General Category studying in Government Colleges, AAP Government has decided to provide scholarship as concession in the fee, based on the marks obtained by the student. I propose an allocation of ₹30 crore for this purpose.

47. NCC has been the launch pad for career in armed forces, for which Punjabis are well known. NCC cadet strength of Punjab has seen

an uptick. NCC units and training centers are being run by the State Government and play a pivotal role for training Punjabi youth to become disciplined, patriotic, and responsible citizens. I propose an initial allocation of ₹5 crore this year for improving infrastructure and creation of new facilities in NCC units and NCC training centers of the State.

48. AAP Government is committed to improve the basic infrastructure of all Government Colleges and for construction of new state-of-the-art degree colleges in educationally backward areas of the State and initially an allocation of ₹95 crore is proposed in the current financial year.

## **TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

49. With an aim to increase employability of our students and to be the top sourcing State of employable people, the focus of this Government would be on imparting practical training through internships, field visits, and skill development projects along with classroom training. With this resolution in mind, an allocation of ₹641 crore has been made with main focus on strengthening, modernization and expansion of the existing systems.

## **SPORTS & YOUTH SERVICES**

50. Punjab was a cradle for budding sportsmen. It won't be an overstatement if I may say that each Punjab village had potential medal winners in the past. But other States through their innovative sports policies marched ahead in producing world class sportspersons and even sportsmen and sportswoman belonging to Punjab played for other

States in the absence of any effective Sports Policy in Punjab. It is our Government's dream to bring Punjab back on the same pedestal as before. This year, I want to propose two new schemes for budding and outstanding sports person and accordingly I am provisioning ₹25 crore for this purpose.

51. The Government proposes to set up a state-of-the-art Stadium at Longowal, Sunam (district Sangrur) and adequate budgetary provision for the same shall be provided during the course of the year. Further, to raise the standard of Sports, existing stadiums would also be upgraded.

### **MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**

52. Medical Education is a keystone for health care services in any country. Medical Colleges are cradles, which have the potential to produce world class doctors, the paucity of whom is being felt with each passing day in India. Secondly, we don't want our medical students to go to countries like Ukraine to study medicine and therefore promise to provide best medical education eco-system in the State. With this objective, our Government proposes to set up 16 New Medical Colleges making total 25 Medical Colleges in the State over a period of next 5 years covering every corner of the State.

53. This year, I propose ₹1,033 crore for medical education which is an increase of 56.60% over FY 2021-22 (RE). The focus would be on up-gradation of existing State Government Medical Colleges and also to increase MBBS seats in these colleges. I am happy to announce that a new medical college i.e. Sant Baba Attar Singh State Institute of Medical Sciences, district Sangrur with 100 MBBS seats is being established. An initial allocation of ₹50 crore has been provided in FY

2022-23 for Sant Baba Attar Singh State Institute of Medical Sciences.

54. Our Government shall set up start-of-the-art “Punjab Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences” at Sahibzada Ajit Singh (S.A.S) Nagar, an appropriate provision shall be provided in FY 2022-23.

## HEALTH

Hon’ble Speaker Sir,

*“Changi Sehat Sab Ton Vaddi Daulat Hai”*

55. The health of any nation depends on the accessibility of equitable, affordable and accountable healthcare system by its citizens. It is a well-known fact that high out of pocket expenses are pushing people into poverty.

56. I would like to assure the people of Punjab that this most essential but highly neglected sector i.e. Health Sector has been accorded top priority in this budget. Our Government would ensure that no one in Punjab is denied of the basic healthcare facilities and goes un-treated due to lack of financial resources. I consider myself fortunate enough to be a part of the Government led by our leader Hon’ble Chief Minister Sardar Bhagwant Singh Mann Ji for envisioning a robust roadmap of schemes and initiatives to be undertaken for the people of the State in the health sector. I am happy to propose the budget outlay for health sector with an allocation of ₹4,731 crore that is an increase of 23.80% over that of FY 2021-22.

57. **Mohalla/ Pind Clinics:** Speaker Sir, our Government believes in providing “last mile delivery” of health care services to the people of Punjab irrespective of geographies, gender, class, caste, age, religion or any other form of discrimination. We have strong commitment to

extend the medical care to the remotest lane of Punjab so that the citizens feel entitled to one of the basic necessities of leading a dignified life. This Government proposes to establish “Mohalla/ Pind Clinics” in order to decentralize the public health services to the lowest level. This year the Government plans to establish 117 Mohalla Clinics for which an initial allocation of ₹77 crore is being proposed. I shall take this opportunity to announce that 75 of these Mohalla Clinics will be operationalized by 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2022.

58. **Farishtey:** Casualties in road accident due to the dearth of timely medical help is a remorseful experience. AAP Government is extremely sensitive to the cause and would try to make sure that anyone who suffers from a road accident is saved. For this, a scheme on the pattern of ‘Farishtey’ scheme in New Delhi would be launched in Punjab whereby anyone can take a road accident victim(s) and get them admitted to any hospital. The sufferers of road accidents will be given free treatment and the entire cost would be borne by the Government of Punjab and the helper would also be felicitated.

59. **Establishment of Estate Management Unit (EMU):** Infrastructure creation is a crucial requirement for providing best in-house health facilities, however, due to disconnect between the constructors and runners of such infrastructure, continuance and upkeep of these facilities is often ignored. The Government proposes to establish Estate Management Unit (EMU) which shall exclusively look into upkeep and maintenance of the basic sub-structure needs of Hospitals/ Health facilities and remove such glitches in a time bound manner. The Unit would initially be run by the State Government and subsequently be handed over to a specialized agency involved in professional management of such facilities.

60. Considerable allocations are being proposed in different existing health schemes such as Establishment of Trauma Centers, AYUSH, Ayushman Bharat-Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojna, Cancer Raahat Kosh Scheme, Creation of Cancer Treatment Infrastructure and Emergency response Service beside others to plug gaps in this critical Health Sector.

61. Our Government shall set up two super specialty Hospitals one at Patiala and another one at Faridkot in the coming two years. Similarly three more super specialty hospitals shall be opened by 2027.

## **AGRICULTURE**

Speaker Sir,

62. Punjab's agriculture sector is at a crossroad. On one hand, we need to increase farmer's income, on the other we are under obligation to save Punjab from desertification. How farmers were treated by Government of India, when they rightly raised their voice against the three farm laws is an open secret. I, on behalf of my Government salute them for their resolve and fortitude; I also pay homage to those who lost their lives braving the insensitive Government.

63. Realizing that it is time for action and not just talk, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Sardar Bhagwant Singh Mann Saheb has acted like no one before, and introduced new schemes to rejuvenate Punjab's agriculture. Reflecting our priority to the Agriculture sector, I propose an allocation of ₹11,560 crore in FY 2022-23.

64. **Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR):** Studies show that DSR method has the potential to save 20% water compared to the puddling technique of paddy cultivation. To incentivize the farmers to go for DSR

technique, our Hon'ble Chief Minister has already announced a financial incentive of ₹1,500 per acre to the implementing farmers. It is expected that this effort will yield positive outcome in the years to come and I propose an allocation of ₹450 crore for DSR in FY 2022-23 to encourage farmers to switch to this water saving technique.

65. **MSP on Moong Cultivation:** AAP Government has made a historic decision to procure moong at MSP. It would nudge farmers to go for 3 crop cultivation from the traditional 2 crop rice-wheat cycle. This 65 day crop would supplement farmer incomes, promote diversification and conserve water and soil. An amount of ₹66 crore as a Gap Funding to implementing organization MARKFED is being proposed for this purpose. Further, I am happy to announce that National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) has agreed to partly procure Moong from Punjab under its Price Support System.

66. **Checking Stubble Burning Practices:** We realize that burning of paddy straw by farmers is not without a reason as they need to get their fields ready for the next crop at the right time to avoid any yield loss. This practice causes air pollution, negatively impacting health of people across states. Further studies have shown that stubble burning is not good for soil health as well. Therefore, this Government would only undertake positive targeted actions for controlling it. I propose to explore various possibilities and solutions for stubble burning. An allocation of ₹200 crore is hereby proposed in this budget.

67. **Free Power to Farmers:** I want to put all speculations to rest. AAP Government pledges to stand by its farmers and shall continue providing free power for the agriculture sector. I am proposing a



budgetary allocation of ₹6,947 crore in this FY 2022-23.

68. Any talk of diversification is incomplete without horticulture. This Government's priority is vividly reflected in the proposal doubling the allocation to horticulture sector compared to last financial year.

69. Individual Quick Freezing (IQF) technology is ideal for preserving seasonal fruits and vegetables. IQF fruits and vegetables contain same nutritional value after freezing as they possess in their fresh form. A new Quick Freezing Centre is proposed to be established at village Verka, Amritsar for which I propose an initial outlay of ₹7 crore in FY 2022-23. Further for an Integrated Hi-tech Vegetable Production-cum-Technology Dissemination centre at Malsian, Jalandhar, I propose ₹11 crore to start with in this financial year.

70. For conservation and productive use of run-off water, pond water, rainwater harvesting & augmentation of groundwater recharge, 4 new schemes would be introduced for which I propose an initial allocation of ₹21 crore in FY 2022-23. Further, this Government would continue to support existing schemes and strengthen them further in the field of soil and water conservation, including the National Mission on Micro Irrigation.

71. **Digitization of Agriculture:** With an aim to provide end to end services to our farmers, my Government has initiated comprehensive digitization in the agriculture sector. It includes digitization of farmer profiles, digitization of their land records and online transfer of returns against their produce. It will assist the farmers in reaping the benefits of modern technological advancements in agriculture practices.

## **COOPERATIVES**

72. Cooperatives are mechanisms that ensure growth, empowerment and prosperity of communities. Cooperative agencies have played an unparalleled role in Punjab across various sectors including but not limited to banking, agriculture, dairy and food processing. Giving an impetus to the cooperation sector, I propose an allocation of ₹1,170 crore, which is an increase of 35.67% compared to the last financial year.

73. To augment its covered capacity, new godowns would be set up by MARKFED at 13 locations under NABARD assisted new project for storage of central pool wheat stocks and an amount of ₹56 crore is being proposed in the budget for FY 2022-23. Further, to support MARKFED for trouble-free Moong procurement, the Government has already given a State guarantee of ₹400 crore enabling MARKFED to raise loan for this purpose.

74. AAP Government is devoted for the welfare of all sectors and unlike its predecessor Governments does not shrug off its responsibility. Considering the importance of cooperative banking structures, especially engaged in the agriculture sector, this Government has decided to bailout Punjab State Cooperative Agricultural Development Bank (PSCADB) for which I propose ₹688 crore for PSCADB to clear its liabilities.

## **FORESTRY & WILDLIFE**

75. Our Government has launched a new project namely “Shaheed-e-Azam Sardar Bhagat Singh Hariawal Lehar”, under which 50,000 saplings and 115 Triveni would be planted in all Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the State on the 115<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Shaheed-e-

Azam Bhagat Singh Ji. During FY 2022-23, an amount of ₹10 crore is being proposed under the existing scheme “Punjab Community & Social Forestry Project” for this purpose. Further, an amount of ₹240 crore has been allocated for PUNCAMPA funds under which 52 lac plants will be raised during FY 2022-23.

## **EMPLOYMENT GENERATION AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

Speaker Sir,

76. Our Government is aware of the critical role of skill development in improving employability. However, the gruesome reality paints a dim picture of our status quo. As per the Human Development Report for the year 2020, barely one out of five Indians in the labour force is skilled. Furthermore, India Skills Report of 2022 paints a gloomy picture as far as Punjab is concerned. This ought to be a wake-up call for Governments including ours, as lack of skill in youth jeopardizes our ability to realize true potential of its demographic dividend.

77. The announcement pertaining to recruitment of 26,454 employees is not a mirage but a reality. The Council of Ministers has already approved the recruitment to 26,454 posts lying vacant in various Government Departments, out of which, 10,000 jobs would be offered for various posts in Punjab Police whereas the remaining jobs would be given in other departments. This commitment of our Government would be visible as I propose ₹714 crore in FY 2022-23 in this regard. Besides this, our government will spearhead the employment agenda through the new initiatives proposed to be undertaken in FY 2022-23 under various schemes across sectors which will unequivocally lead to extensive job creation and multiplier effect on the State economy.

78. Our contractual workforce who worked tirelessly were shunned beneath the doormats and remained unrewarded for their relentless efforts by the previous governments. Taking cognizance of this valuable human resource asset and to render them with job security, our Government has accepted the long standing demand of regularization of 36,000 contractual employees. An additional provision of ₹540 crore is hereby proposed in this budget.

79. There is a need to create a synergy between higher education/technical education institutes and skill development initiatives of the Government. Taking this idea forward, I submit that every year, 250 college/university students would be skilled by Skill Vigyan Centre of Punjab State Council for Science & Technology in advanced science & technology domains. For up-skilling youth of Punjab, this Government has invited Tata Technologies (TTL) along with global industry partners and Lamrin Tech Skills University (LTSU) to set up a common facility Centre in the domain of Electric Vehicle (EV) in the State. This will go a long way in catering to developing the skills required in the upcoming field of EV segment, apart from bringing investment to Punjab.

## **INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE**

80. Speaker Sir, we are all mindful of the fact that a strong developed industrial sector is a prerequisite for sustainable economic growth and overall development of the State. This high value sector with strong forward and backward linkages can have a multiplier effect on other sectors of economy thereby generating employment opportunities and raising income levels. We intend to nurture this critical sector of the economy and solve ground level issues being faced by our industrialist brothers and sisters. I, on behalf of our Government assure to create an ecosystem for industrial development in Punjab. To start with, I propose

a budgetary allocation ₹3,163 crore in FY 2022-23 i.e. an increase of 48.06% over 2021-22 (BE).

81. **Setting up of Traders Commission:** Our Government proposes to set up a Special Commission with only traders and businessmen as its members. This Commission would collaborate with the Government in decision-making and policy formulation. The basic idea is to form policies which people of this sector actually want, to help them in adding value, creating employment and peddling industrial development in Punjab.

82. **Industrial Focal Points:** One of the major demands of Industrialists during my Budget related tour to different parts of Punjab was the need to strengthen Industrial Focal Points in the State. I, at first, thank my industrialists' brethren/ people engaged in business for their valuable inputs. Considering their demand, I propose an initial allocation of ₹100 crore for setting up and strengthening of the Industrial Focal Points. Further, I announce that in order to promote industrial revival, un-utilized lands in underdeveloped Industrial Estates and Focal Points would be made available to Industry at competitive rates.

83. **Assistance to PSIDC/PFC:** I propose extending budgetary support amounting to ₹250 crore for letting the PSIDC and PFC discharge off their debt liabilities.

84. **Fintech City:** Considering the vast potential of the Fintech sub-sector within the overarching IT sector, the Government proposes to set up a Fintech City near Mohali where all facilities would be provided to encourage private participation in areas like fintech, block-chain technology, and Artificial Intelligence.

85. The Government is making efforts to develop Punjab as an Industrial Hub for which the land acquisition process is in the last phase for acquiring around 490 acres land at Mohali. Further around 950 acres of land has been acquired at Koomkalan, District Ludhiana over which an Integrated Textile Park is proposed to be developed and also an Integrated Manufacturing Cluster over an area of about 1100 acres is being set up at Rajpura.

86. Lastly, I want to ensure businessmen/industrialists of Punjab that AAP Government shall eradicate the atmosphere of fear and create a business-friendly environment by completely eliminating ground level corruption and alleged Inspector Raj. Again, the issue of VAT refund is proposed to be resolved within six months and Industrial Power Subsidy shall be continued to be provided by the Government for which an allocation of ₹2,503 crore has been made in FY 2022-23. An amount of ₹100 crore is proposed for disbursement of sanctioned Capital subsidy to eligible & entitled industrial units under various Industrial Policies during 2022-23. Government shall also bring a Progressive New Industrial Policy to build the State as an attractive investor's destination.

## **GOVERNANCE REFORMS**

Speaker Sir,

87. Good governance model has 8 major characteristics. It is participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective & efficient, equitable & inclusive and follows the rule of law. I assure people of Punjab that AAP Government would deliver on all 8 characteristics mentioned above. We promise that common people of Punjab will be given priority whenever they interact

with Government machinery.

88. Delivering on the promise of good governance, AAP Government has enhanced the timings of all 320 Sewa Kendras and all Saanjh Kendras by two hours on weekdays and these service centers shall also remain open on Sundays. A flagship programme 'Lok Milni' has been launched by our Government for "on-the-spot" redressal of the people's grievances. Again, with the determination of ensuring service delivery in a transparent and accountable manner, the Government has introduced 100+ new services through Sewa Kendras operating across Punjab taking the total number of such services to 425.

89. To ensure every single penny from the State Exchequer reach the targeted beneficiary in a time bound manner, our Government shall put in place a robust Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism, which will not only tap leakages but also bring efficiency and effectiveness in governance.

90. CM field offices shall be set up in every district of Punjab. Further, this government proposes to set up annual awards for best districts and the best sub-divisions adjudged on their performance contributing to growth of the State economy.

91. We also propose to introduce "Doorstep Delivery Services" system whereby citizens would be able to avail various services from the comfort of their homes. For instance, essential public services like getting caste/ marriage certificates, driving license, ration card, new water connection/electricity connection etc. would be soon delivered at their doorstep.

92. There is also a plan for setting up of Centre for Emerging Technologies that shall enable use of artificial intelligence and machine