SPEECH OF SH. PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN, HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER, MAHARASHTRA AT THE 57th MEETING OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ON 27th December, 2012

Hon'ble Prime Minister, The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Union Ministers, Chief Ministers, Distinguished Members of the National Development Council, Dignitaries and Friends.

1. At the Outset I congratulate, the Prime Minister, Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission and his colleagues for preparation of the draft of the Twelfth Plan, and the extensive consultative process that was adopted and followed all along.

Approach of Maharashtra to Twelfth Plan Goals

2. The State Government agrees with the goals of faster, inclusive and sustainable growth proposed by the Planning Commission for the Twelfth Five Year Plan. They capture the essence of the growth paradigm that has evolved over the past two decades.

Faster Growth

The average growth rate of the economy of Maharashtra during the Eleventh Five Year Plan was 8.6 % against the targeted growth rate of 9.1 % for the State and was higher than the corresponding GDP growth rate of 8.2%. This was achieved despite the impact of economic slowdown and erratic climatic conditions impacting the agriculture in the state.

We now propose a GSDP growth rate of 10.5 % for the Twelfth Five Year Pian. This growth will come from agriculture (4%), industry (11%) and services sector (11%). We feel that the target of 4% growth in agriculture is achievable with concerted efforts in this sector, particularly in Animal Husbandry, Dairy, Fisheries and Horticulture during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. I may add here that the realisation of the aforesaid targets is subject to the monsoon being normal, as Maharashtra is 83% rainfed. We feel that the service sector growth rate of 11% is achievable. However, special efforts would be required to push the industrial growth rate to 11% in Twelfth Plan. Though we lead in industrial investments and FDI, we need to further strengthen the industrial infrastructure in the State.

Inclusiveness

In this context, we are focusing on the key instruments of inclusive growth, namely (a) increased agriculture growth, (b) more jobs in manufacturing, (c) improved rural connectivity, (d) skill development and (e) improved health and education infrastructure with special focus on backward regions and vulnerable groups.

Maharashtra has already initiated measures such as Maharashtra Human Development Mission (MHDM) for low HDI areas, scholarships to OBC and minority students for higher education, allocation of budget for Scheduled Caste Sub Plan and Tribal Sub Plan in proportion to the State's SC and ST population and setting up a separate department with separate budget line for minority welfare.

In order to overcome regional imbalance, Maharashtra has set up three Regional Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and Rest of Maharashtra regions under the provisions of Article 371(2) (A). Plan allocations are made across regions for reducing backlogs quantified by the 'Indicator and Backlog Committee' about 20

years back. We have now appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar to review the progress in this regard and revisit the issue of regional imbalance.

As regards removal of poverty, I feel that effective implementation of poverty alleviation schemes like MGNREGA, will help in reducing poverty ratio by 2 percentage points per annum, during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Sustainability

As regards sustainable growth, I feel that there is a need to balance the requirements of rapid economic growth with the imperatives of environmental protection and optional utilization and equitable distribution of natural resources. It would be necessary that, each Project Implementing Authority incorporates the component of remedial measures to offset the damage caused to environment, in their respective budgets.

In our earlier interaction with the planning Commission, we have raised the issue of few districts in the State carrying the burden of maintaining forest cover. In

Maharashtra, Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Bhandara, Gondia and Amravati districts have substantial forest cover. Such districts also have major tribal population and carry huge development backlog. I strongly urge the Planning Commission to initiate a scheme of "Green Bonus" as special funds for development of such districts.

The key challenges for the Twelfth Plan, are water management, energy security, urban transformation and environment protection. It will be our sincere endeavour to address these challenges in a concerted manner during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

The Approach Paper emphasises the need to improve. governance and implementation of programmes. Urban Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions are the main vehicles for the delivery of developmental programmes. Maharashtra has a long history of vibrant rural and urban elected local bodies with supporting administrative structures. Recently we have made amendments to the relevant laws to increase the representation of women in the tooasl bodies from 33% to 50% and have also conducted the recent elections as per these amendments.

Proposed Twelfth Plan Outlay

13. The total outlay of the Tenth Five Year Plan was over Rs. 59,000 crore which was increased to Rs. 1,61,124 crore in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Based on the resources projection, an outlay of Rs.2,75,000 crore has been proposed for the state for Twelfth Plan.

Proposed allocations for Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (10.2%) and Tribal Sub Plan (8.9%) are Rs.28,050 crore and Rs.24,475 crore respectively.

With a view to strengthen decentralized planning more funds are being allocated to District Planning Committees. We propose an outlay of Rs.27,500 crore (10% of the overall proposed plan size) for District General Plans. Taking the outlays apportioned for district level schemes from sub-plans into account, the total allocations for district level plans would be over Rs.52,000 crore during the Twelfth Plan.

Agriculture

16. Maharashtra being largely rainfed, we would appreciate if the Planning Commission provides adequate resources for creating moisture through in-situ water

conservation for our rainfed farmers. State desires to take up "Dryland Farming Mission" in a big way during the entire period of Twelfth Plan so that at least an additional 100 lakh Ha. area is brought under protective irrigation. In addition to Watershed Development, we would like to invest extensively in 'Farm Ponds' and series of 'Cement Nala Bunding' in all the available rainfed areas. Allocation on drip and sprinkler irrigation is proposed to be increased substantially.

Agriculture Marketing

17. Higher growth rate in agriculture can not be achieved unless, farmers also receive adequate prices for their produce. Public Private Partnerships in establishing integrated value chains, providing incentives for private markets, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets and e-trading are some of such innovations which have been found to be successful based on pilot projects. We would like to scale up these efforts during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. Increased allocation under RKVY and various other initiatives of Govt, of India would greatly help us in this direction. We recommend inclusion of Agricultural Marketing under VGF of Ministry of Finance. Greater use of Warehousing Development and Regulation Act for creating a network of warehouses to provide pledge loan to the farmers against negotiable warehouse receipts would be yet another initiative of the State Government in this direction. We are confident that Planning Commission will support all such initiatives which will enable greater private investment in the field of agriculture as weil as agri-marketing.

Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries

18. The State is major milk producer. However, Vidarbha and Marthwada regions are weak in dairy sector. NDDB has agreed to associate itself with the State Government in boosting Dairy Development in Vidarbha and Marathwada regions through New Generation Co-operatives (NGCs) for providing milk producers better opportunities for sale of surplus milk by expanding village milk procurement systems with fair and transparent transactions. Government of Maharashtra is going to sign an MOU with MDDB to increase milk production in these regions. To ensure sustainability in milk business following issues need to be addressed.

Need to have a long term policy for export and import of dairy products.

Special export incentive @ 15% on export values of all milk products to match the international prices. Inclusion of milk powder and other derivatives of milk in the Aid Programme of Government of India to other countries.

Inclusion of milk powder and whole milk powder in the school feeding programme. NDDB to purchase and liquidate milk powder stocks held by various cooperatives. NABARD needs to provide loans at low interest rate for agriculture and allied activities, food and agro based processing units. Abolition of Central Excise on molasses used as cattle feed.

Uniformity in VAT rates on milk products across the states.

To increase the per capita income of farmers, State Government is focusing on establishing small gottery units, Dairy farms, Poultry Development units and increasing the yields of livestock, setting up semen labs, animal health centers in the entire state and also on strengthening of infrastructure of veterinary dispensaries so that effective health services to livestock are available.

In fisheries sector, greater attention will be paid to development of fish seeds, hatcheries for inland fisheries development, promotion of "Cage Culture" &

development of fishing harbours & jetties and welfare of fishermen. Under the scheme "Brackish Water Fisheries" development of 30 harbours will be undertaken.

Textiles

21. Government of Maharashtra has recently announced the New Textile Policy with an intention to process maximum cotton in the backward regions of Vidarbha, Maratawada & North Maharashtra. Main programme under the new policy are applicable to textile projects approved under TUF Scheme of Government of India. GOI has continued R-TUFS upto 31st March, 2013 only. It is requested to continue TUFS during the Twelfth Five Year Plan as per re-structured TUFS launched with effect from 28th April, 2011 without any sectoral cap.

Co-operation

The flow of agricultural credit to the farming sector is an important component for overall agricultural growth. There is a substantial enhancement in crop loan disbursement in last few years and the target set for the year 2012-13 is Rs.25,000 crores. However, it is pertinent to point out that the share of Commercial Banks in overall crop loan disbursement, though improved of late, is substantially low in comparison with neighbouring States.

The Government of Maharashtra is pioneer in introducing incentive scheme for timely repayment of crop loan called "Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Interest Subsidy Scheme". The State Government also gives interest subvention to all banks @ 1 % against crop loan disbursed by them. This has incentivised timely repayment of crop loans, strengthening and sustaining of the cooperative credit structure in the state.

Vaidyanathan Package to strengthen Short Term Co-operative Credit Structure announced by the Government of India was accepted and all benchmark activities have been achieved by the State Government and cooperative credit structure. However, a sum of Rs. 935 crore is yet to be released to the three tier co-operative credit structure. I solicit your support and help in early release of said amount.

Minimum Support Price for Cotton in season 2012-13 is the minimum in this current season i.e. Rs. 3600/- to Rs. 3900/- per quintal. The Cotton Marketing Federation in Maharashtra is a sub agent of NAFED, for purchasing cotton in the State at the Minimum Support Price fixed by the Ministry of Textiles. Margin money is made available by the State Government to the Cotton Marketing Federation to purchase the cotton.

Food and Civil Supplies

In view of increased requirement of storage capacity under the proposed National Food Security Act, additional storage capacity of 5.65 lakh tons is required to be constructed, instate.

For construction of 584 new godowns, NABARD has sanctioned Rs.484 crore under RIDF. Out of this Rs.460 crore will be sanctioned by way of loan from NABARD and the rest will be provided by the state. The construction activity is in full swing.

28. As per the directions of Supreme Court, computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System is to be implemented in the entire state. Accordingly NIC has provided required softwares. The proposed project will require an expenditure of Rs.103 crore under the Twelfth Five Year Plan. State has launched its own portal as well as ahelpline from 1st May, 2012. Out of a total ration cards of 2.20 crore till

dated18.12.2012, about 1.5 crore ration cards are computerized.

Industry

Maharashtra is the largest state economy of the country, contributing 15% of the national income. Our economy has registered an average growth of 9% over the last 4 years. The State contributes 20% of country's industrial output. Services sector has 62% share in the State GDP built on strong Industrial base.

During the Eleventh Plan period the State attracted 4630 projects with a total investment of more than Rs. 6,50,000 crore and employment potential of above 22 lakh. Also, we attracted the highest Foreign Direct Investment in the country, with 480 proposals having Foreign Direct Investment of nearly Rs. 38,000 crore, which is 23 % of the total FDI in the country.

The main products exported from the State are Gems & Jewellery, Software, Textiles, Readymade Garments, Cotton Yarn, Made-up Fabrics, Metal and Metal products, Agro-based products and Plastic items. The exports from the State constitute 27% of the total exports from the country.

Maharashtra has declared IT and IT enabled services policies 2003 &2009, which have helped in development of IT industries in the State. The State's export in IT sector has grown eight fold times since 2003. In addition to Pune & Mumbai, Nagpur, Nashik and Aurangabad are emerging as new centers for IT industries in the State. The State has 33% share of Bio-technology industries in the country.

The state has promptly responded to the initiatives of the Central Government to strengthen the Micro & Small Industries through Cluster Development Programme. Govt, of India has approved 32 clusters of Micro and Small Enterprises for development in the State which will provide direct employment to nearly 1 lakh persons with expected Gol's grant to the tune of Rs.455 Crore during the next three years.

Infrastructure

Urban

The Central Government has given extension to the JNNURM scheme for the next 2 years. Several infrastructure projects sanctioned under JNNURM are facing cost escalation on account of change in Schedule of Rates during the time lag between the preparation of Detail Project Reports, their approval and the actual execution of the projects. Government of Maharashtra has taken a decision to give supplementary grants to the ULBs to the extent of 50% of the cost escalation on account of increasing Schedule of Rates.

We strongly urge the Government of India to launch JNNURM-II with much greater focus on urban water supply and sanitation

Local Body Tax

36. The State Government has framed a policy in 2010 to phase out octroi and replace that by Local Body Tax in all 'D' class Corporations. At present all 14 'D' class Municipal Corporations are implementing Local Body Tax in their jurisdictions. Five Municipal Corporations namely Sangli-Miraj-Kupwad, Bhiwandi-Nijampur-Malegaon, Dhule and Akola will shift to the system of Local Body Tax. So also, in Pune, Thane, Pimpri-Chinchwad and Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporations, the Local Body Tax will be implemented from 1st April, 2013.

Development of Mega City, Mumbai

37. I once again urge Planning Commission and Government of India to create a separate line of funding for addressing the challenges of mega cities. I request for a separate dedicated pool of funds, the access to which could be governed by totally different set of norms having specific relevance to the development of particular mega city. Last year I had introduced the concept of 'National Projects for Mega Cities' (NPMC) with an entitlement of 90% funding from the Center. I would like to reiterate that guidelines may be formulated for introduction of NPMC at the earliest.

Housing

The implementation of Rajiv Awas Yojana aiming for slum-free cities is a major challenge in the backdrop of rapid urbanization and shortage of affordable housing. Concerted efforts are being made to rehabilitate slum dwellers through the Slum Rehabilitation Schemes of the State Government. However, it may be pertinent to highlight that around one lakh slum structures in Mumbai city are located on the lands belonging to Departments and Organizations of Government of India. Comprehensive policy guidelines for rehabilitation of these slum structures need to be formulated by the Central Government for effective implementation of Rajiv Awas Yojana.

We also request the Government of India to suitably adopt considering the constraints of cities like Mumbai. State Government has planned to implement Rajiv Awas Yojana in 25 Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils in the initial phase. Apart from these 25 cities, there are around 234 Urban Local Bodies which are likely to see rapid growth of slums due to large scale migration to Urban Centers. Growth of slums in these 234 cities also needs to be addressed at the initial stage itself through 'Innovative Approaches', which would place comparatively lesser financial burden on Urban Local Bodies.

The 'Salt Pan' lands belonging to the Government of India may be a good alternative for re-housing the very large number of slum dwellers in Mumbai Metropolitan Region. The 'Salt Pan' lands may be made available to the State Government for proper land use and town planning for meeting the objective of rehabilitation of the 'Urban Poor' as well as promotion of Affordable Housing'.

Indira Awas Yojana

41. We are implementing the Indira Awas Yojana successfully for the past many years. We are however concerned that the targets for the state and consequent fund allocations have been scaled down. Our State Government is providing Rs.34,750 per unit as against Rs.11,250 per unit which is required as per Central Government's sharing norms. I feel the time has come to revise the construction cost to Rs. 1 lakh per dwelling unit which will help in; developing quality and duly housing units. Under Homestead scheme of Gol having 50:50 percent centre and state share, Rs. 10,000 has been given for purchase of land for construction of house for needy beneficiary. In rural areas required land for house site is not available in Rs. 10,000 cost norms. Therefore there is a need to revise cost norms of homestead scheme from Rs. 10,000 to Rs.30,000. This will help 2.85 lakhs houseless BPL beneficiaries in the state who are otherwise eligible for Indira Awaas Yojana.

Roads

We have developed a road network of 2 lakh 42 thousand km. while establishing

connectivity of 97.84% revenue villages. But considering the aspects like increasing vehicular traffic, multiaxle vehicular movement, developing industrial sectors, SEZs, ports, tourist places, multimodal international hubs, it is necessary to develop a road network of Expressway, 4-lane National and State Highways and Major District Roads.

As on date, only, 1 lakh 53 thousand km. road length is black topped. Also only 0.7% road network has 4-lane carriageway and 5% road length is with 2-lane carriageway. To meet the above challenges, the State Government has formulated a 20 years Road Development Plan-2001-21, with a target of 3 lakh 36 thousand km. road network with" a road density of 107 km. per 100 sq.km. As per this plan all the district headquarters are to be connected by 4 lane roads, taluka head quarters by atleast 2 lane roads with or without paved shoulders. It is planned that all the taluka places should have by pass roads on the same lines as ring roads around the city. RDP 2001-21 has the target of connecting villages with the population of 100 and above by atleast one all-weather road. For the achievement of the RDP 2001-21, nearly Rs.1,10,000 crore is required and the State Government expect 20% assistance i.e. Rs.20,000 crores, through Central Road Funds Scheme (CRF) from the Central Government

44. Maharashtra has been implementing road projects under the VGF scheme of Central Government. So far 19 projects costing Rs.6847 crore are approved by Central Government. One project costing Rs.254 crore has been completed and 8 projects costing Rs.2309 crore are in progress. Remaining 10 projects costing Rs.4284 are at the tender stage. The State Government is planning more road projects in backward regions of the state using the same policy frame work. I request you to provide adequate and speedy financial assistance to these projects.

Transport

Under the JNNURM, modernization of urban transport service has been undertaken with Government of India, State and City Transport Undertakings sharing the cost on 50%, 20% and 30% basis respectively. Similar initiatives are needed by the Central Government to improve the public transport in the rural sector. It is requested that, on the lines of JNNURM, National Rural Public Transport Development Scheme should be initiated and 2000 new buses may be sanctioned for Maharashtra, so that the fleet of the State Transport may be strengthened in rural area. Our State will give full support to such schemes in terms of making budgetary provision to the extent of state share.

It is felt that such scheme will not only revolutionize the rural transport but will also go a long way in decelerating the migration to urban areas, as the economic needs of rural population provided by the cities and towns could be fulfilled, through safe and comfortable commuting to the cities.

With a view to promote the use of public transport and reduce road congestion in the mega cities, it is requested to consider funding quality AC buses and also consider waiver of excise duty on AC buses used for city transport.

Railway Projects

48. Rail connectivity is cheaper and safer as compared to road transport and it also fuels the area development. Railway network in rural Maharashtra is still weak and there are demands for laying new railway lines. Maharashtra is one of the first few states to contribute 50% of the project cost for laying rail lines in the State. The

State Government has already committed to contribute to the cost of eight Railway projects.

We request for early completion of these projects.

49. As the resources of the state are limited, we seek your intervention in limiting state contribution to 25 % of the initially projected cost of construction of railway lines. Escalation in the cost due to delays in implementation by railways may be entirely borne by the Railways. Considering implication on internal security, the Railway projects in the Left Wing Affected areas should be shared between Railways, Union Home Ministry and State on 50:25:25 basis.

Ports

We have adopted a policy of private sector participation for development of our non-major ports and have signed agreements for development of six ports viz. Dighi & Rewas-Aware in Raigad District, Lavgan-Jaigad & Dhamankhol- Jaigad in Ratnagiri District and Vijaydurg & Redi in Sindhudurg District. The port facilities at Dhamankhol-Jaigadand and Lavgan-Jaigad have become operational. The first berth at Dighi port is ready for commissioning in near future. Moratorium imposed by the Ministry of Environment and Forest, for any development in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts has affected the progress of Dhamankhol-Jaigad port phase II in Ratnagiri district and Vijaydurg and Reddi ports in Sindhudurg district. There is an urgent need of lifting of the moratorium to speed up these projects.

Currently, the non-major ports in the State are handling about 20 million tons of cargo annually. We expect to enhance the port capacity to about 140 million tons in the next seven to ten years, which will provide a boost to direct and indirect employment in the maritime sector. It is however important to connect these ports with railway and highways. We have also requested to extend DFC and DMIC to ports in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts.

Civil Aviation

52. We are strengthening existing airports and planning new airports to boost air transport of passengers and cargo for the growth of backward areas. Maharashtra is the only state having four international airports. The MIHAN Project at Nagpur is on fast track and process of land acquisition for new International Airport at Navi Mumbai and Chakan at Pune is under way. Expansion and upgradation of airports of Kolhapur, Amravati, Nashik, Jalgaon, Nanded, Yavatmal, Osmanabad, Baramati and Karad is underway.

Rural Road Connectivity

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

53. As requested by us in the past, we request the Government of India again to include 65,392 Km. of rural road, constructed long back under State EGS, in the PMGSY. These roads were constructed 30 to 40 years back with a clear focus on providing wage employment to rural poor during scarcity. Due to increased traffic load, these roads have worn out over the time affecting the accessibility of a large number of villages. However, present policy of Government of India does not allow upgradation and renewal of such roads under the current PMGSY.

In line with the directions of the Govt, of India, State Government has forwarded the concept note for PMGSY-II in which we have proposed that 40,000 km of road length be brought under the scope for PMGSY-II for next 15 years. Secondly the state

share in expenditure of such works under PMGSY-II is proposed to be 25% as against 50% suggested by the Government of India.

Execution of projects in Left Wing Extremism affected areas poses many challenges to the implementing agencies. There are cost over runs as well in many projects due to law and order issues. It is requested to liberalise the project norms in terms of both cost and project timelines to facilitate smooth implementation of projects in LWE affected districts. Proposal of making available Rs. 75 crore to meet out excess costs on account of unavoidable high tenders in LWE affected districts of Gadchiroli has already been submitted to MoRD, Further lowering the eligibility criteria for new connectivity from population of 250 to 100 needs consideration, in the LWE affected district.

Energy

- 56. The demand and supply gap in energy in Maharashtra is now only 3% as compared to 18% in 2005-06. As a result more than 80% area of Maharashtra has no load shedding. We are providing 24/7 power supply to industries.
- 57. Three thermal units with a capacity of 1500 MW have been commissioned recently during the year 2011-12. Thermal projects with a total capacity of 3230 MW are under execution. These projects will be commissioned in the next two years. Further 1570 MW capacity projects are under planning. This capacity will be added in the next 4 to 5 years. Mahagenco has lined up a number of generation projects for the period beyond 2014. However, availability of fuel such as gas and coal would be crucial factors, in achieving these targets.

Mahagenco has a thermal capacity of 7480 MW. The supply of coal is inadequate since last few years. Further the quality of supplied coal is also a matter of concern. The required quantity and good quality coal are crucial factors for operating the stations at maximum capacity.

The distribution loss of state is now down to 16.03% as a result of feeder level Metering & Energy Audit.

Under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojna, we have released more than 11,75,000 connections and have electrified 4,709 villages. As per new definition of Ministry of Power Maharashtra is 100% electrified.

The Machhakatta coal mine has been jointly allotted to Gujarat & Maharashtra. Development of this coal mine is of vital importance as most of the upcoming projects are having coal linkages from this coal mine. For developing this coal mine active cooperation is required from Government of Orissa & Government of India.

Mahagenco has put on hold, the gas based projects of capacity 1220 MW at Uran near Mumbai due to non availability of gas from Government of India .

Ratnagiri Gas & Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL) project at Dabhol was financially restructured and restarted after substantial efforts from Government of India and Government of Maharashtra. The Gol had agreed to make available required domestic gas of 8.5 MMSCMD at an affordable price in lieu of expensive R-LNG for running Ratnagiri Gas & Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL) power station.

GOI had accordingly accorded high inter-se priority to Ratnagiri Gas & Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL) in allocation of domestic gas from KG basin (KG D 6 Reliance 7.6 MMSCMD & ONGC 0.9 MMSCMD) at par with fertilizer sector, in line with the

agreements at the time of financial restructuring. Since October 2011 and currently only about 50% gas is being made available to Ratnagiri Gas & Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL). This gas shortfall is resulting into stranded capacity of around 1000 MW thereby depriving power to the state and Ratnagiri Gas & Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL) also is facing the prospects of distress and financial unavoidability once again due to this underutilization.

Ratnagiri Gas & Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL) facility is not only critical to meet power requirement of Maharashtra at an affordable price but substantial public money is invested in the project with sacrifices and great efforts put in by all stakeholders to restart the project, under the aegis of EGoM led by Hon. Union Finance Minister.

Mahagenco has focused on activities of power generation from renewable. In pursuance of its commitment to Green Power, the Mahagenco has commissioned 5 MW solar project recently at Chandrapur. Another 150 MW capacity generation is under execution in Dhule district. This project will be completed by 31st March 2013. Mahagenco is exploring the feasibility of installing a number of solar projects in the state where land is available.

The renewable energy potential from grid connected power projects is 9361 MW. Upto 31st March, 2012, 4021 MW renewable energy projects have been commissioned and the target for Twelfth Plan is 2805 MW.

Maharashtra is perhaps the first state in the country to establish a Green Power Development Fund for development of renewable energy sources by levying a charge of 8 paisa per unit on industrial and commercial consumers.

During the Eleventh Five Year Plan, funds to the tune of Rs. 135 crore were allocated for implementing various renewable energy programmes in the state. During the Twelfth Plan, we intend to spend about Rs. 1000 crore on this sector.

Eco-Friendly Village Development Campaign

70. The State has launched an innovative "Eco-Friendly Village Development Campaign" for creating good quality physical infrastructure in village. Certain performance parameters have been laid down for Village Panchayats to be eligible for

the grants under this programme. These funds will be used by the Village Panchayats for creating eco-friendly community infrastructure in villages. We are providing adequate outlay forthis programme.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme

MGNREGA the flagship programme of the Central Government has now established itself in Maharashtra. The state has made substantial progress in 2011-12. The number of person days created in the scheme went above 740 lakh and the expenditure increased to over Rs.1600 crore. Expenditure in 2012-13 is Rs.1500 crore so far.

With the introduction of 30 new activities permitted by the Government of India in the spheres of agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, drinking water and sanitation, we are confident that the objective of creating durable assets along with providing employment will bring about overall development of the villages. Emphasis is being laid on empowering the Grampanchayats through micro/macro planning. The State Employment Guarantee Council has also been activated.

The State has initiated an all encompassing campaign on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd October to create awareness and spread information about the benefits of the scheme. The Government is hopeful that MGNREGS will be an instrument for bringing about effective change in the development of the village.

Water Resources

74. The cultivable area in Maharashtra is around 225 lakh Ha. Average rainfall varies from 400 mm to 6000 mm. Out of 358 talukas, 148 talukas are drought prone. During the monsoon season of year 2011 Maharashtra had received moderate rains. In 2012 also the rains were delayed. We are facing acute shortage of drinking water in many villages of Marathwada and Western Maharashtra. Due to vagaries of monsoon drought like situation has arisen in the State. The State Government has prepared a programme for completing irrigation projects / project components which are nearing completion and will augment drinking water sources in affected villages. This will also facilitate fodder production in the scarcity area. These projects / projects components do not have any bottle necks such as land acquisition or rehabilitation problems. We have submitted proposals to the Government of India seeking special Central Assistance of Rs.2270 crore, which if made available, will help create a potential of 1.68 lakh Ha. and an additional storage of 180 Mm3 which will benefit 1110 villages. Considering the gravity of drought situation it is requested that this special assistance be provided at the earliest.

Command Area Development and Water Management Programme

- 75. Command Area Development and Water Management Programs are implemented for selected major & medium irrigation projects in the state since 1974 75. After completion of construction work of field channels & field drains the irrigation projects are deleted from the program. Accordingly 18 projects are deleted from the program as of now. At present there are 9 irrigation projects in the program and another 9 projects are in the pipeline. Main activities under this programme are-
- i) Construction of field channels 8I field drains
- ii) Correction of system deficiencies of distributories having discharging capacity upto 150 cusecs
- iii) Construction of drainage schemes for reclamation of waterlogged areas.
- iv) Training to farmers and staff
- v) Evaluation studies and
- vi) Formation of Water Users Association in the command area of the projects.

Water Supply and Sanitation

76. "Sujal and Nirmal Maharashtra by 2020" is the vision of Government of Maharashtra. Due to consistent demand for augmentation of the existing schemes and also for new schemes, we have adopted a policy of reforms-led capital investment in urban water supply sector and this has led to the institution of "Maharashtra Sujal and Nirmal Abhiyan" during the year of Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the State in 2010-11. Mahahrashtra Sujal and Nirmal Abhiyan focuses primarily on reforms in urban water and sanitation sectors and envisages augmenting access to adequate and safe drinking water and adequate sanitation

facilities.

The Rural Water Supply coverage as on date is 87%. The Sanitation coverage in rural areas is 73%. However, this coverage is only with respect to the toilets. Other equally vital components of sanitation, like sewage disposal and solid waste management also need attention in the Twelfth Plan period. Appropriate low cost technological options for liquid waste collection, processing and disposal with commensurate financial support need to be provided.

To streamline the monitoring and surveillance programme, various mechanisms have been adopted. The State has adopted an innovative source coding approach, water quality protocol, nomination of water supply person as Jalsurakshak at village level, creation of Water Quality Cell at the district level. Upgradation of 138 Sub Divisional Laboratories for chemical testing is under progress. The framework for Sanitation Survey Campaign for Chemical testing, Coding of Drinking Water Sources have been initiated. Due to all these initiatives, bacteriological contamination rate and water borne diseases have been decreasing.

Water Conservation

Government of India launched the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) from 2009-10 by integrating and consolidating all earlier watershed interventions. The watershed treatments are to be completed in about five years. We request that the IWMP projects covering more than 35.41 lakh hectares with project cost of nearly Rs. 4473 crore which has been sanctioned, needs to be supported with adequate funds throughout the Twelfth Five Year Plan so that we see its full and long lasting impact.

In those areas in which we are not able to take under integrated water-shed immediately due to fund and other constraints, we have launched on initiative of conserving water through chain of sequentially constructed check dams, on the small rivulets. In this year budget we have initiated this activity in 15 tehsils- where ground water level had depleted beyond 2 meters with a budget of Rs. 150 crore. The results are most encouraging. Considering the magnitude of this task we seek support from centre as a permanent measure fordrought mitigation, in at least the 147 DPAP blocks, which is little more than one third of the state.

Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR)

81. We welcome the initiative of the Ministry of Water Resources to support Repair,

Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of old irrigation structures. Our state has about 60,000 Minor Irrigation structures. Out of this, nearly 3400 need repairs. We request Government of India to strengthen the programme and give a financial support of about Rs.250 crore. This will augment the designed storage capacity of existing structures quickly and increase the agricultural productivity.

Forests

Maharashtra has 20% of its geographical area under forests. As a commitment to achieve 33% geographical areas under the forest cover, the Forest Department has planted about 8 crore seedlings in 2012, which is about 3 times the plantation of last year. We have planned an ambitious 1 billion tree plantation programme for which will require about Rs.25 crore under the National Afforestation Programme.

In order to provide safe habitat to the endangered wild animals such as tiger, the

State Government is ensuring voluntary rehabilitation of villages in Protected Areas. The rehabilitated people are being provided civic amenities at relocation sites.

To support the wildlife conservation, Maharashtra has brought an additional 550 sq, km. under the protected area network recently. The tiger population has increased from 169 in 2010 to 200 in 2012. Rs. 50 crore per year will be required for making the tiger habitat completely inviolate by voluntary rehabilitation.

The State Government is implementing the ambitious Joint Forest Management Programme through active participation of local people, who are dependent on forest produce for their livelihood. The JFM Committees, actively protecting the forests and wildlife habitat are rewarded with cash prize under the Sant Tukaram Van Gram Yojana every year.

Homstead tourism wherein tribal families may develop lodging facilities in their dwellings is being encouraged. Tribal youths are being trained to work as forest and wildlife guides who would take the tourists in and around wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, trekking routes around forts and also places of tourist interests.

People in remote areas around forests are being provided biogas and cooking gas underthe Tribal Sub Plan and Special Component Programme.

In order to reach the people in remote areas, Forest Office buildings have been constructed in Gondia, Gadchiroli and Amravati Districts.

Environment

The Govt, of Maharashtra is implementing various schemes for conservation and protection of natural resources. This comprises schemes like, Lake Conservation Plan, River Conservation Plan, Climate Change Action Plan and Environmental Service Scheme at school level to spread awareness about environment protection.

To increase peoples participation in environmental conservation schemes such as Area Specific Innovative Green Ideas Project, Shristi Mitra Award, Western Ghat Development Programme have been initiated. Eco clubs have also been constituted in 150 schools of each district in the state.

Setting up of basic environmental infrastructure is a priority for the State Government. We feel that schemes for setting up Sewage Treatment Plants and Municipal Solid Waste processing facilities require heavy incentivisation from the Government in view of the general apathy towards it in most local bodies. Simultaneously, a massive campaign on environmental awareness at the level of the Central Government, adequately supported by the State Government is called for.

Public Health

- 92. I wish to list a few major achievements in health sector. The Infant Mortality Rate of the State has declined from 47 (per thousand live births) in the year 1997 to 28 in the year 2010 Maternal Mortality Ratio has reduced from 149 to 104 in 2007-09. The birth rate of the state shows a decline over the last 10 years. According to the Sample Registration System, 2010, the birth rate of the state is 17.1 (1000 population).
- 93. Total Fertility rate in the state has declined and is 1.9 up to the year 2009 as per Sample Registration System by RGI. Institutional deliveries have increased from 53% in 2005-06 to 90% in 2011-12.

Maharashtra has made progress in several areas related to health as evidenced by the success in eliminating or controlling diseases such small pox, leprosy, polio and TB, all of which is reflected in the steadily rising life expectancy of the population. Life expending at birth has increased from approximately 38 years for both males and females in 1971 to 68.9 years for males and 72.5 years for females in 2011-15.

Maharashtra is the first state to set up an autonomous Nutrition Mission in 2005 to address child nutrition and IMR. The Mission Completed Phase-I in 2010 and has been reconstituted as Mission-II with a renewed focus on the first 1,000 days that is -9 to +24 months.

The first ever independent Nutrition Survey conducted for children under 2 in Maharashtra jointly with UNICEF and HPS revealed a remarkable reduction in key parameters relating to Child Under Nutrition such as reduction in stunting from 39% in 2005-06 to 22.8% in 2012, reduction in wasting from 19.9 % in 2005-06 to 15.5 % in 2012 and reduction in under-weight from 29.6 % in 2005-06 to 21.8% in 2012.

Challenges

There are however several challenges that need close attention:

97. As the Maternal Mortality and Infant Mortality Rates are still high, the incidence of anemia among women and children is at unacceptable high levels. These challenges need to be addressed by multiple interventions which include dietary improvement, nutrition supplementation for children, better child care practices, access to safe drinking water, improved sanitation, and immunization. However, these efforts must be accompanied by a much better system of affordable curative health care which is lacking at present. The National Rural Health Mission is an important step in providing broad based improvement in health care for the rural population.

Strategies for Twelfth Year Five Year Plan

98. With the help of Planning commission, we will try to strengthen all aspects of the health care system preventive, promotive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative. This will be accompanied by emphasis on access to clean drinking water, sanitation, diet, hygiene and feeding practices, which will significantly affect the health status of the people. The NRHM has focused heavily on child birth and pre natal care. It must however expand to a more comprehensive vision of health care, which includes service delivery for a much broder range of conditions, covering both preventive and curative services.

Target for Twelfth Year Five Year Plan

- 99. We are aiming to reduce, Birth Rate, Death Rate & IMR be 15, 6 and 25 respectively by the end of 2017. This can be achieved by Improving monitoring and supervision Improving availability of services and quality Developing awareness about available service and social problems Health counseling and service to adolescent boys and girls
- e) Participation of various sectors and departments School Education 100. Education is another important priority sector. We are committed to achieve the goals of universal access, retention equity and quality in education. In this context Right of children to free and compulsory education has helped immensely in improving the infrastructure for education .The state government has been giving special attention towards providing various facilities to schools such as electricity

,water supply, separate toilets for girls etc. The state government has drawn a master plan for primary and secondary schools using distance norms in compliance to the RTE. For this, the state government has completed GIS mapping of schools. We have taken a policy decision to open new secondary schools, in every 5 Km area to accommodate the primary and upper-primary students.

Technical Education

- 101. Government of India is implementing Technical Education Quality mprovement Programme (TEQIP) by taking a soft loan from International Development Association. The project is aimed at achieving, excellence in Engineering Colleges for making the system more demand driven, quality conscious and responsive to rapid economic and technological changes occurring both at national and international levels. So far 16 institutes from Maharashtra have participated under this program. Quality improvement of UG programs in engineering upgradation of laboratories and research are the main thrust areas under this project.
- 102. State has already submitted willingness for the establishment of Indian Institute of Information Technology under PPP mode along Mumbai- Pi,ne corridor and is in the process of finalizing eligible private partner. Our state has also decided to establish an additional HIT at Nagpur. Government of India is requested to approve two IIITs for Maharashtra.
- 103. The state is strategically working to increase the overall training & skilling capacity within the state under Modular Employable Scheme (MES). So far 1400 modules have been started & more than 1,15,000 candidates have been trained during the period of 2009-2012.

Labour

Under The Building & Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Service) Act, 1996 and Maharashtra Rules, 2007, Government of Maharashtra has constituted a Building and Other Construction Worker's Welfare Board in 2007 and a tripartite committee is in existence since 1st May 2011 for implementation of welfare schemes for the Building & Other Construction Workers, Till now 807 crore cess has been deposited with this Board and more than 50,000 workmen have been registered. The Board has sanctioned various welfare schemes such as educational assistance, maternity benefit, immediate financial assistance to the heirs of deceased workmen and reimbursement of medical bills in serious ailments like T. B. / Cancer.

Government of Maharashtra has enacted Maharashtra Domestic Worker's Welfare Board Act 2008 for providing welfare schemes to the domestic workers. The Board is implementing various welfare schemes like Janashree Vima Yojana which provide accidental assistance, death assistance to the legal heirs and scholarship to the children of domestic workers. So far more than 1 lakh 40 thousand workers have been registered with the Board.

SocialJustice

106. E-scholarship scheme was started from 2010-11 in which the scholarship of backward class student is directly credited to the bank account of the student. The number of beneficiaries under this scheme was around 15 lakh during financial year 2011-12. This scheme has been awarded the "E-INDIA 2011" by Government of

India and Computer Society of India.

Tribal Development

107. Under the Forest Rights Act, nearly of 1,00,00 land titles have been awarded so far and we have decided to grant Rs.50,000 to each of these beneficiaries for implementing various Agricultural Development Programmes in their land. Maharashtra has also launched schemes for skill development of tribal youth.

Minorities Development

The Minorities Development Department was formed as a separate administrative department by Government of Maharashtra in February 2008 with a view to implement the recommendations of the Sachhar Committee Report as well as Prime Minister's 15-Point Programme for Minorities.

State Government has launched various schemes like providing free uniforms, attendance allowance and scholarships to the minority students. Schemes for setting up hostels for girl students, new I.T.I's and Polytechnics, and introducing second shift in the existing I.T.I's and Polytechnics in minority concentrated areas especially for minority students are being implemented. The Government is providing employment oriented training programme including pre recruitment training for recruitment as police constables to unemployed minority youth. An area Development programme in the minority dominated urban areas is also being implemented.

During the Twelfth Five Year Plan we want to propose additional schemes like Area Development Programme for Rural Minority Concentrated Areas and larger/urban areas such as Bhivandi and Malegaon. We also want to propose free coaching & allied schemes imparting pre-recruitment coaching for UPSC, MPSC, banking, CET, etc. and enhancement in scholarship amount to students pursuing higher studies.

Science and Technology

111. To encourage applications of Science and Technology, the State Government has set up Rajiv Gandhi Science and Technology Commission, a statutory body, under the chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar, an eminent scientist. The Commission has supported a number of projects at the research institutions and the response is quite encouraging. We wish to further strengthen this activity during the Twelfth Plan. We are keen to set up technology incubators, facilities in interdisciplinary areas like bio-medical engineering, conservation of genetic resources, food parks and undertake technology missions of relevance to the State. We are ready to participate in all national efforts related to Science and Technology.

Right to Information

The scheme of imparting training of provisions under Right to Information Act, 2005 to Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authority Officers and staff of Government is implemented with the help of our premier training institute "YASHADA", Pune .The Right to Information Act, 2005 imposes responsibility on the State Government to give training to Public Information Officers and Appellate Officers of the State. Nearly 56,000 Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authorities have been trained so far.

Government has decided to give training to all the Public Servants who come under the preview of Right to Information. Under this scheme, it is proposed that approximately 14000 Government and Semi Government employees will be trained per year during the period of Twelfth Plan.

Infrastructural facilities for the Judiciary

114. This programme covers construction of court buildings and residential accommodation for the judicial officers. In view of the directions of the Supreme Court, the State Government has allocated Rs.167 crore during this current financial year; the Government of India has provided Rs.131 crore. Thus a total of Rs.298 crore is being spent for infrastructural facilities

E-Governance

We are aiming at establishing about 12,000 "Maha E-Seva Kendra" (Common Service Centers) to bring government services to citizens at their doorsteps. The Government is successfully running Setu Centers in 35 Districts which also provide G2C Services. State Data Centre has been set up to act as a Common Data Centre. The state head quarter at Mantralaya is already connected to all district headquarters and 305 talukas by Maharashtra State Wide Area Network.

To bring efficiency and transparency in the Government procurement process, etendering has been made compulsory for all departments for all tenders above Rs. 1 Crore and for all procurement of above Rs. 50 lakh. State Government has issued a Comprehensive E-Governance Policy.

Since 2009-10 State Government has started a web based application namely Maharashtra Plan Scheme Information Management System (MPSIMS) for preparation of Plan. MPSIMS has been awarded CSINihilent E-Governance Awards 2010-11, Award of excellence, under Projects Category G2G.

UID programme in the country was launched from Manarashtra's Nandurbar district. In first phase four crore residents have been enrolled. Second phase of enrollment has commenced from May 2012. At present there are 669 enrollment centers and 1781 enrollment kits working in the state. For targeted subsidies, we have started integrating UID / Aadhar numbers in various applications such as Health, Education, Sedal Justice and PDS. Central Government has started a pilot project to link government subsidies and grants with Aadhaar. The project is proposed to be implemented in Nandurbar, Amravati, Vardha, Pune and Mumbai Suburban District in the state.

Conclusion

I am sure that the successful implementation of the Twelfth Five Year Plan will place India as one of the leading economic powers of the world. I assure full support and co-operation from the Government and people of Maharashtra.

I once again thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission for convening the meeting of the National Development Council to enable us to place our views for framing Twelfth Five Year Plan. I would like to assure you that we will make all efforts for implementation of various policies and programmes arising out of deliberations of this Council. Finally I request you to approve our Twelfth Five Year Plan 201217.

ThankYou!