

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
1. Andhra Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide free water supply for Lift Irrigation Scheme. Extend crop loan facility, under which interest relief on crop loans is given, to 3.75 lakh new farmers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct pucca house in another 1/3rd villages under INDIRAMMA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish 4 new degree colleges, 5 junior colleges and 8 hostels to provide education facilities to remote areas. Set up 21st Century Gurukulams across the State to provide quality education to rural children. Extend concept of Jawahar Knowledge Centres to all Degree Colleges to provide gainful employment to Graduates in ITES industry.
2. Arunachal Pradesh		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government to come out with specific women related welfare programmes. 	
3. Assam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revive and revitalise Primary Cooperative Credit Societies. Two new schemes for the poor and physically challenged students. Provide bi-cycle to below poverty line girl students between class VI and class X in rural areas. Set up a Rural Housing Board to address the specific problems of rural housing. Set up a Terrorist Victims Welfare Board to address the welfare of the kins of terrorist victims on a sustainable basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute inputs such as power tillers, power threshers, hand compression sprayers, soil testing kit, etc. to the farmers. Give a thrust to agricultural mechanisation through distribution of tractors and creation of Fertiliser Sale Depots in each district. Set up medicinal and aromatic gardens and nurseries in different districts of the State. Start new water supply schemes such as Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme, etc. during 2007-08. Set up eight new training schools, five new district hospitals, five new Regional Diagnostic Centres, three new medical colleges, and setting up of Mobile Medical Units in each district. Set up an IT park in Guwahati with all modern plug and play infrastructures.
4. Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a corpus fund to rejuvenate the sick industries of the State. Reduction in motor vehicle tax. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint a "Farmer Advisor" in every Panchayat. Constitute an "Agriculture Technological Management Authority" in every district. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start a scheme of "Health Card" for the school going children, which would contain all the necessary information regarding the child.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote agriculture, exemption to organic fertiliser from taxation. Establish a non-lapsable Bihar Road Development Fund, containing income from plan, non-plan and other sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitute an 'Autonomous Road Authority' for the development of roads. Start a Central Tribunal in place of the existing system of 'Panchat' for settling of disputes. Set up a High Level Fisheries Training Centre in Patna. Set up Administrative Training Institute in Gaya. Set up a pesticide investigation laboratory in Patna. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of selected ITI's on the PPP basis. Distribution of 'Soil Health Cards' to the farmers. Come out with Maintenance Policy for the proper maintenance of roads. Emphasis on developing health services in the State through PPP including setting up new medical colleges and providing additional services, like development of pathology and radiology labs, investigation services, cleaning of hospitals, ambulance services, etc. Start three new medical colleges at Patna, Madhepura and Batia. Set up Chanakya National Law University. Start an Aryabhata Technical University.
5. Chhattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide 25 per cent distribution grant on agricultural instruments in order to extend the use of technology in the agriculture sector. Reduction in the rate of interest on 'Short Term Agricultural Loans' provided to the farmers through co-operative banks to 6 per cent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make submission of 'e-return' mandatory for all the registered dealers under the Companies Act. Start a scheme called 'Khalihan Bima Yojana' for those farmers who incurred losses due to natural calamities. Implement the recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee to strengthen the Co-operative Banks. Start a new scheme titled 'Vishwakarma Yojana' to ensure the supply of trained and skilled workforce for the growing manufacturing industries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a 'Seed Bank' Scheme to promote the use of certified seeds. Introduce Chief Minister Knowledge Incentive Scheme, under which a special scholarship of Rs.10,000/- will be awarded every year to 1,000 SC/ST talented students of Class Xth and XIIth. Introduce a new scheme for a regular health check-up of students residing in hostels. Implement a Population and Health Scheme. Establish a 100 bed cancer hospital in Raipur and a 'Centre for Genetic Diseases and Molecular Biology Laboratory' in Medical College Raipur. Establish a 'Forest Research and Training Institute'. Start a Hotel Management Institute.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a medical college in Raigarh. • Start an art school to promote talent in the traditional handicraft sector. • Start 'Mukhyamantri Gram Utkarsh Yojana' for the development of 5 districts not covered under Employment Guarantee Scheme. Out of this, 50 per cent will be utilised for infrastructure work and the remaining 50 percent for employment oriented work. • Introduce a new scheme of capacity development for the welfare and rehabilitation of handicapped people. • Introduce a scheme to upgrade the important state highways and district roads of the state to the international standards.
6. Goa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the support price eligibility for arecanut from the existing Rs.85/- per kg. to Rs.100/- per kg. • Enhance the subsidy from the existing 25 per cent to 50 per cent for sprinkler irrigation system with network of RPVC pipes. Increase cost ceiling for 25 per cent state subsidy to Rs.40,000/- per hectare for HDPE pipe network. Extend 25 per cent subsidy for purchase of other agriculture implements like harvesters, transplanters, bush cutters and paddy threshers. • Provide subsidy of Rs.5 lakh in addition to central subsidy of Rs.5 lakh limiting to 50 per cent of actual cost to group of farmers for getting certification of their agriculture produce as organic through designated societies in the State. • Institute a special fund to be utilised for garbage management on continuing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow cluster approach by promoting single activity in each cluster of SHGs to achieve economies of scale. • Provide exhibition and marketing infrastructure for SHGs to showcase and sell their products in each taluka. • Prepare Plan of Action for Women and Children. Construct two working women hostels, one each in Panaji and Margao. • Make the State garbage free within next two years. • Construct integrated modern bus terminus on Build Own Operate and Transfer basis in PPP format at Panaji, Margao and Mapusa. • Take up remaining 39 village Panchayats for computerisation under Infogram scheme. • Extend the moratorium on purchase of new tourist vehicles or on the issue of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start an exclusive residential school for blind having facilities for teaching braille and training them in various activities. • In order to encourage the private sector to provide employment opportunities to the differently abled persons, enhance incentive from Rs.250/- to Rs.500/- per month depending on the salary of disabled employee. • Train care-providers of various NGO's registered with the National Trust, to provide services to persons with disabilities. • Construct new premises for all the 'anganwadi' centres within five years at the rate of about 200 centres per year. Extend retirement benefits to the 'Anganwadi' workers. • Make efforts to lay gas pipe to Goa for providing clean fuel for power, fertilizer and transport sector.

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	<p>basis. Impose an environmental cess of 0.5 per cent on the gross value of electricity bill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide insurance cover against accidental fire hazards to cashew and sugarcane crops of small and marginal farmers by subsidizing 50 per cent of insurance premium. • Waive the outstanding balance of loans taken by the scheduled caste farmers from the Agriculture Department. • Provide assistance to Primary Agriculture Credit Cooperative Societies for cleansing their balance sheets and rejuvenate their activities. Enforce the 'Goa Cooperative Societies Act 2001' and the 'Goa Cooperative Societies Rules 2003' by creating necessary infrastructure and staffing pattern and notifying the enforcement in the official gazette. • Waive the outstanding loan amount extended by the Social Welfare Department to SC/ST persons for construction as well as repair of their houses and to differently abled persons for self employment. • Provide grants to the panchayats for systematic collection of plastic materials and their shredding, which can be used in construction of roads. • Evolve suitable package for revival of sick industrial units. • Institute suitable incentive mechanism for setting up of new environment friendly and viable industrial units in the backward talukas. • In order to encourage new industries to the State and expansion of existing industrial units, entry tax exemption on machinery and equipment for 	<p>permits to tourist vehicles by one more year up to 31st March 2008.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create 5000 hectare of irrigation potential during 2007-08. Take up the project of linking Madei River at Ganjem to Khandepar River at Opa to augment 4.53 million cubic meter of water. • Start a separate Department of Centre for Women's Study at the Goa University.

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	<p>new units and also to existing units who are investing at least 50 per cent or more on expansion in machinery and equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levy energy cess of 0.5 per cent on the gross electricity consumption to those consumers consuming more than 500 units per month. • Reduction in rate of tax on the inter-State sale of IT products from half per cent to 'Zero' per cent. 		
7. Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide relief to the poor and marginalised people in rural areas and to promote educational activities in such areas, reduce the rate of electricity duty for residence, recognised educational institutions and hostels in the rural areas from 15 per cent to 10 per cent. • Reduce the rate of electricity duty for residence and recognised educational institutions in the urban areas for consumption of more than 40 units from 30 per cent to 20 per cent. • Reduce the rate of electricity duty for consumers of residuary category from 30 per cent to 25 per cent. • Reduce the rate of electricity duty applicable to hall, auditorium, theatre and hotel and restaurant from 30 per cent to 25 per cent in order to encourage the entertainment and tourism industries. • Redesigning of the Motor Vehicle Tax structure, to reduce the present 67 tax rates to mere 18. • Reduction in the rates of luxury tax. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover further one lakh hectare command area under Participatory Irrigation Management. Under this arrangement, co-operatives and organisations associated with use of water, have been entrusted the management of irrigation facilities. • Start "Bal Bhog" scheme to provide nutritious food to ten lakh children, below 3 years of age, through 'Anganwadis'. • Start Women Employment Exchanges in two metropolitan cities on experimental basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline a package of Rs.15,000 crore for tribal development. • Cover an additional area of 1 lakh hectare under micro irrigation such as drip and sprinkler irrigation. • Start 10 new ITIs having the capacity of 4,500 seats. • Start 2,695 additional 'Anganwadis'.

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8. Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify all the indirect subsidies to the agriculture sector and devise methods to provide all such subsidies directly to the farmers. To encourage conservation of power in the State, give tax relief on Compact Fluorescent Lamps and other energy saving devices in consultation with the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers constituted by the Government of India. Reduce the passenger tax to 25 per cent and increase the basic fare proportionately without any change in the total fare payable by the passengers. Cess on banquet halls/lawns and marriage palaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish the Haryana Rural Development Authority (HRDA), which would take up the planning and development of improved residential facilities and civic infrastructure in villages and semi-urban areas. Take up major infrastructure development works in the mission identified town of Faridabad under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). Set up a Sports Academy with all modern facilities. To establish institute-industry partnership, establish Institute Managing Committees in the remaining institutes in a phased manner. Start a new scheme titled "Skill Training to Scheduled Caste Students", exclusively for the scheduled caste students in new emerging areas like mobile phone and computer repair, networking, personal grooming, retailing, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate work for augmentation of water supply to 70 litre per capita per day in 1100 villages with the assistance from NABARD and NCR Planning Board. Take up work on sewage treatment plants in six towns of the State. Provide free computer education to all students from class six to twelve. Expansion of EDUSAT coverage to primary schools, Arts senior secondary school and technical institutions to impart quality education. Construct one rural stadium costing Rs.40 lakh each in every block.
9. Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25,000 new pensioners to be added in the category of old age, widow and disability pension scheme. Explore the possibility of switching from a specific to an ad valorem excise duty structure and undertake an evaluation of VAT implementation. Initiate studies to explore further areas for increasing tax buoyancies, including switching over to an ad valorem system for electricity duties. In order to check evasion and the undervaluing of property transactions, reduction in stamp duty rate for registration of land sale transactions from 8 per cent to 5 per cent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover more districts under the National Rural Employment Programme. Strengthen the Panchayati Raj functionaries and, as a first step, offer them wages commensurate with their responsibilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical college in Mandi to be set up in the Government sector and one medical college to be set up in Hamirpur in the private sector. Set up 5 degree colleges, 150 senior secondary schools, 50 high schools and 200 middle schools. Import horticulture plants and root stock to give a boost to horticulture productivity. Continue to facilitate PPP for setting up of cold storages by private companies so as to provide direct access to farmers for marketing their produce through modern food retail stores.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in token tax for vehicles to 5 per cent to check congestion and pollution. • Start a dedicated Pension Fund with an initial corpus of Rs.50 crore, which will be suitably enhanced every year so that in time it will fully meet the outgo on pension requirements. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide road links to all unconnected Panchayats by March 2008 and to all habitations of above 500 population by March 2009. • Implement World Bank aided Hydrology project to improve the quality of portable water.
10. Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a four-member Ministerial Committee to review the progress of collection of non-tax revenues on a quarterly basis, apart from looking at strategies to augment the revenue flows. • Intensification of efforts for recovery of arrears of power tariff and water charges payable by Government departments and municipal bodies and private entities. • Upgrade infrastructure for toll collection. • Grant of an amnesty scheme for trade and industry to provide last opportunity for facilitating voluntary liquidation of tax arrears payable under the General Sales Tax. • Introduce a scheme of 'Demand Assessments' under the Jammu and Kashmir General Sales Tax Act, 1962 to clear the huge back log of assessment cases pending disposal under the erstwhile tax regime. • Institute a scheme of rewards for persons providing vital information for better tax recovery. • Bring additional services such as, courier services, coaching institutions, cable network, insurance, banking and other financial services, etc. within the ambit of taxation. • Enhance the rate of tax on 'services' from 4 per cent to 8 per cent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a Committee to look into the issue of streamlining the exemptions given to the industries. • Constitute a High Power Employment Mission to take over the responsibility of coordination with different departments and related institutions to look into employment related issues and monitor generation programmes at each level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the scope for innovative self employment projects under various sectors. • Industries and Commerce Department to come out with a trade policy which will lay down future road map for enhanced trading activity, particularly in the context of concrete and positive possibilities of trans-LOC trade. • Take steps for reform and restructuring of the power sector.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soft loans to travel and taxi operators against viable projects. Introduce settlement scheme for one-time settlement of non-performing loans given by the State Finance Corporation. 		
11. Jharkhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitution of a High Level Committee to suggest measures regarding enhancement of resources and for strengthening the fiscal management. Set up integrated check post at nine places to make the tax collection process more systematic and transparent. Establish Jharkhand Road Development Fund for the construction and maintenance of the roads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up Jharkhand State Highway Authority to manage and supervise the work relating to the development and modernisation of roads in the State. Establish SCERT in order to organise and manage the education system on the lines of NCERT of Government of India. Start a new scheme called Sidha-Kanho Awaas Yojana (SKAY) for those persons living below poverty line and have not received the benefits of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). Set up a public distribution grievance redressal commission for redressal of the disputes relating to the public distribution shops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up agriculture parks in Chatra and Dumka districts to facilitate spreading of knowledge of modern agricultural techniques and tools. Establish an agriculture university in Goda district. Set up a university in the educationally backward region of Kolahan division. Establish three engineering colleges in the districts of Ramgarh, Chaibasa and Dumka. Open engineering colleges/institutions on PPP basis. Provide computer education in all the Government schools from 9th to 12th standard to facilitate computer education to the rural folks.
12. Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue credit facility at 4 per cent rate of interest for farmers, weavers and fishermen and extend this facility to "Stree Shakthi" and other SHGs. Higher allocation for capital works in major and minor irrigation works to complete 19 projects. Extend the benefit of loan waiver to provide one-time relief to farmers who have short-term crop loans from cooperative institutions. Extend waiver to weavers and fishermen up to Rs.25,000. Implementation of recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission appointed by the State. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide support to establishment of a permanent "Karnataka Agricultural Commodities Forward Markets Commission". Prepare a special eight year development plan for redressal of regional imbalances and implement recommendations of Dr. Nanjundappa Committee. Establish a new Directorate of Social Security and Pensions to implement all the pension schemes. Initiate the new scheme of "Micro Credit" under which many skilled/unskilled persons belonging to SC, ST, Backward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate the "Karnataka Biofuel Programme" under a mission mode. The first phase of this mission will span over seven years and activity will be taken up in 15 selected talukas. A comprehensive Dairy Development Programme to promote dairying in North Karnataka. Open 25 Morarji Desai residential schools for SCs and 5 for ST students and open 75 new hostels for SCs and 10 for STs. Begin 22 new Morarji Desai residential schools for the backward classes and 75 new hostels.

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State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under "Sandhya Suraksha" scheme, provide a monthly pension of Rs.400 to citizens above 60 years of age, chosen among small and marginal farmers, labourers from unorganised sector including agricultural labourers, weavers, fishermen, etc. Increase in monthly pension to widows, aged and physically handicapped persons from Rs.200 to Rs.400. 0.5 per cent concession on payment of stamp duty at the time of registration of the property for all properties backed by title insurance. In the interest of the society and the poor people, ban on all kinds of lotteries. 	<p>classes and minorities will be assisted in pursuing small business activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the possibility of linking "Suvarna Suraksha" scheme with a new scheme called "Aam Admi Bima Yojana" announced in the Union Budget 2007-08. Establish "Unorganised Workers Welfare Board" covering different segments of the labour force. Establish "Karnataka State Environment Impact Assessment Authority" and "Karnataka State Expert Appraisal" Committee. Establish Bangalore Developers, Builders and House Owners Repository" on a PPP basis to collate all declared information by a particular developer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Ramanagaram city into a health city. Upgradation of four polytechnics into engineering colleges and setting up of a constituent engineering college by the Vishweshariah Technological University at Hassan.
13. Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue exemption from Agricultural Income Tax given last year for all assesseees other than in the corporate sector for one more year. Continue the exemption from tax on coconut for one more year. Impose 12.5 per cent tax on all tobacco and tobacco products that would become applicable when the Central Government issues a notification excluding tobacco from the list of declared goods. Impose stamp duty on demat transactions. Introduce a package to reduce the losses of Kerala State Road Transport Corporation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a new scheme in association with Sarva Siksha Abhiyan. Introduce a new scheme for giving scholarship to students. Integration of social security schemes after a comprehensive evaluation. Renaming of Social Welfare Department as Welfare and Women's Development Department and formation of a Gender Advisory Committee under this Department. Formation of the Kerala Urban Development Corporation for urban development. Local Self Government Institutions to give priority to implementation of administrative reforms, such as, deployment of employees, up to date accounts of Local Self Government Institutions, rules for Budget, accounts, public works, stores purchase, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Package to increase paddy production involving scientific method of cultivation, loans at subsidised rate of interest to farmers adopting scientific method and a special scheme to ensure subsidiary employment for paddy cultivators. Special package for the arecanut farmers affected by the Yellow Leaf Disease. Emphasis on market intervention in agriculture sector. Convert watershed programme into a massive public movement by lining up farmers, agricultural labourers and volunteers. Comprehensive health care programme to provide free treatment to the poor and treatment at reduced rate to others in Government hospitals.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram cities under JNNURM. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a scheme in the environment sector to sustain the ecological balance of wet land areas. Steps for bio-diversity conservation, eco-tourism and protection of national parks and sanctuaries. Reorganise the implementation of IT sector project named 'Akshaya Project' with the participation of Local Self Government Institutions. Take up non-conventional energy activities such as utilisation of rubber seed oil as bio-diesel, production of gas from coconut pith through bio methenation, exploring the feasibility of gasahol production, etc. Improve the quality of English education by way of a scheme devised with the help of NCERT and the Institute of Foreign Language System.
14. Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide subsidised agriculture loans at the rate of 7 per cent through cooperative credit societies. Introduction of "Gender Budget" to ensure empowerment and active participation of women in various development schemes. Start an Electronic Tender system in order to incorporate greater transparency in the financial management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitution of a "Farmers Commission" to suggest the measures for the welfare of the farmers. Start a new scheme called "Apan Ghar" for those Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe families, which have not received the benefits of the Indra Awaas Yojana (IAY). Form a federation to strengthen the SHGs, which are engaged in poverty eradication programme to ensure optimum use of the available resources and provide better marketing facilities to the groups. Start a scheme aimed at economic empowerment and providing better educational and health services to girls. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of 27 State Highways and four major District roads with the financial assistance from ADB and other financial institutions. Emphasis on developing infrastructure through PPP. Upgradation of power transmission and distribution system to minimise the level of losses occurring due to transmission. Establish a veterinary college in Rewa, new animal dispensaries and upgradation and strengthening of animal hospitals. Start a scholarship scheme to enable talented students from the backward classes to undertake higher studies abroad.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up 'Bundelkhand Development Authority' to make development strategies according to the specific conditions of this backward region. Set up a "Centre for Good Governance" in Bhopal for ensuring the quality of the reforms process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start five polytechnic colleges in collaboration with the Central Government.
15. Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the package of assistance for giving relief to farmers in six districts of Vidarbha. Tax tobacco and tobacco products at the rate of 12.5 per cent. Exemption for Biris and unmanufactured tobacco. Provide premium subsidy to small and marginal farmers under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme. Pay special attention to the tourism sector by giving concessions in the payment of luxury tax, entertainment tax, amusement tax and stamp duty depending upon the location of the tourism project. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of 8,528 classrooms, 19 block resource centres and 1,073 cluster resource centres under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Increase in pre-secondary and secondary scholarship rates. Accord higher priority to the last mile projects so as to create maximum irrigation potential within the available resources. Implement Maharashtra State Wide Area Network Project under which all 35 districts will be connected to Mantralaya and all talukas will be connected to the district headquarters. Measures to augment power supply and ensure energy conservation to make proper use of available power. Upgradation of medical colleges and hospitals to meet modern standards of medical education and patient care. Undertake schemes to increase forest and tree cover and encourage eco-tourism in the forest areas. Implement the World Bank aided National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project that would benefit coastal districts of the State. Cover all habitations in rural areas for tackling the drinking water problem, under Bharat Nirman Programme.

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State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
16. Manipur			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reimburse the fees in professional courses of unaided and permanently unaided educational institutions to the scheduled caste students. Increase in rate of scholarship to the scheduled caste students studying in secondary schools. Upgrade 4 District Hospitals in the hills and at Jiribam by construction of 50 bedded hospitals under NLPCR. Upgrade the 78 kms. section from Maram to Imphal to four lane and make Old Cachar Road from Bishnupur to Rengpand via Khoupum measuring 93 kms. motorable.
17. Meghalaya		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up a State Bamboo Development Agency to carry out the State Bamboo Policy with assistance from the National Bamboo Mission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover an area of 1800 hectares under minor irrigation projects. Take up harvesting of rain water and explore the ground water potential. Upgrade the process of computerisation in order to facilitate the implementation of smart card in driving licenses, high security registration plates and issue of permits. Cover 800 non-covered and partially-covered habitations, 1000 rural schools and 50 ICDS Centres under the Central Sector Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. Take up land development, afforestation and water distribution works covering 2530 hectares; bring in additional 680 hectares under erosion control works and create 250 water harvesting/ farm ponds. Implement Central Sector Mill Gate Price Scheme, Handloom Cluster Development Programme and Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish data centres under NEGP, SWAN, Common Service Centres and an IT Estate at New Shillong
18. Mizoram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise the constitution of the Guarantee Redemption Fund. Continue the process of audit assessment of VAT covering more areas. Introduce toll on roads and bridges and water cess on minor irrigation. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to give priority to the "Bamboo Flowering and Famine Combat Scheme". Take up "North Eastern Region Urban Development Project (NERUDP) (Phase-I) for urban development of Aizawl city.
19. Nagaland		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of the programme "Year of the Farmer" to 2007-08 with focus on harnessing the abundant resources to reach levels of not only self-sufficiency but also surplus for exports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalise a nursing college attached with the Naga Hospital Authority, Kohima under the National Rural Health Mission. Establish three new district hospitals in the newly created districts. Set up a sewerage and sanitation system for Kohima with loan from ADB. Commencement of Bachelor degree courses in several subjects, including business administration, computer application, science, hospitality and tourism management under the aegis of ICFAI University.
20. Orissa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide free water supply for Lift Irrigation Scheme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a new scheme to provide self-employment to the unemployed youth. Start a new scheme named "Biju Gram Jyoti" in order to provide electricity in villages having population of less than 300. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure Development of Constituent Colleges under Biju Pattnaik University of Technology (BPUT). Implement a new scheme named "Intensive Mineral Exploration and Assessment of Mineral Resources".
21. Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher devolution to Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies to assist the Rural and Urban Local Bodies to improve infrastructure and civic services in their areas. Reduction in basic Stamp Duty rates from 6 per cent to 5 per cent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce the 'Bhai Ghanaiya Sehat Seva Scheme' for medical insurance up to Rs.2 lakh per year for members of all Cooperative Societies w.e.f. 1.9.2007 enlarging the scope of the earlier scheme which was limited to members of Primary Agricultural Societies alone. Introduce a similar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Popularise a programme for promoting resource conservation technologies, such as zero tillage, deep ploughing, raised bed planting, laser land leveling, etc., to tackle the problem of soil degradation and water depletion.

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State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
		scheme for the BPL families, who would pay premium of Rs.100 per family per year and the remaining premium will be paid by the State Government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enact an enabling legislation to promote agri-processing and marketing and promote contract farming and organised retail in vegetables, food grains and dairying. Pilot Project for diversification through Agriculture Production Pattern Adjustment Programme in Punjab for productivity and growth and Macro Management Work Plan. Special impetus to horticulture. Set up 20 Farmers Training Centres in the State for bridging the gap between labs and farms. Proposal to revive loss making Milk Unions.
22. Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand-made goods of SHGs to be tax-free. Luxury tax to be imposed on banquet halls, marriage and party places. 'Anywhere registration' facility, started in Jaipur to be extended to the rest of Rajasthan. Launch a new contributory pension scheme, 'Vishwakarma', on the lines of the CPF scheme for government employees for unorganised labour. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch a Rajasthan Social Sector Viability Gap Funding Scheme. Set up 'Rajasthan Innovation Foundation' with a corpus of Rs.3 crore. Establish new Directorate of Consumers Affairs. Constitute an 'Economically Weaker Sections Commission' to identify the economically weaker sections and to assess their needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer education on wheels in each district, with the Government bearing 75 per cent of the cost of the bus and computers. 1,500 upper primary schools to be upgraded to secondary schools, 600 secondary schools to be upgraded to higher secondary schools. Set up a new trauma hospital. Start a new hospital at Mansarovar that would be run and managed in partnership with an established hospital such as Bombay Hospital. Amend hotel policy to cover rural and heritage tourism. Open 1,500 new 'Anganvadi' centres. Launch 'Patanjali Aarogya' scheme for prevention of infectious diseases and for prompt diagnosis and treatment. Launch eco-tourism policy for encouraging eco-tourism.
23. Sikkim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in Old Age Pension from Rs.300 to Rs.400 per month. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint a State Diagnostic Expert Committee to study and examine issues of women education, health, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special emphasis on seed production with supportive facilities for seed testing and certification.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide incentive by way of an award to the best NGO in Sikkim working in the field of woman and child development. • Provide easy access to land and other infrastructural facilities and tax exemptions to encourage investment by the renowned private parties in technical institutions, professional institutes and management schools. 	<p>environment, income, employment and socio-politico participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a bio-technology mission to frame a comprehensive policy on all aspects of bio-technology. • Set up a full fledged Directorate of Capacity Building that will be manned by experts and professionals. Each Department will allocate at least 2 per cent of their annual expenditure to their respective capacity building programmes. The Panchayati Raj institutions will also set aside 2 per cent of their total fund allocations exclusively for capacity building exercises. • The Directorate of Capacity Building to operate a fund for promoting foreign language learning in the State. • Commission Environment and Green Mission with the objective of accelerating the process of greening the State over a reasonable time-frame. • Constitute an Expert Group to study the state of Glaciers and its impact on water system in Sikkim. • Introduce legislative action to undertake a new project known as "Initiative on City-State" to develop the urban and rural areas together and bridge the development gaps. • Creation, strengthening and streamlining of three separate Directorates in the Department of Human Resources Development to look after primary education, secondary education and higher education. • Constitute a State Level Education Regulatory Commission to monitor the quality of education, supervise the maintenance of all the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend research grants to undertake research in areas of folk and traditional medicinal practices. • Give mega programme status to horticulture and floriculture projects.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
		<p>education related institutions and oversee the broad orientation of higher education policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start a new programme known as Adhyapan Kaushal Kosh (Teaching Skill Fund) to send teachers from the State to institutions outside the State and also to invite eminent teachers and educationists from other States to Sikkim for upgradation of knowledge, teaching skills, curriculum designs and pedagogy techniques. Set up media centres in all the district headquarters with basic communication facilities. Set up Special Economic Zone for the small and medium enterprise from both India and abroad. 	
24. Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the interest rate on such co-operative crop loans from 7 per cent to 5 per cent. With a view to increasing the investments in farm irrigation infrastructure, Rs.100 crore would be given as loans through Primary Co-operative Agriculture Societies and Rural Development Banks. Financial assistance to farmers for taking crop insurance. Enhance the amount of devolution from 8 per cent to 9 per cent of the state's own tax revenue. Increase in monthly pension given to handloom weavers above 60 years of age from Rs.200 to Rs.400 per month. Implement e-tendering in two phases - in the first phase, starting from 1.7.2007, tender forms for open tenders for a value exceeding Rs.10 lakh can be obtained through the internet and in the second phase, starting from 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the scheme to reclaim wasteland and distribute them free of cost to poor agricultural families. With a view to promoting establishment of new industries in the southern districts, establish a Special Economic Zone in Virudhunagar district. Form 25,000 new SHGs and provide assistance for their capacity building and enabling them to take up income generating activities. Implement the first phase of the World Bank aided 'Vaazhndhu Kattuvom' project in 15 Panchayat Unions in 15 districts with the objective of promoting the welfare of the most marginalised sections of the society like the poorest of the poor, poor women, disabled and destitute. Give skill development training to 50,000 unemployed youth through the Government. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce micro-irrigation techniques with 50 per cent subsidy on 1,30,100 acres of land with a view to promoting judicious use of water. Encourage modern agricultural techniques by way of introducing precision farming in all districts through demonstration farms. Implement Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation and Water Bodies Restoration and Management project with assistance from the World Bank with a view to improving the river basins. Upgrade 100 middle schools as high schools and 80 high schools as higher secondary schools. Establish computer laboratories in all Government higher secondary schools. Exempt all students studying undergraduate courses in Government Arts and Science colleges from payment of

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
	1.10.2007, bids can also be submitted on-line through the web sites of the concerned departments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitute a State Level High Level Monitoring Committee to monitor the implementation of the major welfare schemes of the Government. 	<p>tuition fees thereby providing higher education free of cost in Government colleges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up two new Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) in Perambalur district and a new Government ITI in Sivaganga district. Establish a new technical university by the name Tirunelveli Anna University with a view to further improving the quality of technical education in southern districts. Set up two new medical colleges at Thiruvallur and Dharmapuri. Implement a scheme with financial assistance from the Tea Board of Government of India to rejuvenate the tea estates in the Nilgiris district and modernise co-operative tea factories. Implement the Metro Rail Project at Chennai city to ease traffic congestion. Schemes to provide adequate protected water supply in 9,000 rural habitations. Implement a scheme to improve the water supply infrastructure and upgrade the solid waste management system of Chennai city under the JNNURM.
25. Tripura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce Guarantee Redemption Fund. Strengthening of Tax Organisation with a view to providing improved service to the people and for further boosting of collection. Build up a corpus with initial contribution of Rs.2 crore for providing capital support to the SHGs, subject to assessment of their performance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of Cattle Insurance Scheme in all the Districts, strengthening of Milk Marketing system and expansion of veterinary service network. Consider introduction of Health Insurance Scheme for BPL families on pilot basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up Tripura Institute of Technology having Degree and Diploma modules. Set up an Agricultural College to meet need for development of the agricultural sector. Emphasis on development of horticulture by undertaking activities like crop demonstration, transfer of modern technology through training and publicity and encouragement of private entrepreneurs.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take up development of additional eight Model Aqua Panchayats, three prawn villages and four special villages. • Introduce the concept of multiple stocking and harvesting in pisciculture. • Emphasis on development of forest area by formation of SHGs, creation of water bodies and additional rubber plantation. • Target of 7550 hectare area to be covered under assured irrigation. • For providing quality education, residential Schools at Buratali and Ashram School at Korbook to be made functional.
26. Uttarakhand		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established 'Aayush Gram' in each district to encourage the Ayurvedic treatment system. • Establish a rural business hub to encourage the local producers to sell local products, goods, medicines and hand made goods as also to facilitate marketing of their goods. • In order to replenish the fast depleting ground water resources in the State and for the preservation of drinking water, establish a "Rajya Stariya Jal Samvardhan Mission". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct a hotel/convention centre near Tapkeswar on PPP basis. • Construct ropeways on PPP basis to provide easy connectivity to the places of tourist interest located in remote areas. • For the development of infrastructure in urban areas, implement works such as provision of drinking water, sewerage, solid disposal management and construction of roads etc., in 31 cities, with assistance from ADB. • Encourage the use of special types of crops in rain-fed agricultural areas. • Establish an Aviation University/Academy in order to encourage the aviation activities in the State and to acquire technical skill in this field and to draw the attention of entrepreneurs in this sector. • Establish a mental health institute at Dehradun to provide specialised medical facilities for mental health.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
27. Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in pension payable to old, handicapped, destitute widows and farmers to Rs.300 from Rs.150. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to foster and strengthen the process of rural development, start a new scheme, "Dr. Ambedkar Gram Sabha Vikas Yojana", for the integrated development of the Ambedkar villages. 'Regional Rural Employment Generation Centres' to be set up under this scheme. • Introduce a new scheme to provide financial assistance to the urban bodies for the development of urban infrastructure. • Start an "Integrated Development Scheme" for the welfare of the backward classes. • Introduce a new scheme called 'Operation Green' for increasing forest cover and tree plantation with people's participation. • Implement National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in all the districts of the State by the end of 11th Five Year Plan. • Formulate a new Sugar Industry Policy. • Privatisation of loss-making sugar mills run by Co-operative sector and State Sugar Mills Corporation. • Constitute "Professional Educational Council" to provide effective professional education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up two power houses at Allahabad and Anpara with the cooperation of private investors. • Upgrade one engineering institute to develop it on the lines of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore to promote technical education. Upgrade another engineering institute to IIT level. • Set up two new State Homeopathic Colleges and two new Allopathic Medical Colleges. • Open 813 new primary schools and 4,500 new Junior High schools in un-served areas. • Constitution of 'Vocational Education Board'. • Provide financial assistance to encourage opening of degree colleges in private sector in such development blocks where no degree college has yet been set up. • Set up 35 Ayurvedic and Unani Hospitals in urban areas, 125 such hospitals in rural areas and 92 new Government Homeopathic Hospitals.
28. West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide bank credit at a low interest (of 4 per cent) to one lakh beneficiaries of land distribution and one lakh recorded share-croppers. • Expand the coverage under the scheme of Provident Fund for landless agricultural labourer from 9.42 lakh to 10.50 lakh. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the number of beneficiaries under the provident fund scheme for the workers in the unorganised sector to 10 lakh from about 7.92 lakh workers. • Expand the scope of the Settlement Commission by bringing under its purview pending appeal and revision cases against assessment orders passed up to June 30, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up 500 primary schools, 750 Sishu Siksha Kendras, 1000 junior high schools and 100 junior madrasahs. • Upgrade 500 high schools to higher secondary schools and also 100 madrasahs to high madrasahs. • Set up 500 vocational training centres. Set up one Government college each for

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the "Aam Admi Bima Yojana" for agricultural labourers and integrate this scheme with Provident Fund Scheme for agricultural labourers. Computerisation of the Directorate of Commercial Taxes. Further simplification of the VAT Return Form based on recommendations of the Committee of Commissions of Commercial Taxes once the Report is submitted. Enhance the plan outlay of Panchayats and Rural Development Department. Extend the coverage under the schemes of old age pension, widow pension, disability pension, artisans' pension, farmers' pension and fishermen's pension. Refund of input tax in respect of the quantity exported at the pre-assessment stage for units which export at least 75 per cent of their total sales as has been done in the case of 100 per cent export-oriented units. Extend the applicability of the scheme of settlement of disputes relating to sales tax up to June 30, 2007 on payment of 46 per cent of the disputed tax and 5 per cent of the disputed interest and penalty. Modify the definition of sale price as defined in the West Bengal Value Added Tax Act, 2003 to exclude the sum charged for insurance at the time of delivery or before delivery of the goods from the sale price. Extend soft loans and granting additional relief to encourage reopening of closed tea gardens and fresh investment in replantation and machinery. 	<p>1997 not only under the West Bengal Sales Tax Act, 1994 but also under the Bengal Finance (Sales Tax) Act, 1941 and West Bengal Sales Tax Act, 1954, which have since been repealed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce an incentive scheme for assisting the micro and small industries. Depending on the location of the district in the State, the micro-industries will be entitled to capital investment subsidy up to 35 per cent of investment and the small scale units will be entitled to capital investment subsidy up to 20 per cent of investment. Extend training and marketing support to young men and women, registered with the employment exchanges, who intend to set up small scale enterprises, either individually or by forming SHGs. 	<p>North Bengal, Paschimanchal and Sundarban regions and ten more Government aided colleges, where along with general subjects, emphasis will be given on management education and high quality computer education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up a new full-fledged university in the district of North 24-Parganas. Extend the irrigation facilities and undertake the reclamation works of the rivers passing through the State. Encourage crop diversification by placing special emphasis on floriculture and horticulture. Steps to set up 45 industrial clusters in different districts of the State to promote the growth of small scale industries.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Contd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levy value added tax at the rate of 12.5 per cent on tobacco and tobacco products. 		
29. NCT Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tax holiday to hotels up to four star category coming up in Delhi between April 2007 and October 2010 for promotion of tourism. Extend social audit of the functioning of welfare homes and hospitals. Increase in monthly pension for senior citizens who are economically weak and above the age of 60 years from Rs.400 to Rs.600. Tax on tobacco and tobacco products at the rate of 12.5 per cent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake construction of houses for weaker sections on a much large scale with the financial support from the Government of India under JNNURM. Provide houses to the slum dwellers by forming Multi-Purpose Cooperative Societies. Set up Yamuna River Development Authority. Create a Directorate for Women and Child Development, to focus exclusively on all schemes for the welfare of women and children in order to increase their reach and effectiveness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct 53 underground reservoirs (UGR) in different parts of the city by December 2009 so as to ensure better and equitable distribution of water supply. Out of 53 UGRs, 13 have already been constructed and five are nearing completion. Provide all civic amenities like roads, drains, water supply, sewerage, parks, community centres, health and educational infrastructure, etc., in unauthorised colonies that have been regularised. Provide sewerage system in all rural villages of Delhi to check untreated waste water of these habitats coming into Yamuna River. Initiate new projects to meet the power demand of Delhi. Set up a University of Science and Technology to provide international quality science and technical education at the post graduate and research levels. Open eight more new schools. In order to provide quality education to the meritorious students of government schools, convert five existing schools into Pratibha Vikas Vidyalayas. Extend computer aided learning project from 200 schools to all the remaining Government and Government Aided Schools. Computerisation of all school libraries. Set up a new University named as 'Ambedkar University' in the Campus of Mahatma Gandhi Rural Energy Training Institute at Bakoli.

Annex 1: Major Policy Initiatives of State Budgets 2007-08 (Concl'd.)

State	Fiscal	Institutional	Sectoral
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waive the fees of girl students for all courses in ITIs. • Emphasis on strengthening and expansion of Multi Disciplinary Hospitals, creation of infrastructure to provide comprehensive health care comprising of preventive, promotive, curative and family welfare services. • Encourage diversification of crop production from traditional crops to cash crops like floriculture and horticulture. • Carry forward the mission of controlling air pollution in all its form.
30. Puducherry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance subsidy on premium paid by the fishing vessel owners to insurance companies. • Provide share capital assistance to the Agricultural Credit Societies/Land Development Bank. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend crop insurance to crops such as cotton, groundnut and banana. • Implement seasonal Rainfall Insurance Scheme called 'Varsha Bima' introduced by the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited. • Introduce a new scheme called 'Farmers Income Guarantee Scheme' for the benefit of milk producers. • Incentive to village and small enterprises, which are mainly owner-run enterprises to generate employment. • Encourage employment oriented non-polluting industries, IT, bio-technology and other such industries. • Adopt e-governance practices to serve the people better. • Computerise the activities of Panchayati Raj institutions as a part of transparent and efficient administration. • Constitute District Planning Committee to give due weightage for grass root planning for achieving speedy and balanced economic growth in all the regions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a new scheme on precision farming in the production of vegetables to act as a model unit for the farming community. • Construction of trauma care centre for Mahe General Hospital. • To cater to the rapidly growing power demand of Puducherry Town area, establish a Substation at Venkata Nagar. • Extend free higher education to the students belonging to the Union Territory of Puducherry in all Government Colleges and Society Colleges under the administrative control of the Government. • Provide computers free of cost to the students belonging to BPL families pursuing B. Tech. (Computer Science), M.C.A. and M.Sc. (Computer Science) in Government Colleges. • Encourage investment in the field of industrial infrastructure development with public-private participation with the aim to achieve for faster industrial growth.

Source: Budget Speeches of State Governments, 2007-08.