



Government of West Bengal

Budget Statement

by

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Minister of State (Independent Charge)
Finance Department

2026-2027

5th February, 2026

Honb'le Speaker Sir,

With your permission I rise to present the interim Annual Financial Statement and a Vote on Account for the first four months for the financial year 2026-27 to this August house.

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Honb'le Speaker Sir,

With the vision of our Hon'ble Chief Minister of providing effective citizen centric services, the State Government has successfully implemented different programs and schemes efficiently in spite of the Central Government's refusal to give us our legitimate dues.

This has led to sustained growth and development of the State's economy. It has also helped the State to ensure significant job creation, eradicate poverty and increase per capita income of its citizens.

You will be happy to know that more than 1.72 crore people have been brought out of poverty.

As per annual reports of "Periodic labour Force Survey (PLFS)" of Government of India, the unemployment rate for the age group '15 years and above', has reduced by nearly 45.65 percent from 2017-18 to 2023-24.

The State has emerged as the front runner in the country in major agricultural produce.

Under 'Khadyasathi' schemes, food security has been ensured to almost 9 crore people.

West Bengal has achieved outstanding success in providing affordable health services for our people. More than 2.45 crore families have been covered and more than 1 crore beneficiaries have availed services under Swasthya Sathi Scheme.

Institutional delivery has increased from 68.1% in 2011 to 99.5% at present by our sustained effort.

Empowerment of the women and development of SC, ST, OBC and the minorities has remained a main pillar of our State Government's endeavour to distribute the benefit of growth to the all sections of our society.

West Bengal now ranks No.1 in India in implementing infrastructure development projects in areas with significant minority population.

In this background, we may inform that implementation of 94 social protection schemes have provided security to our people in life and livelihood.

In this financial year 32 lakh households have been provided housing under Banglar Bari Scheme. You will be happy to know that more than 1 crore families have been provided housing.

For improving connectivity, under the State's own initiative in different schemes and 'Pathashree-Rastashree scheme', more than 2.20 lakh km roads have been constructed and another 30,000 km roads are being constructed under Pathashree-Rastashree scheme phase-IV.

Drinking water is an absolute necessity for everyone. Under Jal Swapna functional tap water connection have been increased from 2 lakh in 2011 to nearly 1 crore households.

State's effort in implementing successfully critical infrastructural projects has created strategic infrastructure in roads, bridges, power, drinking water, digital infrastructure which have contributed significantly in our growth strategy.

In investment, West Bengal has become a major destination for industry, manufacturaing, tourism, services like IT & Data Centre and logistic hubs.

West Bengal has emerged as a major hub in steel, cement, railway coach, metro coach and wagon production.

The State has nurtured its enriched cultural heritage including tribal culture, local language development which has been showcased to the world and gained much appreciation.

'Duare Sarkar', 'Paray Samadhan' and 'Amader Para Amader Samadhan' are our innovative initiatives. Our people have participated in these programmes with much enthusiasm. It has helped the State to deliver its various beneficial schemes to it citizens effectively.

Keeping the vision of Hon'ble Chief Minister as a guiding light, you will be happy to know that the West Bengal economy, measured in terms of the Gross State

Domestic Product (GSDP), is rising by about 5 times to Rs. 21.48 lakh crore in 2026-27, as compared to 2010-11.

In this connection, it is important to mention that more than 2.5 crore jobs have been created in the State in private sector, public sector and self employed.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

I shall now go to 4th part of the Budget Speech at page number 171 and page numbers upto 170 will be treated as read.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Our Government's policies, programmes and schemes are driven fundamentally for inclusive upliftment of all, while we bring sustained economic growth with socio-economic progress under the guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Smt. Mamata Banerjee.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Women empowerment has been one of the most transformative pillars of governance in West Bengal. Under the flagship Lakshmir Bhandar scheme, 2.21 crore women have been provided assured income support with an annual allocation of Rs. 26,700 crore, and cumulative expenditure exceeding Rs.74,000 crore. Through Rupashree, 22.02 lakh women have received financial assistance at marriage.

Girls' education and dignity have been strengthened through Kanyashree, benefitting over one crore girls, alongside Sabooj Sathi, which provided bicycles to 1.44

crore students. Women's representation in Panchayati Raj Institutions has increased from 36.8 percent in 2008 to 51.4 percent in 2023, surpassing the national average.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

The Government has established one of the most extensive social security frameworks in the country. Since 2011, 94 social welfare schemes have been launched to ensure life-cycle protection.

Under Khadya Sathi, nearly 9 crore people receive subsidised foodgrains, while Duare Ration has benefitted 7.5 crore beneficiaries, ensuring doorstep delivery. Under Jai Bangla, 81.43 lakh beneficiaries—including senior citizens, widows, and persons with disabilities—receive monthly pensions.

Unorganised workers have been covered under Bina Mulya Samajik Suraksha Yojana, providing healthcare and insurance to 1.84 crore workers, while under Shramashree, Rs. 5,000 monthly support is being given to 31.77 lakh returning migrant workers until they find employment, upto a maximum period of 5 years. These workers will also get benefitted from the Mahatma-shree scheme.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Inclusive growth remains at the heart of our governance philosophy. Under Jai Johar and Taposili Bandhu, pension support amounting to more than Rs. 9,108 crore has been extended to 14.64 lakh SC and ST beneficiaries. More

than 1.69 crore caste certificates have been issued to SC, ST, and OBC citizens.

Protection of tribal land rights has been ensured through strict enforcement of forest and land laws. The Narayani Battalion has been created to honour the Rajbanshi community.

For the Matua community, one of the largest socially marginalised communities of the State, the Government has undertaken focused interventions to preserve Matua culture, improve living conditions, and enhance access to education, drinking water, roads, housing, and healthcare in Matua-dominated areas. Development of pilgrimage and cultural infrastructure at Thakurnagar and adjoining areas, along with targeted welfare outreach, reflects our commitment to inclusive development with dignity for the Matua population.

Large-scale investments have been made in roads, drinking water supply, sanitation, schools, hostels, ITIs, polytechnics, healthcare facilities, and urban amenities in minority-concentrated districts and blocks, which has ensured that growth is inclusive, regionally balanced, and socially just.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Agriculture continues to be the backbone of West Bengal's economy. Since 2011, expenditure on agriculture and allied sectors has increased 9.16 times. Under Krishak Bandhu (Natun), financial assistance of Rs. 27,016 crore has been provided to 1.10 crore farmers.

Through Bangla Shasya Bima, 1.13 crore farmers have been insured against crop loss, with claims of Rs.3,938 crore disbursed at zero cost. Irrigation coverage has expanded to 64.45 percent of cultivable land.

West Bengal ranks first in rice and vegetable production, second in fish production, and among the top producers of milk, potato, and jute. Cold storage capacity has increased to 5.95 million metric tonnes, the highest in India.

Initiatives such as Amar Fasal Amar Gola, Sufal Bangla, Matir Srishti, and horticulture clusters have strengthened our farmers' income.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

West Bengal has emerged as one of India's leading economies. The average profit per factory has increased by 546 percent since 2011. Six major industrial corridors are being implemented to strengthen the manufacturing and logistic sector of the State.

Over the last fifteen years, West Bengal has made strong and steady progress as a leading industrial state. The state has emerged as the country's new cement hub, with investments by 22 major companies in 30 large cement plants.

Steel and allied industries have also grown rapidly, with around 12% year-on-year growth in FY 2024, taking production to 11 million tonnes, and steel now figures among the top five export items of the state.

Bengal is home to the largest Foundry Park in India, giving further strength to metal and engineering industries.

West Bengal is rapidly emerging as a key hub in India's railway manufacturing ecosystem, with major firms like Jupiter Wagons, Texmaco Rail & Engineering and Titagarh Rail Systems producing wagons, metro coaches and rolling stock for Indian Railways and metros. New facilities like wagon plants in Uttarpara, Kharagpur, Kalyani are boosting employment in the State as well as supply-chain linkages and innovation in railway infrastructure and contributing to urban mobility across the country.

Traditional sectors such as textiles, garments, hosiery, leather, and foundries continue to expand through a network of over 200 industrial parks, including the largest Leather Complex, Garment Cluster, Hosiery Park, and Foundry Park in the country, attracting both global and domestic companies. One of our major industrial project-Jangal Sundari Karmnagari, with over Rs. 27,000 crore of committed investment and the potential to create over 75,000 jobs, show how industrial growth in West Bengal is creating jobs, boosting exports, and driving balanced regional development.

Nearly 93 lakh MSMEs, the second highest in India, operate in West Bengal, contributing 36.40 percent of female MSME Entrepreneurs of India. Credit facilitation exceeding Rs. 9.35 thousand crore has strengthened entrepreneurship.

The state government is developing an Agro-Industrial Park at Singur in Hooghly district over an area of 7.69 acres at an expenditure of around Rs. 10 crore. The MSME units in the proposed park will be largely based on bottling of juice and other food items, processing and packaging of Dal, Snacks and food items, as well as manufacturing of eco-friendly housekeeping chemicals etc.

Utkarsha Bangla has trained 42 lakh youth, while Karmashree generated 104.58 crore person-days of work.

MSMEs, SHGs, leather complexes, textile parks, food processing hubs, and self-employment schemes together have created huge employment opportunities.

Under Karmasathi, financial assistance has been extended to over 4 lakh unemployed youth, enabling them to establish micro and small enterprises.

Through Bhabishyat Credit Card, loans have been sanctioned to more than 50,000 entrepreneurs, promoting entrepreneurship among first-generation business owners.

Food processing, construction and transport clusters have emerged as significant source of employment.

The Anandadhara Self Help Group movement, comprising over 12 lakh SHGs, has enabled more than 1 crore women to access sustainable livelihoods, market linkages, and institutional credit, significantly strengthening inclusive employment generation across rural and urban areas.

West Bengal has transitioned from a power-deficit to a power-surplus State, achieving 100 percent electrification.

To address the overall and increasing power demand in the State, capacity addition of 3200 MW of thermal power has been planned at Salboni to be developed by JSW Energy; selected by way of TBCB (tariff based competitive bidding). Further, to meet the peak power demand, BESS (Battery Energy Storage Systems) facilities of 500 MW are also being put up again by TBCB at Durgapur and Goaltore.

The State is significantly expanding its solar capacity through multiple ground-mounted, floating and rooftop SPV projects across various districts. Key initiatives include large-scale projects at Goaltore (212.5 MW) and Bakreswar (200 MW), with several others already commissioned, nearing commissioning or at different stages of approval for about 260 MW. Together, these initiatives underscore steady progress in strengthening the State's renewable energy infrastructure.

Over 1.83 lakh km of roads, 361 major and medium bridges, and 20,000 rural bridges have been constructed.

Under Pathashree-Rastashree, under Phase I,II & III, more than 39,000 km road length has been created with an expenditure of Rs. 10,902 crore. Under Phase IV of Pathsashree-Rastashree, another 30,000 km roads are being created with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 9,488 crore.

Urban road infrastructure has been strengthened through construction of flyovers, bypasses, arterial corridors, and ring roads, significantly reducing travel time, logistics costs, and improving access to industrial zones, ports, tourism hubs, and agricultural markets.

The Tajpur port has been notified as a Non-Major port by the State Government and will be the first Non-Major deep sea port in West Bengal. The project will transform the maritime eco-system of the state, create substantial employment opportunities and significantly accelerate economic growth.

To provide a permanent solution to recurring floods in the Ghatal region, the Government is implementing the Ghatal Master Plan, a long-pending demand of the people. Since Government of India failed to help, our State has taken up the project from our own resources.

Through comprehensive dredging and embankment strengthening of the Silabati–Rupnarayan river system, it will be possible to protect nearly 10 lakh people.

Over 5.20 lakh houses have been constructed for urban homeless and 2.60 lakh additional houses are under construction.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Healthcare has witnessed a silent revolution. Public health expenditure has increased six times since 2011. Under Swasthya Sathi, more than 2.45 crore families are covered, and 85 lakh patients have received cashless treatment.

Medical colleges in the State has increased from 11 in 2011 to 35, and hospital beds from 71,200 to 97,000. 110 Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) have been operationalised, with 100 more units approved, delivering diagnostics, medicines, and specialist consultations in remote areas.

Life-saving schemes such as Shishu Saathi, Chokher Alo, telemedicine services, free diagnostics, and fair-price medicine shops have strengthened universal healthcare.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Education has remained a cornerstone of inclusive and future-ready development in West Bengal. Since 2011, nearly Rs.69,000 crore has been invested in strengthening education infrastructure across the State. The number of universities has increased from 12 in 2011 to 42, while colleges have expanded to over 500, significantly improving access to higher education.

To reduce dropout rates and improve school attendance, particularly among girls, Sabooj Sathi has provided 1.44 crore bicycles to students. Scholarship schemes such as Aikyashree, Shikhashree, and Medhashree have benefitted over 4.5 crore students, of the SC, ST, OBC, minority, and economically weaker sections.

Under Taruner Swapno scheme free smartphones has been provided to more than 53 lakh students, enabling access to online classes, digital learning resources, examinations, and employment-related information.

To ensure that financial constraints do not limit higher education opportunities, the Student Credit Card Scheme has supported more than 1 lakh students with education loans exceeding Rs. 3,800 crore. The scheme offers loans up to Rs. 10 lakh, at a simple interest rate of 4 percent, covering studies both in India and abroad.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

For the development of our youth, over the last fifteen years, focused investments have been made to promote education, skill development, sports, innovation, and employment opportunities for young people across the State.

The budgetary allocation for Youth Services and Sports has increased seven-fold since 2011. A robust ecosystem of sports infrastructure has been created.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Good governance has been the foundation of West Bengal's transformation. To ensure improved service delivery and administrative efficiency, the State has undertaken major decentralisation reforms. Since 2011, 4 new administrative districts, 4 subdivisions, and 4 administrative blocks have been created, bringing governance closer to the people.

Citizen-centric governance has been institutionalised through Duare Sarkar, under which 10.43 crore public services have been delivered through 8.07 lakh camps.

Participatory democracy has been deepened through Amader Para Amader Samadhan, where citizens across

80,000 polling booths democratically decided local priorities with an allocation of Rs. 8,000 crore, at Rs. 10 lakh per booth.

Transparency and accountability have been strengthened through Sorasori Mukhyomantri. Across 54 departments and 5,818 offices, 60,14,644 grievances were registered of which 54,17,898 grievances were redressed achieving a success rate of over 90%.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

A strong land and order framework is indispensable for development. Kolkata consistently ranked as the safest metropolitan city, as per the report of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Government of India.

The efficiency of the criminal justice system has improved significantly, with a charge sitting rate of 88.9 percent well above the national average of 80.1%.

Investments in forensic science, CCTV networks, cybercrime prevention, road safety, and modern policing technologies have strengthened public safety and citizens' confidence.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Forest cover has increased by 2,688 sq km, with 1.4 lakh hectares afforested. Over 15 crore mangroves have been planted in Sundarban.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Tourism has emerged as a significant driver of economic growth and employment generation in West Bengal. The

State ranks second in India in foreign tourist arrivals, reflecting its increasing national and global appeal.

Major destinations such as the Sundarbans, Darjeeling hills, coastal belt, heritage towns, religious and pilgrimage centres have been developed through integrated planning, improving connectivity, accommodation, and visitor facilities. Expansion of tourism infrastructure has generated large-scale livelihood opportunities in hospitality, transport, homestays, handicrafts, tour operations, and allied services, benefiting local communities.

Culture remains the soul of Bengal's development journey. The Government has provided sustained support to over 1.92 lakh folk artists, ensuring livelihood security and preservation of Bengal's diverse cultural traditions. Significant investments have been made in strengthening cultural academies, theatres, auditoriums, museums, libraries, art galleries, and heritage buildings across the State.

Dedicated support has been extended for the promotion of folk music, dance, theatre, Baul tradition, tribal culture, regional languages, and endangered art forms, ensuring inclusivity and inter-generational transmission of cultural heritage. Heritage conservation initiatives have covered historical monuments, archaeological sites, heritage towns, and places of cultural importance, often integrated with tourism development to create sustainable cultural economies.

Regular organisation of cultural festivals, fairs, book fairs, music and theatre festivals, and district-level cultural

programmes has provided platforms for artists while strengthening community participation and cultural identity and Welfare measures, pensions, and financial assistance for aged and distressed artists have further reinforced dignity and social security for cultural practitioners.

Through these combined efforts in tourism and culture, West Bengal has ensured that economic growth is closely aligned with cultural preservation, creative livelihoods, and the State's rich civilisational ethos.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

The Budget for 2026–27 is therefore not merely a statement of accounts. It is a reflection of transformation, economic revival, industrial resurgence, social security expansion, administrative reform, and cultural pride of our State.

It consolidates Bengal's position as a manufacturing hub, a future-ready economy, and a State committed to justice, dignity, and opportunity for all.

With these words, I commend the Annual Financial Statement for the Financial Year 2026–27 to this august House and seek the cooperation of all Hon'ble Members in advancing the progress of our beloved State.

Budget Allocation (Net) in the Financial year 2026-27.

1. Agriculture Marketing

I propose to allocate Rs.434.05 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

2. Agriculture

I propose to allocate Rs.10,463.12 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

3. Animal Resources Development

I propose to allocate Rs.1,327.33 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

4. Backward Classes Welfare

I propose to allocate Rs.2,533.39 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

5. Consumer Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs.147.63 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

6. Co-operation

I propose to allocate Rs.637.40 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

7. Correctional Administration

I propose to allocate Rs.455.47 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

8. Disaster Management & Civil Defence

I propose to allocate Rs.3,119.99 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

9. Environment

I propose to allocate Rs.108.62 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

10. Fire and Emergency Services

I propose to allocate Rs.541.59 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

11. Fisheries

I propose to allocate Rs.539.30 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

12. Food and Supplies

I propose to allocate Rs.10,408.37 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

13. Food Processing Industries and Horticulture

I propose to allocate Rs.258.35 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

14. Forests

I propose to allocate Rs.1,105.65 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

15. Health & Family Welfare

I propose to allocate Rs.22,338.08 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

16. Higher Education

I propose to allocate Rs.6,858.69 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

17. Home & Hill Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs.16,439.12 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

18. Housing

I propose to allocate Rs.295.37 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

19. Industry, Commerce & Enterprises

I propose to allocate Rs.1,483.97 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

20. Information & Cultural Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs.1,006.05 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

21. Information Technology & Electronics

I propose to allocate Rs.217.16 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

22. Irrigation and Waterways

I propose to allocate Rs.4,214.10 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

23. Judicial

I propose to allocate Rs.1,788.57 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

24. Labour

I propose to allocate Rs.1,268.26 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

25. Land & Land Reforms and Refuge Relief & Rehabilitation

I propose to allocate Rs.1,532.29 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

26. Law

I propose to allocate Rs.23.22 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

27. Mass Education Extension and Library Services

I propose to allocate Rs.318.09 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

28. Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and Textiles

I propose to allocate Rs.1,250.15 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

29. Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education

I propose to allocate Rs.5,713.61 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

30. Non-conventional & Renewable Energy Sources

I propose to allocate Rs.105.27 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

31. North Bengal Development

I propose to allocate Rs.920.13 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

32. Panchayats & Rural Development

I propose to allocate Rs.46,293.09 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

33. Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs.810.04 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

34. Personnel & Administrative Reforms

I propose to allocate Rs.447.89 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

35. Planning and Statistics

I propose to allocate Rs.618.68 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

36. Power

I propose to allocate Rs.5,343.59 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

37. Public Enterprises & Industrial Reconstruction

I propose to allocate Rs.73.45 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

38. Public Health Engineering (PHE)

I propose to allocate Rs.12,906.80 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

39. Public Works (PWD)

I propose to allocate Rs.7,133.00 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

40. School Education

I propose to allocate Rs.41,234.66 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

41 . Science and Technology and Biotechnology

I propose to allocate Rs.82.34 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

42. Self Help Group & Self Employment

I propose to allocate Rs.821.92 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

43. Sunderban Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs.641.74 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

44. Technical Education, Training and Skill Development

I propose to allocate Rs.1,464.19 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

45. Tourism

I propose to allocate Rs.525.92 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

46. Transport

I propose to allocate Rs.2,307.30 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

47. Tribal Development

I propose to allocate Rs.1,234.78 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

48. Urban Development and Municipal Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs.13,595.55 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

49. Water Resources Investigation & Development

I propose to allocate Rs.1,674.22 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

50. Women and Child Development & Social Welfare

I propose to allocate Rs.42,113.85 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

51. Youth Services and Sports

I propose to allocate Rs.881.89 crore to this department in the year 2026-27.

Achievements of Major Departments

Agriculture and Rural Economy

3.1 Agriculture

The scheme 'Krishak Bandhu' was revamped and launched as 'Krishak Bandhu (Natun)' where the financial assistance was increased to Rs. 10,000 for cultivable lands of one acre and more and proportionate amount for land area below one acre with minimum of Rs. 4,000 per annum in two equal installments. During 2025-26, disbursement of assistance for kharif 2025 season has been made in which 110 lakh farmers got Rs. 2,930 crore. Since inception of the scheme in 2019, more than Rs. 27,016.59 crore has been disbursed under the scheme.

Under 'Krishak Bandhu (Death Benefit) Scheme' Rs. 418.88 crore has been disbursed to the family members of 20,944 deceased farmers during 2025-26. Since inception, Rs. 3,174.94 crore has been disbursed to 1,58,747 bereaved families upto November 2025.

Under Farmers' Old Age Pension Scheme, 62,803 farmers are being benefited under 'Jay Bangla' scheme.

Under the fully State Govt. funded Bangla Shasya Bima (BSB) Scheme 11.62 lakh affected farmers got claim settlement of Rs. 711.68 crore during the Agricultural Year 2024-25. Since 2011, total Rs. 3,938 crore compensation has been paid, benefiting 1.13 crore farmers under the scheme.

In FY 2025-26, an area of 9,169 hectares of agricultural land benefitting 21,536 farmers has been covered under Micro Irrigation under Bangla Krishi Sech Yojana in association with 'Per Drop More Crop' - by installation of both Sprinkler Irrigation System and Drip Irrigation System. Since inception 2,42,757 farmers have got benefitted by installation of Micro Irrigation System in their field with a coverage of 99,537 hectares area under this scheme.

The area of maize has been raised from 2.64 lakh hectares to 4.05 lakh hectares, Pulses from 4.43 lakh hectares to 4.81 lakh hectares and oilseeds from 9.26 lakh hectares to 10.02 lakh hectares during last five years; production of maize has been increased by eight times from 3,52,316 MT to 29,58,513 MT, production of pulses by three times from 1,42,194 MT to 4,30,463 MT and production of oil seeds by two times from 7,03,271 MT to 13,33,900 MT.

Expansion of 5,044 hectares of finger millet (Ragi) has been taken up through demonstrations in hill regions of Kalimpong, Darjeeling and in western undulating red-lateritic tracts of Paschimanchal districts namely, Purulia, Bankura, Birbhum, Paschim Medinipur & Jhargram during kharif season, 2025.

Agriculture Department has taken up programme for increasing area of pulses by 93,500 hectares and of oilseeds

by 46,570 hectares utilizing the fallow land after harvesting of kharif paddy involving a fund of Rs. 72.34 crore during 2024-25.

During 2024-25, Rs. 232.28 crore was utilized towards subsidized distribution of farm machinery among 43,231 numbers of beneficiaries for purchase of farm machinery.

Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (BCKV) and Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya (UBKV) which are the leading full-fledged State Agricultural Universities (SAU) of West Bengal have played a pivotal role in strengthening food security, promoting sustainable resource management, and equipping farmers with modern technologies.

Initiatives in Sericulture in West Bengal is providing scope for employment and livelihood to around 1.11 lakh rural seri-farmers and entrepreneur families.

Total Production of Cocoons in all the four sectors has been expected to reach 22,441 MT in 2025-26 from 8114 MT in 2020-21. Similarly total production of silk which was 872 MT is expected to reach 2,439 MT by the end of current year.

3.2 Agricultural Marketing

The Department of Agricultural Marketing strives to ensure remunerative prices for agricultural commodities by building a robust marketing infrastructure and implementing effective post-harvest management strategies. It promotes value addition, minimizes losses,

and enhances farmers' incomes through initiatives such as the 'Sufal Bangla' project and market intervention schemes.

During FY 2025-26, 106 'Sufal Bangla' outlets have been opened till date. Sufal Bangla retail chain of 751 outlets at present cover all districts, including tea gardens, industrial areas and Kolkata. Sufal Bangla has augmented its capacity and reach by introducing 50 new vehicles in 2025. Presently, 167 vehicles are used for supply-chain management. Further, procurement of 50 vehicles is under process, which will be used to reach out more areas to extend services to lower middle group population in all districts.

Sufal Bangla has launched potato procurement, storage and sale under 'Sufal Bangla, 2025' (PPSS, 2025), wherein the Minimum Procurement Price (MPP) for potato was fixed at Rs. 10.00 per kg. Under PPSS, 2025 scheme, a total of 74,352.57 quintals has been procured and stored in the cold storages covering 13 major potato producing districts of the State.

During landslide/flood in North Bengal in Oct, 2025, Sufal Bangla operated 65 additional mobile outlets across the affected districts supplying potatoes, onions, and other essential vegetables to the affected communities at fair price.

To minimize post-harvest losses, onion storage capacity of 45,000 metric tonnes has been created till date through subsidized schemes.

This year 70.85 lakh MT potatoes have been stored in 519 cold stores of the State, out of which 50.28 lakh MT have already been released. An online portal for supervision and monitoring of the activities of the cold storages of the State has been developed and the huge data pertaining to the loading and release of potato from each of those 519 storages is available on the portal during 2025.

Till date, 18 Agricultural Markets in 15 districts have been integrated and as of now 1,03,406 registered farmers have traded approx. 1,12,554 MT of Agri commodities by way of e-trading worth Rs. 227.46 crore.

As a part of 'Ease of Doing Business' online integrated electronic single platform permit (e-Permit) and Unified License System has been introduced for fast transactions of agricultural produce. Through this system 17,04,575 e-permits and 49,943 licenses have been generated. Rs. 622.08 crore have been collected as market fee since inception of the online system.

The West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board has completed development of 29 marketing infrastructures in the different markets in the State with a cost of Rs. 86 crore in different districts.

3.3 Food Security : Food & Supplies

The Department of Food & Supplies is entrusted with ensuring food security for all citizens of West Bengal. It implements robust distribution mechanisms to provide high-quality foodgrains free of cost, ensuring no one is left behind in the fight against hunger.

Foodgrains are being provided free of cost to about 9 crore beneficiaries under Khadyasathi covering beneficiaries of National Food Security Act (AAY & PHH or SPHH) and Rajya Khadya Suraksha Yojana (RKSY-1 and RKSY-II) through the network of about 21,100 fair price shops and about 530 distributors.

Under special packages scheme of the State Government additional foodgrains, over and above the normal entitlements, are provided free of cost to about 52 lakh beneficiaries living in remote/interior areas i.e. Aila affected blocks, Jungle Mahal area, Hill areas of Darjeeling district and unwilling farmers of Singur, primitive Tribal group of Totopara and all workers and non-workers residing in tea garden areas.

On an average every month about 7.5 crore beneficiaries of about 1.66 crore families are lifting foodgrains at their doorsteps through the 'Duare Ration' scheme. Other families receive the foodgrains through FPS at their own convenience.

During 2025-26, 17,202 MT of subsidized foodgrains @ 15 kg rice per head per month have been allocated for the inmates of 1,630 Government owned / sponsored hostels and welfare institutions.

Like every year about 7,332 severely acute malnourished (SAM) children have been provided @ 5 kg rice, 2.5 kg wheat, 1 kg Bengal-gram and 1 kg of masur dal per month free of cost during 2025-26.

During 2024-25 Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) (started from 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025), 56.33 lakh MT paddy was procured from 16.45 lakh small and marginal farmers @ Minimum Support Price (MSP).

In KMS 2025-26, State Government has fixed the target of procuring paddy of 67 Lakh Metric Ton (LMT). In this KMS, MSP enhanced from Rs. 2,300 to Rs. 2,369 per quintal. The incentive of Rs. 20 per quintal to the farmers selling paddy at Centralised Procurement Centre (CPC) and mobile CPC is being provided like earlier years.

Several reforms leveraging IT solutions have been introduced in paddy procurement operations also making it more transparent, convenient and farmer-friendly. The farmers are able to apply for new registration or updation, check the status of their registration, payment of MSP and can self-schedule the date & time slot for selling their paddy as per their choice and convenience either themselves through the paddy procurement portal (<https://epaddy.wb.gov.in>) or by visiting any paddy purchase centre, Bangla Sahayata Kendra (BSK), Food Inspector's Office, WhatsApp Chatbot (9903055505), Khadyasathi Annadatri Mobile App, etc.

At present, 98.90% cards have been seeded with Aadhaar and 99.98% transactions in respect of foodgrain distribution through ePoS are Aadhaar authenticated, which is the highest in the country. 98.50% seeding have been done using eKYC method which is also one of the highest in the country.

For convenience of the Khadyasathi beneficiaries, many ration card related services have been simplified which can be availed online by the citizens themselves through self-service facility in the portal without filling any application form anytime anywhere and without visiting any office. No verification or approval from the office is needed as services are based on the details of Aadhaar fetched from UIDAI portal.

To ensure better monitoring of foodgrain transportation and storage, the entire supply chain has been digitized.

Storage capacity of foodgrains has been raised to 11.83 LMT as compared to a meagre 63,000 MT prior to May, 2011. During 2025-2026 (till date), storage capacity of 8,000 MT has been increased in Purba Bardhaman (Raina- I) and Jhargram (Sankrail).

3.4 Food Processing Industries and Horticulture

The Department of Food Processing Industries and Horticulture promotes the reduction of post-harvest losses and value addition to agricultural produce. As a major producer of vegetables, fruits, spices, and flowers, the Department fosters sustainable economic growth in the agri-business sector.

During the crop year 2024-2025, area coverage and production of horticultural crops recorded as 15.90 lakh hectares and 2.08 lakh metric ton respectively under fruits, flowers, vegetables, spices and plantation crops.

For area expansion of major and minor fruits, high quality saplings have been supplied to the farmers of more than 21,615 hectares of land.

Rs. 2.71 crore has been spent to expand the area of off-season onion cultivation specially during the kharif and late kharif season. Farmers have been given assistance for the storage of 1,250 metric ton of onion at field level by incentivizing cost of construction of onion storage. For area-expansion of off-season onion cultivation, 91.80 quintal of onion seeds of the variety of Agri-Found Dark Red have been distributed among the farmers.

During this crop year, so far a total of 1,11,600 square-meter of protected cultivation structure has been constructed for protected cultivation of high value flowers, vegetables to cope up with climate change. At the same time, Rs. 23.36 lakh and Rs. 29,000 have been given to the farmers as assistance for the cultivation of gerbera, orchids, rose etc. and high value vegetables respectively under protected structures.

For implementation of the Project 'Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)', an amount of Rs. 31.72 crore was utilized in FY 2024-25 and Rs. 19.56 crore in FY 2025-26. For the project 'Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY)' an amount of Rs. 11.78 crore was incurred in FY 2024-25 and Rs. 6.89 crore in FY 2025-26. Total expenditure for the project 'State Development Schemes (SDS)' was Rs. 38.41 crore in FY 2024-25 and Rs. 1.52 crore in FY 2025-26.

Some of the special initiatives which are being implemented successfully are expansion and maintenance of medicinal plants viz. Cinchona, Ipecac, *Taxus baccata*, Chirata, Dioscorea, expansion of medicinal and aromatic plants viz. Lemon Grass - 36 acres, Patchouli - 6 acres, *Artemisia vulgaris*- 64 acres; production of 200 kg (monthly) mushroom spawn in the newly set up mushroom spawn production ; maintenance of existing 6,526 acres of Cinchona Plantation, 306 acres of Rubber Plantation, 194 acres of Coffee Plantation, 268 acres of Mandarin Orange, 76.93 acres of Kiwi, 97 acres of Cardamom, 37 acres of Chirata and 57 acres of Ipecac cultivation; cultivation of 38,434 tropical orchids viz. *Phalaenopsis*, *Dendrobium*, *Vanda*, *Mokara*, *Cattleya*, *Oncidium* going on at Govt. Cinchona Plantation, Munsong; Development of Medicinal Plant Garden (*Rhododendron* park) at Mungpoo and Hardening of 36,654 Tissue Culture Plantation for planting of high alkaloids contents Cinchona plants has been completed in research nursery and first ever 3,630 Tissue Cultured Cinchona plants have been planted at Mungpoo.

87.18 lakh high quality fruit saplings were distributed by West Bengal State Food Processing & Horticulture Development Corporation Limited in 2025-26, along with 98,000 orchids to farmers and 89,684 orchids to others.

3.5 Animal Resources Development

The Department of Animal Resources Development is committed to augmenting the production of milk, meat,

and eggs while ensuring sustainable livelihoods for animal rearers. Through breed improvement, healthcare services, and promotion of milk cooperatives, it fosters employment generation and rural empowerment.

As per the Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics, 2025, published by Government of India, West Bengal has become India's highest meat producing State in the country contributing 12.46% of the national output.

In the poultry sector, West Bengal has become India's fourth largest producer of eggs and, now accounts for 10.72 % of the country's total egg production.

In terms of annual growth rate of milk production, West Bengal has recorded an annual growth rate of 3.98% as compared to the national average of 3.58% during 2024-25, with an estimated milk production of 79.54 lakh MT.

During January to November, 2025 in the backyard poultry sector which employs mostly women and Self-Help Groups, 71.84 lakh chicks and 14.63 lakh ducklings have been distributed among 8.65 lakh beneficiaries.

In the private sector, 170 projects have been set up under West Bengal Incentive Scheme, 2017. Out of these, 121 units have started production, adding 184 crore eggs per year to the State's output. Rs. 33.90 crore has been disbursed as subsidy to the private poultry units under this scheme.

Under the Broiler Integration Programme, chicks, along with feed, medicines etc. are provided to small farmers.

33-35 days later the chicks are taken back by the ARD Department under a buy-back arrangement. Under this innovative scheme, which links the farmer directly to the market, a farmer can expect an assured net income of approx, Rs.1 lakh annually. Till November, 2025, this project has generated employment directly for 4,208 farmers and indirectly for 43,132 persons.

Poultry Layer Farm in Purulia District has started operation with initial placement of 80,000 layer chicks from November, 2025 and it is expected that production of table eggs will start from April, 2026.

For doorstep delivery of veterinary services to farmers, Mobile Veterinary Units (MVU) and Mobile Veterinary Clinics (MVC) comprising a Veterinary Doctor, a Para-Vet staff and a Driver-cum- Assistant are being operated in all 344 blocks of the State. These mobile units are linked to a State-level Call Centre. During January to November, 2025, 98,838 Animal Health Camps have been organized by the MVUs/MVCs and treatment has been provided to 2.60 crore animals.

During January to November, 2025, 42,380 goats have been distributed among 4,238 Self Help Groups. The target of providing 34,400 goats as livelihood inputs to 3,440 Self Help Groups in 2025-26, is set to be achieved.

1,500 sheep among 300 individual women have been distributed during January, 2025 to November, 2025.

30 Farmer Producer Companies (FPC) and 588 Goatery Clusters have been set up in the last four years, directly benefitting 38,400 marginal rural families.

A new cluster approach has been adopted for providing live piglets, along with insurance and initial feed to families belonging to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes for whom piggery is an important source of livelihood.

Under Fodder Minikit distribution and Fodder Demonstration Plots, initiatives have been taken to provide green fodder to cattle owners, members of Milk Unions, Goatery FPO/FPCs, Goat Clusters, Matir Srishti sites. During January to November, 2025, 48,012 beneficiaries have received benefits under this scheme.

During January to November, 2025, 8,728 high milk-yielding varieties of heifers(calves) have been distributed among individuals and members of Dairy Cooperative Societies / Milk Unions to augment milk production. During the period, 6.71 crore doses of vaccination covering a variety of diseases have been administered to animals, benefitting 1.87 crore farmers.

During 2021-22 to 2025-26, 96,587 Kisan Credit Cards-Animal Husbandry (KCC-AH) have been issued to animal husbandry farmers in the State. Rs. 1,033 crore has been sanctioned and disbursed as working capital to the small and marginal animal husbandry farmers during this period.

A statewide network of more than 13,000 self-employed Artificial Insemination (AI) Workers, Pranisebi and

Pranimitras provide Artificial Insemination and vaccination services at the doorstep of livestock farmers.

For rapid genetic upgradation of milch cattle, the use of sex-sorted semen, which assures the birth of a female calf with an accuracy of more than 90% has been extended to 15 districts.

A modern laboratory for In-Vitro Fertilization and Embryo Transfer has also been set up at the Haringhata Farm for genetic upgradation of cattle. For breed upgradation, over 6.52 crore bovine Artificial Inseminations have been performed resulting in 2.01 crore calves being born since 2010-11.

For their outstanding performance in producing quality frozen semen straw, the Frozen Semen Bull Station (FSBS), Salboni and Frozen Semen Bull Station (FSBS), Haringhata have been classified as 'A' grade institution by the Central Monitoring Unit, DAHD, GoI.

During 2025-26, 95 new Dairy Cooperative Societies have been registered. The average monthly milk procurement by West Bengal Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Ltd. was 239.682 thousand kilogram per day (TKgPD) during CFY 2025-26.

In order to promote the dairy sector as a viable livelihood option and to boost income in the rural areas, the State Government has set up Banglar Dairy Limited. Banglar Dairy Limited has procured 2.66 crore kg of raw milk from

January to November, 2025 for which Rs. 101.02 crore has been paid to dairy farmers. Out of the total amount paid, the State Government has paid Rs. 28.69 crore as subsidy. Around 47,000 farmers have been directly benefited through this venture of Banglar Dairy Limited.

Banglar Dairy Limited has set up a state-of-art modern dairy plant at Haringhata, Nadia with an installed capacity of processing 1 lakh litre milk per day expandable up to 1.5 lakh litre per day along with 50,000 kg milk products.

During January to November, 2025, WBLDCL has produced 34.65 lakh broiler chicks and 6.37 lakh poultry layer chicks. During the same period WBLDCL has produced 22.28 crore table eggs out of which 72 lakh eggs have been supplied to Maa Kitchen at a subsidized rate. WBLDCL has produced 4.21 lakh ducklings during the same period.

Number of retail sale point of Haringhata Meat and Epic Feed Dealers under WBLDC has been raised to 801 and 320 respectively. West Bengal Livestock Development Corporation Ltd. has produced 88,514 MT livestock feed and produced 3,907 MT Meat during January to November, 2025.

3.6 Fisheries

During 2025-26, 20.03 lakh MT of fish and 27.05 billion fish seeds have been produced in West Bengal up to

30.11.2025. West Bengal is the largest fish seed producer and second largest fish producing State in the country.

Brackish water species account for more than 70% of export of fish from West Bengal. For boosting production in this sector, 'Monoculture of Tiger Shrimp' in 246 units (Rs. 1.03 crore), and 'Monoculture of Vennamei Shrimp' in 1,190 units (Rs. 4.25 crore) for individual farmers are being undertaken.

For augmenting fish production in inland fresh water sector, all ponds excavated under 'Jal Dharo Jal Bharo' scheme have been brought under scientific pisciculture and inputs in 7,000 such ponds (933.33 hectares) with fund involvement of Rs. 3.80 crore have been liberated till date.

Pisciculture in 61,750 small waterbodies (8,233.33 hectares) with fund involvement of Rs. 30.88 crore by implementation through Self Help Groups (SHGs) has been taken up.

As part of Air-breathing Fish Culture, scheme for nurturing of 'Deshi Magur / Singhi' in 2,660 ponds with fund involvement of Rs. 2.97 crore is being implemented. For development of tribal fishermen, 'Singhi Culture' and 'IMC Culture' with fund involvement of Rs. 1.30 crore and Rs. 4.94 crore respectively have been completed.

Banga Matsya Yojona is being implemented for augmentation of production and development of infrastructure with a view to raising standard of living of the fisher folk. 3,061 units of beneficiary oriented activities

have been completed with fund utilization of Rs. 49.81 crore. Additionally, Rs. 54.28 crore has been utilized for implementing the non-beneficiary-oriented activities.

Fish Culture in cages at Kansabati Reservoir is being implemented on pilot basis with the technical help of ICAR-CIFRI and fund involvement of Rs. 1.07 crore. Till date the quantum of fish production is about 50 MT.

The scheme 'Sewage-fed Fishery' has been implemented in 3 districts viz. North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas and Hooghly.

A pilot project has been taken for setting up a Model Trout Farm and Hatching Unit of Raceway Culture of rainbow Trout in the hilly areas of Darjeeling, GTA.

In order to supply fresh fish to the consumers a new scheme has been taken for setting up of Fresh Fish Vending Kiosk under the brand name 'Sufal Bangla Matsya' where fresh fish is being sold in the raw form for which, initially 38 locations have been identified. 5 mobile fish vending kiosks have been made operational and they are selling fresh fish in 8 locations in Kolkata and adjacent areas. 9 E.V. are selling fish-food products in different locations in Kolkata and Bidhannagar and these have been made operational by BENFISH.

2,093 units of net and 1,785 units of aluminium hundies have been distributed to individual fishermen in inland sector with total fund involvement of Rs. 3.72 crore.

Quota of 'Old Age Pension' in Fisheries sector has been enhanced to 20,000 and pension @Rs.1,000 per month is being disbursed to the beneficiaries.

Initiatives have been taken under 'Matir Shristi' for implementation of different fisheries schemes, viz. Big Fish Culture, Deshi Magur Culture, IMC culture in small water bodies etc. in the districts of Jangal Mahal Purulia, Paschim Medinipur, Paschim Bardhaman, Bankura, Jhargram and Birbhum with a fund involvement of Rs. 51 lakh.

Matsya Jeebi Credit Card (MJCC) is provided to the poor and marginal fishermen with short term loan facilities upto Rs. 2 lakh (with 5% interest subvention) for 32 SLBC approved schemes. Till 31.12.2025, 26,632 cases have been sanctioned under MJCC.

2,61,95,431 Guppy fishes have been liberated in the waterbodies across the State for arresting spread of dengue during 2025-26.

3.7 Panchayat & Rural Development

Under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), the monthly pension has been uniformly fixed at Rs.1,000 since 1 April 2020. A total of 20,48,689 beneficiaries receive pensions, and 89.62% of them are paid through Aadhaar Payment Bridge System(APBS). The programme covers 12,81,159 beneficiaries under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme(IGNOAPS), 7,13,963 under Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), 53,567 under Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme(IGNDPS), and 15,773 under National Family

Benefit Scheme(NFBS). Expenditure stands at Rs.1,519.52 crore up to 20.11.2025, with an anticipated Rs.1,672.26 crore by 30.11.2025. A budget of Rs. 2,827 crore is proposed for 22,77,266 beneficiaries in FY 2026-27.

The West Bengal State Rural Livelihood Mission (WBSRLM) has formed 12.06 lakh SHGs involving 1.21 crore rural women, including 64,801 new SHGs formed in FY 2025-26. A cumulative 9,33,251 SHGs have received Revolving Fund support amounting to Rs. 1,669.57 crore, and 6,41,162 SHGs have received Community Investment Fund support of Rs.4,662.89 crore. Bank credit since inception totals Rs.1,47,464 crore, including Rs.19,500.73 crore disbursed to 8,19,268 SHGs in FY 2025-26 against a target of Rs.35,000 crore. The school uniform programme has covered 1.09 crore students across 81,438 schools through involvement of 1.77 lakh SHG members. State share allocations were Rs. 642 crore in FY 2024-25 and Rs. 707 crore in FY 2025-26.

Under MGNREGS, only Rs.111.65 crore was released by the State up to 24.11.2025 because the Labour Budget has not been approved by the Government of India for four consecutive financial years. After repeated intervention from the State Government during this period, the Government of India has consented to resume the scheme in the State.Hence, for FY 2026-27, Rs. 5,708.97 crore is proposed for non-wage components to create 33 crore person-days.

The Karmashree initiative has generated 22.97 crore person-days in FY 2025-26, providing 75 days of average employment and Rs.4,051.44 crore in wages. Since 2022-23, the initiative has generated 103.95 crore person-days and provided Rs. 20,688.41 crore in wages, with 45 crore person-days expected in FY 2026-27.

WBCADC is running 22 projects and one KVK. Up to October 2025, it produced 307.26 MT of paddy seed, 18.2 MT of pulse seed, 158 MT of rice, 18 MT of pulses, and 22,000 litres of mustard oil, along with 62.25 MT of fruits and vegetables and 11.05 lakh seedlings. Livestock outputs include 2.68 lakh day-old chicks for departments, 3.78 lakh for SHGs, 38,500 Black Bengal goat kids, 15,275 ducklings, 5.36 lakh eggs, and 552 piglets. Fisheries outputs include 3,450 lakh spawn, 38.9 MT fry and fingerlings, and 17,737 kg of table fish. A total of 1,67,566 SHG members were trained, and marketing outputs up to October 2025 amounted to Rs.15.20 crore. A Rs.34 crore allocation is proposed for FY 2026-27.

Under PMGSY, since 2001, 41,038.58 km roads and 61 bridges have been sanctioned with Rs. 21,433.48 crore in funding. Since 2011, 26,504 km roads and 54 bridges have been completed. Expenditure was Rs.271.11 crore in FY 2024-25 and Rs. 348.57 crore so far in FY 2025-26. For FY 2026-27, Rs. 2,779.47 crore is proposed, including Rs. 901 crore for maintenance.

Under Pathashree-Rastashree Prokolpa during the FY 2025-26, a total expenditure of Rs. 1,192 crore has been made, and 3,500 km of new road length has been successfully completed under the Pathashree initiative.

Pathashree-Rastashree is a transformative rural infrastructure programme that ensures enhanced connectivity across the State. It links rural haats, schools, colleges, health centres, mandis, and other key facilities, thereby improving accessibility and supporting socio-economic development across rural Bengal. To complete the remaining works under Pathashree-Rastashree Phase-IV, it is estimated that a financial outlay of Rs. 9,488 crore will be required during the next FY 2026-27.

Under the 15th Finance Commission grant programme, Rs.3,528 crore was recommended for FY 2025-26. Panchayat Raj Institutions are spending the funds for various listed purposes on local assessment basis. As to financial performance, the State is in the top 3 position in the country. Rural Local Bodies are also using the funds for various convergence related projects such as improving the infrastructural facilities at Anganwadis etc.

In Rural Housing, 6,482 beneficiaries have received installments and 1,071 houses were completed in 2025-26. The Banglar Bari (Gramin) scheme provided assistance to more than 12 lakh families wherein Rs. 14,400 crore has been released so far. The second phase will cover 20 lakh families with a financial requirement of

Rs. 19,638.26 crore. Under the Chaa Sundari Extension scheme, 28,500 tea garden workers have been assisted with Rs. 217.53 crore and 42.20 crore will be required in 2026-27.

The State Public Health Cell deploys 57,427 personnel for vector-control activities. The dengue incidence has significantly reduced in West Bengal due to the concerted actions of the VBDC volunteers and local community engagement. The programme would require 430 crore for its operationalization.

Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) Phase II, achievements up to 30.11.2025 include 1,41,921 IHHLs, 790 Community Sanitary Complexes, 318 Solid Waste Management units, 2,234 Grey Water Management units, 31 Plastic Waste Management units, 2 completed Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants with 9 under construction, GobarDhan projects in 15 districts, and 7,995 ODF-Plus Model villages. A Rs.726 crore allocation is proposed for FY 2026-27.

Under RGSA capacity Building & Training of Elected Representatives & Functionaries of the three-tier Panchayats and Panchayat infrastructure development are taken up. In the FY 2025-26, 1,64,443 Elected Representatives & Functionaries of PRIs have been trained. Total expenditure is Rs.57.34 crore till date. For the FY 2026-27, Rs.189.32 crore is proposed with Rs. 113.59 crore from Central and Rs. 75.73 crore from the State.

3.8 Irrigation & Waterways

During 2025-26, an additional area of 90,304 acres of cultivable land has been brought under irrigation by completing renovation of canal system and structures of major, medium, minor irrigation schemes in South Bengal and North Bengal. It includes the area of DVC irrigation system of 47,616 acres, which has been brought under irrigation after rehabilitation of canal system under World Bank Assisted Project, particularly at tail end in the districts of Hooghly, Paschim Bardhaman, Purba Bardhaman and Bankura. Total command area developed in DVC Project since inception is 8,92,856 acres.

Supplementary Kharif Irrigation was provided at 21 lakh acres of cultivable area by effective management of storage of major irrigation schemes. Moreover, sufficient water has been stored at the reservoirs within and outside the State to provide irrigation at 5.75 lakh acres of area in the ensuing Rabi-Boro season, through effective synchronization of reservoir operation in consultation with DVC and DVRRC.

The monsoon of 2025 experienced unprecedented concentrated rainfall in different spells causing flood discharge to flow through rivers of different sub-basins. South Bengal Districts experienced 13% more than long time average rainfall in the month of June, 2025. There was 344 mm concentrated rainfall on 23.09.2025 in Kolkata and adjoining municipal areas. Almost 273.40 mm of rainfall occurred on 05.10.2025 in 4 districts of North

Bengal and also in Sikkim and Bhutan in almost four hours duration. Similarly, heavy to very heavy rainfall occurred in the upper catchment of Ganga outside the State during 1st week of August, 2025, leading flowing of Ganga water above EDL (25.30 M) for 11 days, followed by heavy rainfall in the 1st week , 2nd week and 3rd week of September, 2025, leading to flowing of Ganga above EDL for 8 days .

Due to heavy rainfall, in North & South Bengal and DVC catchment in Jharkhand, the upper catchment of river Ganga outside West Bengal and within West Bengal during monsoon of 2025, damages occurred in the form of breach, slip, subsidence etc. Emergent repair to the damages and closure of breaches have been completed at all such locations with restoration cost of around Rs.156 crore.

In spite of such concentrated rainfall , the flood damages occurred is 82.93% less than 2024 and 24.99% less than 2023 due to completion of the pre-monsoon maintenance works before the onset of monsoon, continuous patrolling along embankment, river banks by field staff and intense co-ordination between I & WD Officials and District Administration.

During 2025-26, 117 km of flood and river eroding embankments have been improved, which includes protection of Ganga bank in Murshidabad in Shamsanganj Block, Lalgola, Bhagobangola-II and Jalangi block.

This year 378 km of drainage channels have been excavated, to improve their carrying capacity. Like previous year, upkeep and maintenance of around 1,238 km of drainage channels through annual maintenance contracts and one time clearance of 1,040 km of drainage channels were carried out during the monsoon of 2025 which also helped in controlling vector borne diseases. Annual maintenance of 1,238 km drainage channels will continue in non-monsoon period. Intensity of cleaning of drainage channels in urban areas has been increased to curb the spreading of Dengue.

As a result of dredging of Muriganga River in between Kakdwip and Sagar Island, uninterrupted water transshipment could be achieved for almost 24 hours during the Ganga Sagar Mela-2026.

With completion of planning and tendering well in advance, the dredging of Muriganga river for Gangasagar Mela 2026, has been commenced in the 1st week of November '25 and is expected to be completed in the last week of December 2025. The other maintenance works associated with Gangasagar Mela have been initiated.

Due to modernization of irrigation infrastructures undertaken under World Bank assisted 'West Bengal Major Irrigation and Flood Management Project' during last one year, 19,278 hectares (47,616 acres) area has been brought under improved irrigation system. SCADA-PLC system was installed at 44 locations on the main canals including installation of 76 level sensors & 8 velocity sensors, which help in real time monitoring & operation of canal gates.

81 permanent bridges, over drainage channels and irrigation canals of 360 bridges, have been constructed.

3.9 Water Resources Investigation & Development

The Department of Water Resources Investigation and Development ensures irrigation support for small marginal farmers through micro and minor irrigation schemes. It also assesses and manages groundwater resources to meet agricultural demands effectively.

Under 'Jal Dharo-Jal Bharo' during 2025-26, 3,620 waterbodies/water detention structures have been created/renovated out of which 2,500 of equivalent standard tanks by WRI & D Department are currently ongoing. 1,120 waterbodies have been created/renovated in convergence with P & RD Department up to 30.11.2025.

Since 2011-12, 4,15,384 waterbodies/water detention structures have been created / renovated.

Under 'Matir Srishti' 5,455 sites have been covered involving an area of about 42,000 acres including 655 sites covering an area of 22,171 acres on Raiyati Lands since 2022, to bring these to multiple cropping and livelihood activities to enhance family income. More than 57,781 farmers have been actively involved in the initiative up to 2025-26. As a result, cropping intensity has increased to more than 154% as against less than 67% before commencement of interventions.

Micro irrigation Structure like 457 sprinkler set and 45 drip irrigation sets have been installed successfully in the

‘Matir Srishti’ area up to 2025-26. As of now, Irrigation potential has been increased to 13,424 hectare-cm from merely 2,709 hectare-cm four years back. 5,622 acres non-arable land has been converted into arable land during this period. Agricultural Crop Coverage (Kharif, Rabi & Summer) increased to 40,649 acres Multi Crop Area due to creation of irrigation sources up to 2025-26.

During this financial year 36 minor irrigation schemes have been completed creating irrigation potential of 414 hectares by WRI & D Department alone under Matir Shristi Programme, 167 schemes for creating 2,476 hectares Irrigation potential are currently ongoing.

Under ‘Jalatirtha’ programme for increasing irrigation coverage and rainwater conservation in the arid Districts of Birbhum, Bankura, Purulia, Jhargram, Paschim Burdwan & Paschim Medinipur, in saline riverine area of North & South 24 Parganas District and in hilly region of Darjeeling & Kalimpong District, minor irrigation schemes are being implemented.

During this financial year, 57 schemes have been completed under ‘Jalatirtha’ scheme creating irrigation potential of 952 hectares and 111 schemes for creating IP of 2,533 hectares are currently ongoing.

Since inception, till 30.11.2025, 2,400 of minor irrigation schemes based on surface water have been constructed having irrigation potential of about 72,761 hectares.

Under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) with financial assistance from NABARD, 117 of minor irrigation schemes have been completed in this financial year creating irrigation potential of 2,023 hectares while 489 schemes for creation IP of 6,863 hectares are currently ongoing.

Under West Bengal Accelerated Development of Minor Irrigation Project (WBADMIP), 406 schemes have been completed in this financial year up to 30.11.2025 creating an additional irrigation potential of 3,787 hectares while 266 schemes are currently ongoing.

40 Water User Associations (WUAs), comprising 1,581 beneficiary families, have been formed for better management, operation and maintenance of minor irrigation schemes.

Capacity building has been done involving 39,577 farmers through 3,053 training programmes. Further 4,462 demonstration programmes involving 7,889 beneficiary families on Agriculture, Horticulture and Fisheries to introduce modern practices for improving productivity as well as production and income of the farmers have also been conducted.

Since inception, 8,397 minor irrigation schemes have been installed having irrigation potential of about 89,896 hectares and 3,287 WUAs have been formed by WBADMIP.

660 minor irrigation schemes having irrigation potential of 9,246 hectares have been completed with solar power

for utilization of renewable resources and 989 schemes for creating IP of 11,752 hectares with solar power are ongoing.

For conservation of sweet surface water, old silted creeks were re-excavated in saline riverine area for creation of Irrigation Potential (IP) under WBADMIP, Jalatirtha and other programmes resulting in incredible opportunity for winter crop & pisciculture leading to socio-economic development of the beneficiaries.

During this financial year under WBADMIP about 36.99 km old silted creek was re-excavated having Irrigation Potential (IP) about 1,055 hectares and about 27.10 km old silted creek for creation IP of 707 hectares are ongoing. This unique initiative has helped society in many climate-resilient ways. Recharge of groundwater is facilitated, ingress of saline water has been reduced, stream bank erosion has also been reduced due to plantation activities, storm surge inundation problem got also reduced.

There has been continuous emphasis on efficient use of groundwater, increased use of surface water and conjunctive use of surface and groundwater in the field of minor irrigation. As a result, Stage of Development/Extraction (SOD) of groundwater for the State has declined to 45.19% as per Dynamic Ground Water Resources Assessment 2024-2025 from 50.29% as per Dynamic Groundwater Resources Assessment 2016-2017.

3.10 Co-operation

The Department of Co-operation plays a vital role in socio-economic development by strengthening cooperative societies across the State. It focuses on equitable income distribution, women empowerment, and financial inclusion, particularly in rural and unbanked areas, through an extensive cooperative network.

The Cooperative Movement in West Bengal is buoyed by a well-structured legislative framework and a robust organizational network. With a membership base exceeding 89 lakh individuals across the state over 30,000 cooperative societies, this sector plays a commendable role in agriculture, marketing, consumers, housing and service sector.

A substantial number of flagship schemes of the State Government viz. Student Credit Card, Matsyajibi Credit Card, Bhabisyat Credit Card, Krishak Bandhu Benefit Schemes etc. are currently being implemented through the cooperative sector.

As of 31st October, 2025, in the current fiscal year, crop loan of Rs. 2,912.17 crore has already been issued to 10.10 lakh farmer members. Animal Husbandry loan of Rs. 20.11 crore has also been disbursed to 3,691 members for goatery, piggery, dairy and poultry under the KCC scheme during the ongoing financial year up to 30th

November, 2025. Notably, under the 'Krishak Bandhu' scheme, Rs. 5,851.15 crore has been disbursed to 2.17 crore farmers.

During KMS:2024-25, 9.25 lakh MT paddy was procured from 2.81 lakh farmers through 936 cooperative societies, of which BENFED procured 5.22 lakh MT from 1.59 lakh farmers through 506 cooperative societies and CONFED procured 58,000 MT paddy from 18,392 farmers through 42 cooperative societies.

In current fiscal, 1,65,536 SHGs have been credit linked and loan of Rs.1098.81crore is issued to the SHG members during current fiscal till 30th November, 2025.

In the ongoing financial year, Rs.29.53 crore has been sanctioned to 2,118 fishermen under the Matsyajibi Credit Card Scheme, Rs.28.73 crore has been sanctioned to 1,455 unemployed youths under the Bhabisyat Credit Card Scheme and 12,773 students have been sanctioned loan under Student Credit Card scheme till 30th November, 2025.

Embracing technological advancements, West Bengal State Cooperative Bank has already been onboarded with NPCI to become able to provide Unified Payment Interface (UPI) to its clients. Additionally, the process of upgrading the CBS in State Cooperative Bank and Central Cooperative Banks has been initiated to facilitate the adoption of the

latest technology-enabled services. Crop loan is now being issued through Micro-ATMs in many Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies (PACCS).

Under RKVY, construction of 34 rural storage godowns with a total capacity of 3,400 MT and 10 SHG workshed-cum-sales counters and 6 oil mills has been completed during current financial year. Construction of another 35 rural storage godowns each having capacity of 100 MT, one seed processing unit and 10 SHG workshed-cum-sales counters is under progress and is expected to be completed soon.

3.11 Forest

Forest Department has made significant achievements in afforestation and distribution of seedlings. 2,856.43 hectares of land have been afforested in the State under State Development Scheme and 72.40 lakh saplings have been distributed to the public.

Under Sabujshree, 67,99,843 saplings have been distributed since inception to the mothers of newly born children till October, 2025.

The Great Indian One-horned Rhinoceros are present in the lush landscapes of West Bengal-ranging from Jaldapara and Gorumara National Parks to Chapramari Wildlife Sanctuary and Jalpaiguri Reserve Forests. The 2025 Rhino Census stands as a shining example of

coordinated conservation action. Population of Rhinoceros has increased from 347 to 392 over a period of 2 years.

Forest Department has established Vulture Conservation Breeding Centre at Rajabhatkhawa under Buxa Tiger Reserve since 2006. The centre has achieved a remarkable success in breeding all the three species of Gyps vultures and currently house 174 vultures.

Red Panda Conservation Breeding and Augmentation Programme at Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling is a rare example of successful conservation breeding of the species.

The first-ever Singalila Rhododendron and Bird Festival was successfully organized by the Forest Department at Gairibas, located at an altitude of 2,590 meters in the Singalila South Range. The 3rd Sundarban Bird festival has been carried out during the month of January, 2025 in Sundarban Tiger Reserve.

Sundarban is the only known abode of Batagur baska in India and the world. Conservation breeding, assurance colonies, nurseries are being maintained by the Forest Department in 7 locations with Sajnekhali as the primary centre.

The first scientific census of the Himalayan Black Bear in North Bengal was carried out using the hair corral method and DNA analysis. The study estimated a population of 44 Himalayan Black Bears.

Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) promote afforestation and regeneration activities to compensate for forest land diverted to non-forest uses. 126.15 hectares of Plantations under Compensatory Afforestation are being raised, 1.75 hectares and 1,600 trees under Advance-cum-creation scheme are being raised, 530.567 hectares of older CA plantation is being taken up and 168 km of Avenue/Strip Plantations in non-forest area under Net Present Value are being raised.

JICA assisted West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Project (WBFBCP) aims to address climate change, restore ecosystems, conserve biodiversity, improve livelihoods and strengthen institutions in West Bengal. 22,51,150, two years old tall seedlings are being raised and 845 hectares of afforestation have been completed under the JICA assisted West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Project (WBFBCP).

WB Forest Development Corporation Ltd. (Wbfdcl) has completed CFC operations for 2025-26 harvesting season in 4,866 hectares. In 2025-2026, up to 31st October, 2025 a total of 840 e-auctions have been conducted and 22,945 lots were sold with sale value of Rs. 182 crore. Wbfdcl runs 35 eco-tourism centers in the State and has collected total revenue of Rs. 6.25 crore approx. during 2025-26.

West Bengal Zoo Authority (WBZA) has developed various infrastructural works like Bio-Banking facility at

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling; new visitor facilities at Jhargram Zoological Park and Garchumuk Deer Park, Howrah; new animal enclosures including Hyena and Wolf at Garchumuk Deer Park; two aviaries at Jhargram Zoological Park and a new Tiger enclosure at Harinalaya Deer Park, New Town, Kolkata.

Social Infrastructure

3.12 Health & Family Welfare

The Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of West Bengal has taken major steps to strengthen the State's healthcare system with a primary focus on making quality health services accessible and affordable for the maximum population, especially the poor and vulnerable. To achieve this, the Department has implemented numerous policies and programmes to extend the public health network, strengthen infrastructure, enhance and upskill medical personnel, and improve service delivery through data-driven governance.

Su-Swasthya Kendras (Health & Wellness Centre)- SSK-HWCs have been established to provide comprehensive primary healthcare services in both rural and urban areas. Along with Maternal and Child Healthcare, these centres focus on the screening and management of common non-communicable diseases (NCDs) like diabetes and hypertension, and provide basic screening of EYE-ENT and oral health as well as other NCDs. They also support the management of certain vector-borne / water-borne

diseases, offer geriatric and palliative care, and conduct basic mental health screening. Presently, there are 13,453 operational SSKs including 11,053 Sub-Centres (SCs), 905 Primary Health Centres (PHCs), 478 Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHCs), 477 Urban Health Wellness Centres (UHWCs) and 540 AYUSH HWC-SSKs which function as primary healthcare facilities. To strengthen further the health system at the block level, 175 Block Public Health Units (BPHUs) have been established and are currently functional, providing laboratory services at Block-level.

To strengthen secondary and tertiary healthcare infrastructure, the State Government is upgrading healthcare facilities at all levels, expanding Intensive Care Units (ICUs), critical care, trauma care and emergency services, and improving the availability of advanced diagnostic facilities at the block and district levels. In the FY 2025-26, more than 1,365 projects, with a total investment of over Rs. 810 crore, have been undertaken for the construction of additional facilities and the renovation and upgradation of existing infrastructure, ranging from Primary Health Centres to tertiary level hospitals.

The number of Medical Colleges in the State has increased from 10 in 2011 to 40 in 2025 including 24 fully-owned Government-run Medical Colleges. The number of MBBS seats has risen from 1,355 in 2011 to 6,399 in 2025. MD/MS seats have been increased from 900 in 2011 to 1,941 in 2025, while DM/MCH seats have

grown from 94 in 2011 to 221 in 2025. In addition, 371 DNB seats have been newly introduced across 57 DH/SDH/MCH in the State compared to nil in 2011.

The number of Nursing Training Schools (NTS) has increased significantly, resulting in a rise in nursing student admissions from 2,265 in 2011 to 15,581 in 2025-26. Similarly, the number of Nursing Training Colleges has increased considerably, leading to an increase in nursing student admissions from 970 in 2011 to 8,960 in 2025-26.

The State's AYUSH healthcare system comprises a network of 2,674 AYUSH dispensaries, of which 540 have been upgraded to AYUSH Su-Swasthya Kendras over the last five years. These facilities are staffed by 1,883 AYUSH Medical Officers. The State also has 8 AYUSH hospitals attached to AYUSH Medical Colleges and 2 integrated AYUSH hospitals at Tapsikhata (Alipurduar) and Paschim Medinipur, providing both OPD and IPD services. Additionally, 'Yogasree,' the Yoga & Naturopathy Undergraduate College, has been functional since 2023-24 with an intake capacity of 50 seats. The AYUSH sector has been allocated a State budget of Rs. 90 crore in FY 2025-26.

Blood Bank facilities in the State have increased from 58 units in 2011 to 89 units in 2025-26. In addition, 40 BCSUs (Blood Component Separation Units) & 69 BSUs (Blood storage units) are functioning round the clock.

At present, the State has 12 Neonatal Intensive care units (NICU) with 205 beds, 71 Sick New Born Care units (SNCU) with 2,553 beds and 21 Paediatric ICU with 679 beds. In addition, 286 SNSUs and 54 Nutritional rehabilitation centres (NRC), 14 District Early Intervention Centre (DEIC) are currently functional, with 5 more DEICs expected to be operational in 2026-27. To further enhance maternal and child healthcare services, 13 Mother Waiting Hubs and 17 Maternal & Child Hubs have also been operationalised.

With sustained infrastructural support and concerted efforts, institutional deliveries have increased from 68.1% in 2011 to 99.5% in 2025-26. The Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined from 113 per one lakh live births in 2011 to 104 in 2025, while the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has also shown a significant decline over the same period.

3 Tertiary Cancer Care Centres at Burdwan MCH (120 bedded), CoM & Sagore Dutta Hospital (80 bedded) and Murshidabad MCH (120 bedded) have been constructed. Two State of Art Cancer Hubs have been set up at IPGMER-SSKM hospital and North Bengal Medical College & Hospital in collaboration with Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai.

To strengthen advanced medical care and public health infrastructure, 22 Critical Care Blocks (CCBs) and 23 District Integrated Public Health Laboratories (DIPHLs) are being constructed across districts. Apart from the construction of new Medical Colleges, 42 Super Speciality Hospitals have been completed. A 100-bedded Mirik Sub-

divisional Hospital, a 250-bedded Kaliaganj State General Hospital, a new building for Amtala Rural Hospital, a B+G+9 storeyed B.C. Roy Memorial Building at NRS Medical College & Hospital, Kolkata, and a G+9 storeyed private cabin building 'Ananyo' at IPGMER-SSKM Hospital, Kolkata are nearing completion in 2025-26. Furthermore, 7 Working Women Hostels with a total fund involvement of Rs. 146.11 crore have been initiated in 2025-26 within the premises of Medical Colleges.

At present, 117 Fair Price Medicine Shops (FPMS) are functional, offering discounts of 60%-80% on the MRP of medicines. Till September 2025, over 10.25 crore prescriptions have been dispensed, providing discount of Rs. 3,410.51 crore against gross sales of Rs. 5,270.28 crore.

The State has leveraged Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models to expand access to advanced diagnostic and dialysis services through 195 Fair Price Diagnostic & Dialysis Centres (FPDCs) ensuring affordable care. It includes 61 CT scans, 20 MRIs, 67 dialysis units, and 33 digital X-rays. Total expenditure on these services up to November 2025 is Rs. 2,123.37 crore. Additionally, three medical colleges have been established under the PPP mode, one each at Bolpur, Ranaghat and Howrah, further strengthening medical education and health infrastructure in the State.

Under Swasthya Bandhu Scheme, the Department is operating 210 Mobile Medical Units since November 2025 to deliver doorstep preventive, curative, and referral

healthcare services in underserved and remote areas. Each MMU offers 35 diagnostic tests, including USG and ECG. The initiative has benefited over 1.2 lakh people, women account for about 55% of beneficiaries, and senior citizens over 60 years constitute more than 14%.

Under 'Rattirer Saathi' scheme, reconstruction and renovation of rest rooms and duty rooms for doctors and nurses, installation of panic button alarm system and renovation of hostel are being undertaken.

Since its inception, 'Shishusathi', has provided free of cost specialized treatment of congenital heart diseases, neural tube defects, club foot, cleft lips and palates to approximately 51,110 children below 18 years of age.

Under 'Chokher Alo' over 3.37 lakh cataract surgeries, distribution of 3.54 lakh free spectacles and collection of 1,719 corneas with 827 keratoplasties have been achieved till October 2025. Since January 2021, 3.18 crore people have been screened for cataract, refractive errors, and other eye diseases, leading to 26.90 lakh cataract surgeries and distribution of 34.11 lakh spectacles. At present, 11 Satellite Eye Operation Theatres are functional at rural hospitals, 9 new eye banks have been established in government facilities, and 7 more are under process, strengthening universal access to quality eye care across the State.

'Swasthya Ingit' is a major IT-enabled and innovative telemedicine initiative operational since August 2021. The service is now operational at 9,827 Su-Swasthya Kendras,

780 PHCs and 465 UPHCs, all connected to specialist doctors at secondary and tertiary hospitals. As of 30 November 2025, over 7.11 crore consultations have been conducted, with approximately 85,000 consultations taking place daily. In the current financial year, Tele-psychiatry has been added as a new super-specialty service to the existing telemedicine platform, and telemedicine facilities have also been extended to the newly launched Mobile Medical Units.

Swasthya Sathi is a unique Health Protection Scheme of the Government covering 2.45 crore families comprising more than 8.51 crore people. Under the scheme, 2,928 hospitals and nursing homes are empanelled. Since its inception, more than 1.04 crore beneficiaries have availed the services amounting to Rs. 13,740 crore.

The Dengue ELISA testing centres have expanded from just 5 in 2010-11 to 401 in 2025-26.

In view of the rising public health burden of Hepatitis B and C, both infections have been declared notifiable diseases in the State of West Bengal. Under the Viral Hepatitis Control Programme, 36 dedicated treatment centres have been made functional across the state, providing free diagnostics and treatment for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C.

To support rapid diagnosis of Tuberculosis (TB) and rifampicin-resistant TB, 82 CBNAAT machines and 326 True Nat machines are currently operational in the State. In FY 2025-26 (till 30.11.2025), Rs. 21 crore has been

spent on nutritional support for 24,857 notified TB patients from both public and private sectors.

This extensive healthcare infrastructure is backed by a strong workforce of 18,771 doctors, 59,053 nurses (including 2nd ANMs), 14,114 paramedics, and 72,128 ASHAs, ensuring 24×7 delivery of affordable healthcare services.

The State Government ensures the free supply of 1,028 essential drugs at all government health facilities. In the current financial year 2025-26, Rs. 1,315 crore has been spent on general drugs, equipment and consumables, and Rs. 454.71 crore on high-end machines.

The State Government delivers mental health services through five State-Run Mental Hospitals (SRMHs), Psychiatric units in all Govt. Medical College Hospitals and District Hospitals. Two Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in Mental Health are operational at the Institute of Psychiatry and at Calcutta National Medical College and Hospital. Up to November, 2025, OPD services have been provided to nearly 9,00,000 patients across various categories of psychiatric health facilities in the State. Additionally, 571 Suicide prevention camps have been organized across the State to enhance awareness and support for mental well-being. A Tele Mental Health Programme (Toll Free No. 14416) has started to function since October, 2022 in the state with two (2) operational cells which provide telephonic counselling and in-person referral services to the psychologically vulnerable population

all across the state. This Toll-free No. is also being utilized as an ‘Emergency Suicide Prevention Helpline Number’.

3.13 School Education

The School Education Department enhances educational quality and infrastructure with a focus on inclusivity and mid-day meal programmes. It ensures holistic development by catering to diverse educational needs through its 24 specialized entities.

Since 2011, 869 schools from Junior High to High School level and 2,240 schools from High to Higher Secondary level have been upgraded. Further, 7,304 new schools and 2,22,778 additional classrooms have been constructed to accommodate the growing number of students. A total of 9,310 schools have been brought under the ICT programme so far, and in addition to ICT, 2,650 schools have been provided K-Yan as a digital device.

In addition, 45,010 girls’ toilets, 26,826 boys’ toilets and 10,227 toilets for Children With Special Needs (CWSN) have been constructed. The State Government has provided free school uniforms to more than 14 crore school children and textbooks to students from pre-primary to class 12. For the academic year 2025, more than 41,621 Braille books for blind students and large print textbooks for low-vision students will be distributed among CWSN learners.

Till date, more than 53 lakh students have received benefits under the ‘Taruner Swapna Scheme’, including about 16 lakh students in 2024-25. More than 8.50 lakh

students of Class 11 will be benefitted in the financial year 2025-26. Under the Student Credit Card Scheme, benefits have been sanctioned in favour of 1,00,240 students with a loan amount of Rs. 3,797.22 crore so far.

Audio-visual content for all subjects across different classes has been prepared and is available on YouTube and the Banglar Shiksha Portal. QR codes of all audio-visual materials developed by expert teachers are also available in textbooks. So far, 375 audio-visual modules for different classes have been prepared.

Marksheets and certificates of Madhyamik and Uchcha-Madhyamik examinations for the period between 2009 and 2025 have been uploaded and integrated with the DigiLocker platform to ensure easy access for students and stakeholders. Among the 1.44 crore students from primary to higher secondary levels, 1.27 crore students (88%) have their Aadhaar numbers captured in the Banglar Shiksha Portal. An online portal for providing NOCs to private schools seeking affiliation to the CBSE and CISCE Boards has been operational since last year and has benefitted 219 schools.

Under the Mid-day Meal Programme, 100% Government, Government Aided and Government Sponsored schools in the State have been covered. Currently, nearly 1.11 crore students are under its coverage. All schools now have LPG connections for cooking mid-day meals.

West Bengal has moved upward from Grade VI to Grade I on the Performance Grading Index (PGI). The State continues to rank first at the national level among major States on the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Index, 2022, published by the Government of India.

3.14 Higher Education

The Department of Higher Education has significantly transformed the education sector by focusing on expansion, equity, excellence, and employability. Through enhanced funding, infrastructure development, and inclusive policies, it continues to empower students and promote academic growth.

State Government has been consistently striving towards improvement in higher education with active participation of private sector.

The number of universities in the State has been increased from 12 to 42 in last 14 years, out of which 31 are State Aided Universities and 11 are private universities under direct administrative control of this Department. There are 518 Govt. and Govt. aided colleges, out of which 53 new Government general degree colleges have been established in last 14 years resulting in increase of enrolment in higher education from 13.24 lakh during 2010-2011 to 20.53 lakhs during 2025-26 academic session.

During 2024-25, around Rs. 875 crore have been allocated for around 4,49,975 student beneficiaries under 'Swami Vivekananda Merit cum means Scholarship

Scheme'. The portal of Swami Vivekananda Merit cum means Scholarship Scheme is operational for the students of class XI & XII and UG & PG courses and also Research Scholars. During this academic session up to 30/11/2025, more than 81,002 students have already applied online under the scheme.

The State Government has extended scholarship benefits to the girl students for pursuing post-graduation in regular courses under Kanyashree-3. During 2024-25 Financial year 40,048 Students got Kanyashree-3 scholarship involving Rs. 104.14 crore. In this academic session more than 4,129 girl students have applied for this scholarship.

Under the West Bengal Student Credit Card Scheme, an education loan up to Rs.10 lakhs for students of West Bengal, at simple interest @4% p.a. for boys and 3.5% for girls is also provided for pursuing higher education in any recognized institution in India or abroad. More than 1,00,240 students have so far been sanctioned loan, with aggregate loan amount nearly Rs. 3,797.22 crore.

3.15 Technical Education, Training and Skill Development

More than 43 lakh trainees have been brought under both institutional and non-institutional training since the launch of Utkarsha Bangla in 2016 up to November 2025. Since the restructuring of the short-term training component in 2021, about 60% of those undergoing State-sponsored short-term training are employed within

3 months of completion of training, with the remaining trainees getting placed subsequently.

Several special training initiatives have been undertaken to promote inclusivity. In 2025-26, till November 2025, 157 inmates of Correctional Homes have been brought under short-term training. 85 residents of Social Welfare Homes across the State are being assessed post-training for enhanced livelihood opportunities. A total of 192 tribal members of LAMPS, mostly women, have completed training in tailoring, mushroom cultivation and vermicomposting. Training of rural youth, including SHG members, on operations and maintenance of rural water supply systems (Nal Jal Mitra) has continued in 13 ITIs, with a cumulative 522 candidates trained. 92 boys from indigent families residing in Banipur State Welfare Home have been trained as Data Entry Operator, Welder and Assistant Electrician (Distribution). Short-term training has also been imparted to 53 Alo Hub Artisans, including 23 trained during 2024-25.

The skill ecosystem has expanded with the inclusion of 4 private universities-Adamas University, Brainware University, Neotia University and Seacom Skills University-for implementation of the short-term training programme. 54 new short-term training centres have been set up in the hill subdivisions of Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Kurseong and Mirik.

Advanced training centres have been set up in partnership with industry in ITIs and Industry Parks where

trainees receive industry exposure, on-the-job training and internships. Major partners include Siemens, Samsung and Jaquar.

The Common Admission Portal has been revamped to streamline admissions across Polytechnic, ITI, Vocational, apprenticeship, short-term Programmes and other skilling courses. Apprenticeship melas and job fairs are being organised regularly. Till November 2025, 41,050 candidates were shortlisted for apprenticeship, while 64,935 candidates have been selected for employment through the Rojgar Seva Portal and 44 job fairs.

The total number of diploma institutes has increased to 357, of which 77 are Government-run, 3 are Government-sponsored, 1 centrally funded and 276 self-financed. Polytechnics now cover 62 out of 69 subdivisions in the State. Intake capacity has increased to 54,120 in 2025, compared to 17,185 in 2011. Courses in mechatronics, renewable energy, cyber forensics and information security, and interior decoration have been introduced.

The West Bengal State Council for Vocational Training (WBSCVT) has received recognition as an Awarding and Assessing Body by NCVET. A new State-funded scheme, the West Bengal Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (WB-APS), introduced in April 2024, provides additional stipend of Rs. 1,500 per month for apprentice trainees within the State and Rs. 2,500 per month for those engaged outside the State.

5 ITI trainees from West Bengal-3 male and 2 female-have become national toppers in the All India Trade Test-2025. 2 Government ITI instructors have received the National Teacher's Award-2025. The first State Skill Competition funded by the State budget covered 25 sectors and identified 20 winners out of 113 contestants. The first Utkarsha Bangla Excellence Awards were presented in 2025 at the State-level Teachers' Day programme in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

3.16 Youth Services and Sports

The Department of Youth Services and Sports has focussed on development of sports by setting up Academies in various disciplines such as Bengal Football Academy at Khardah, Rifle Shooting Academy and Badminton Academy at Amal Dutta Krirangan, Dum Dum, Women's Football Academy at Kashipur, Purulia, State Swimming Academy at Beliaghata, Bengal Tennis Academy & Table Tennis Academy at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, along with Swimming Pool, Multigym, Mini Indoor Games / Recreation Complex, Play Ground etc. Various grants have been provided to individuals and organizations for improvement of sports.

An International Standard Hockey Stadium, at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan campus is being established with a seating capacity of 22,000 spectators (approx.) which will serve as a hub for hockey training, coaching and competitions, encouraging young athletes to pursue excellence in the sport. Recently, 126th Beighton

Cup in collaboration with Hockey Bengal was successfully organised from 8th November to 16th November, 2025 at the Hockey stadium.

Kanyashree Cup and Inter District Football Tournament (U-14 & U-17) were successfully held in collaboration with Indian Football Association (W.B).

134th Durand Cup 2025 in collaboration with Indian Armed Forces was organised successfully at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan and Kishore Bharati Krirangan. 12th ISL edition was also organised successfully at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan and Kishore Bharati Krirangan.

Under the scheme for providing monthly honorarium @ Rs.1000 to retired sports persons who represented the State in National & International level tournaments, 1,580 sports persons are getting such honorarium on a regular basis.

Notification to provide employment both in civil and Police Department for medal winning sports persons in national and international events has been issued. Under this notification, 21 footballers winning 78th Santosh Trophy have been given employment under Police Department. Apart from this, 187 applications for providing State Government jobs to the medal winning sports persons are under process.

Youth Computer Training Centre (YCTC) provide computer education to the youth and students of the State

at a very low cost. Around 1,60,899 students have completed the training successfully in 2025 from 890 YCTC.

3.17 Information & Cultural Affairs

Durga Puja Carnival, the annual roadshow with display and procession of iconic and award winning Durga idols, which have been under limelight since UNESCO's recognition of Durgapuja as an intangible cultural heritage was organised. More than 90 award-winning Maa Durga idols were displayed in a colourful procession at the Durga Puja Carnival held on 5th October, 2025 in Red Road, Kolkata and a day earlier in the districts to showcase the cultural heritage and festive spirit of Bengal.

Under Lok Prasar Prakalpa (LPP), more than 1.8 lakh folk artist between the age of 18-60 are receiving Rs. 1,000 per month as retainer fee. Senior folk artistes, who are above 60 years, are also receiving Rs.1,000 per month as pension. Apart from this, for folk performances, the registered artists receive Rs.1,000 as performance fee. Retainer fee, performance fee and pension are credited to the bank accounts of the folk artistes directly under Direct Benefit Transfer Mode.

Bangla Moder Garbo, an awareness campaign for State Government schemes-cum-cultural festival, Folk Artistes' Meets in districts, Literature Festival in Kolkata and Jangal Mahal, Theatre Festivals, Jatra workshop, Parampara Dance Festival, Classical Dance Festival, Dalit Sahitya

Utsab, Rajya Charukala Utsab, Dooars Adivasi Sanskriti o Sahitya Utsab, etc. are among the events which were successfully organized by the Department and the academies under its aegis. Youth connect was ensured through programmes such as Inter-School Drama Competition, Youth Classical Music Conference and Nutan Joubaneri Doot.

The 31st Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) was held from 6th November to 13th November, 2025 with a colourful inauguration in star-studded Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium. Exhibition for special centenary tribute was held in the memory of Ritwik Ghatak. Other exhibitions were held to pay Centenary Tribute to Pradip Kumar, Sam Peckinpah, Robert Altman, Richard Burton, Wojciech Has, Guru Dutt and Santosh Dutta. A total number of 215 films from 39 countries were screened at 21 venues and award has been given in 7 categories.

Mahanayak Uttam Kumar Award Ceremony was held on 24th July, 2025 in a grand manner where actors/ technicians of films were felicitated.

In 2025-26, the Department celebrated birth anniversaries of luminaries and icons with traditional fervor. Cultural evenings in memory of Rabindranath Tagore (Kabi Pronam) and Kazi Nazrul Islam (Nazrul Janma-Jayanti) were organized in Kolkata and the districts. Tributes were also paid on their death anniversaries. Programmes like Kathay o Gaane remembered the trio Dwijendralal-Atul

Prasad-Rajanikanta. Bangla Dibas was observed on Nabo Barsho, the first day of Bengali New Year.

Under Social Welfare Scheme for Purohits (SWSP), monthly financial assistance at the rate of Rs. 1,500 per month are being provided to 29,181 financially weak purohits and priests directly in their bank accounts.

A special initiative has been undertaken by the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums for the restoration and conservation of the Hamam (Royal Bath) of the Pathan Palace at Pandua, Malda; the Rasmandir, Bagunkodar at Jhalda, Purulia; the three temples and stone sculptures at Boram Deulghata; the abandoned Jain temples and stone sculptures at Pakbirra, Purulia; the Hawah Mahal and Atchala Temple within the archaeological site at Rani Shiromoni Garh, Karnagarh, at Shalboni, Paschim Medinipur.

As a part of special drive, archaeological exploration has been conducted by the Directorate of Archaeology & Museums along the river valleys of Bansloi, Brahmoni and Mayurakshi in Birbhum district. Numerous sites, mounds and monuments were identified, recorded and documented based on their archaeological and historical significance, spanning from the stone age to the mediaeval period.

Under 'Financial Assistance to Jatra Artists and Theatre Groups Scheme', one-time financial assistance was provided to 802 distressed and aged Jatra performers.

Under Literary and Cultural Pension Scheme, financial assistance was provided to 85 beneficiaries who had contributed in the field of literature and culture.

Government of West Bengal has introduced the 'West Bengal Pension Scheme for the Journalists, 2018,' under which 154 retired journalists are being provided monthly pension @ Rs. 2,500 through Direct Benefit Transfer Mode.

3.18 Mass Education Extension & Library Services

Under SAHANUBHUTI scheme (Scholarship scheme) an amount of Rs. 12.26 crore has been released in favour of 7,571 students with disabilities (studying in class IX and onwards) who have scored at least 40% marks in the last annual examination in the year 2023 & 2024.

122 students of Sponsored Special Schools & 370 inmates of Educational Welfare Homes have passed the Madhyamik Examination, 2025. Also 48 students of Sponsored Special Schools and 48 inmates of Educational Welfare Homes have passed the Higher Secondary Examination, 2025.

Rate of Hostel Subsidy grant has been increased from Rs. 1,600 to Rs. 2,200 per students per month & rate of Contingency grant has been increased from Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 1,500 per student per year, for the students of Sponsored Special Schools.

The State Govt. has created Career Guidance Centers in the State Central Library, 27 Govt. and Govt. Sponsored

District Libraries, and 232 Town / Sub-Divisional Libraries to help unemployed youths to succeed in competitive examinations and have been giving special grants for this purpose.

A scheme namely 'Read Your Own Book Corner' has been introduced to encourage reading habit of people.

Two District Book Fairs have been successfully organized in Darjeeling and Kalimpong district and 22 District Book Fairs are planned to be organized in upcoming months of this financial year. Public Library Day has been observed on 31.08.2025 at DhanaDhanye, Alipore, Kolkata.

Library Services Maintenance System Portal and a Mobile App have been introduced to facilitate operation of libraries, along with digitization of rare books to help readers and smooth functioning of libraries. A pilot project has been taken to digitize Public Libraries of the District North 24 Parganas.

Physical Infrastructure

3.19 Public Health Engineering

In the current financial year till 30.11.2025, under Jal Jeevan Mission, 9,330 schemes have been approved involving 175.52 lakh Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) at a cost of Rs. 57,564.01 crore, of which work for all the schemes have been grounded. 99.09 lakh rural households have been provided with tap

connections out of a total 175.52 lakh rural households. 2.14 lakh FHTCs have been provided during the period.

All households in 39 GPs 'Gram Panchayet' have been provided with Functional Household Tap Connections through Piped Water Supply. A total of 9,004 villages have been covered with 100% households tap connections.

55,252 Schools, 41,895 Anganwadis and 8,339 Health Centres have also been covered with running water supply under Jal Jeevan Mission. Also 2,914 Gram Panchayat Buildings, 2,035 Ashram shalas, 3,739 Community Centres, 133 Community Toilets and 372 other Government Offices have been given access to Functional Tap Connections.

216 water testing laboratories accredited/ recognised by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) are functioning in the State to monitor the quality of water being supplied to the rural population which is highest amongst all states in the country.

Water quality has been tested for 3,40,635 drinking water samples during this financial year through 216 Water testing Laboratories throughout the State.

9 (Nine) Mobile Laboratory Vans (MLVs) have been introduced to test the water quality of drinking water sources located in remote habitations. The MLV also serves as an effective medium for awareness generation in rural areas

through Information Education Communication (IEC). In 2025-26 more than 1,514 drinking water samples were tested through MLVs.

42,876 youths have been trained as Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Pump/ Valve operators, Electricians and Mechanics under the skill development programme of Utkarsha Bangla for their engagement for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission as well as O&M of the created assets.

56,812 ASHA workers have been trained for testing of water quality using Field Test Kits (FTK). 2,08,813 water samples from Functional Household tap Connections (FHTCs), Schools, Anganwadi Centres and other Public Institutions have been tested through FTKs by ASHAs.

Water Supply Project for Purulia, at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 1,296 crore, is under implementation with the assistance of Japan international Co-operation Agency (JICA) which will benefit a population of 8.17 lakh on completion of the project in July, 2026.

One Asian Development Bank (ADB) assisted project drinking water supply is under implementation in the districts of North & South 24 Parganas, Bankura and Purba Medinipur at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 3,870 crore which will benefit a population of 24.11 lakh on completion of the project in December, 2026.

32.45 lakh drinking water bottles, 2.97 crore drinking water pouches and 3.95 crore litres of potable water through water tankers were distributed to the affected people in the aftermath of drought, flood like situations, Melas, Festivals, Government Meetings etc.

During Ganga Sagar Mela, 2025 infrastructural arrangements like temporary accommodation, safe drinking water supply, sanitation facilities, waste water & solid waste management and Fire Fighting Arrangements have been made for the pilgrims.

3.20 Transport

Revenue collection from Motor Vehicles in the FY 2025-26 (up to November, 2025) is Rs. 2,922.43 crore, including collection from Suvidha portal and Uttar Suvidha portal. Whereas, motor vehicles revenue collection in 2024-25 was Rs. 4,307.72 crore, in 2023-24 was Rs. 4,066.40 crore and in 2010-11 was Rs. 936.01 crore.

Vehicle Location Tracking System (VLTS) with Command & Control has been introduced for providing real-time vehicle location tracking, geo-fencing, safety features and few other safety provisions for sending emergency alerts, especially for women and children at risk. 13,701 VLTDs have been fitted during 2025-26 (up to November, 2025) and total 1,78,973 VLTDs have been fitted as on 30.11.25.

Government supported APP CAB service, Yatri Sathi has been introduced where both the riders and the driver

partners would be financially benefitted compared to the existing ODTTAs. 1,26,446 online drivers have been registered under Yatri Sathi as on November,2025.

Jaladhara Scheme has been launched to convert existing motorized country-boats called 'Bhutbhutis' into properly-designed mechanized boats for safer water transport system. 119 Jaladhara mechanized boats have been introduced and 549 personnel named 'Jalasathi' have been deployed under Jaladhara Scheme at 279 ferry ghats in order to ensure better safety and security at jetty/ferry ghats.

State Road Safety Council has been constituted. Activities relating to the Road Safety are jointly implemented by Lead Agencies like Transport Directorate, Police Authorities, PWD, UD & MA, H & FW and Department of School Education etc. As a result, accident and death figures have to come down from 17,555 and 6,656 to 14,392 and 6,352 from 2015 to 2024 respectively.

'Sanjog' portal, a platform to realize fines against MV cases lodged by Transport Department, WB Police and Kolkata Police, has been operationalised to allow a vehicle owner to clear his dues more conveniently and transparently.

Policy Guidelines on Movement and Regulation of TOTOs have been issued on 9th October, 2025. Temporary TOTO Enrolment Number ('TTEN') and a designated

e-Rickshaw and TTEN portal has been introduced to bring these vehicles under a framework by issuing digitized and digitized demarcation for area of operation on the basis of self-certification.

Integrated Check posts with Truck Parking Places/ Terminals at International Border Check posts like Petrapole in North 24 Paraganas, Hilli in Dakshin Dinajpur, Changrabandha in Coochbehar, Fulbari in Jalpaiguri districts etc. have already been started.

‘Suvidha’-Vehicles Facilitation System, a dedicated portal has been created & developed by Department of Information Technology & Electronics as an initiative of Government of West Bengal in coordination with Land Ports Authority of India, Indian Customs (CBIC), and Border Security Force (BSF) for quick clearance and smooth movement of Vehicles at various ICPs/LCS of West Bengal. A round the clock control room with a dedicated helpline has been opened to address and to quickly resolve the issues faced by any user of Suvidha Facilitation System.

This service is currently open for export of all kinds of goods vehicles through various ICPs established on the Indo-Bangladesh border of West Bengal; and will be extended to all other parts. Total 2,32,518 vehicles have used Suvidha portal facility and Rs. 151.12 crore have been realised in 2025-26, up to 30.11.2025. Total 3,434 vehicles have used Uttar Suvidha portal and Rs. 4.38 crore have been realised in 2025-26, as on 30.11.2025.

2,04,491 motor vehicles aged more than 15 years, have been de-registered from the Vahan database.

There are 30 retrofitment centres, functioning in West Bengal for retrofitment of different types of motor vehicles. The 'Vahan Green Sewa' link under 'Parivahan Sewa portal' has been created to offer the option to different CNG, LPG and Electric Kit manufacturers to enrol and creation of User ID as a retro-fitment centre in the State. 1,66,558 retrofitment of different types of motor vehicles have been done as on November, 2025 including retrofitment of 11,581 Motor Cabs.

Previously, 120 Electric Buses (80 under Fame-1 and 40 in capex mode under Fame-2) were procured by WBTC from fund other than NCAP as EV infrastructure. Further, procurement of 225 CNG buses with the help of fund other than NCAP, is under process.

One CNG electric ferry named 'Dheu' with total cost of Rs. 6 crore (approx.) constructed by GRSE has been made operational. Further, 13 hybrid (Electric + Diesel) vessels are under construction with project cost of around Rs. 240 crore under World Bank assisted WBIWTLSDP project.

Distribution of 84 EV Chargers has been done in 19 different bus depots / bus stands of West Bengal Transport Corporation (WBTC) under Transport Department. Moreover, an Electric Vehicle charger has been made operational in the Pool Car Office.

3.21 Public Works

The Public Works Department is the backbone of infrastructure development in West Bengal. It constructs and maintains vital assets, including roads, hospitals, educational buildings, and heritage structures, contributing significantly to the State's socio-economic growth.

To increase the road connectivity as well as to give more comfort to the commuters, vehicular traffic and to reduce the fuel consumption, during the current financial year, construction of 86 Road projects improving 849 km of roads, 16 Bridges and 1 Railway Over Bridge (ROB) in different districts have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 2,071.62 crore.

Nineteen old dilapidated Bridges have been rehabilitated at a cost of Rs. 15.2 crore and completed 5 road safety projects with Rs. 4.9 crore.

Widening and strengthening of Contai- Belda Road (SH-5) from 1.687 km to 33.4 km in the district of Purba Medinipur have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 197.24 crore. Widening and strengthening of Kuli- Burwan - Gramsalika - Majlishpur- Ramjibanpur Road from 0 kmp to 28.55 km in the district of Murshidabad have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 129.58 crore.

Widening and strengthening of Kuli-Moregram Road (SH-7) from 0 km to 36.45 kmp in the district of Murshidabad have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 127.65 crore. Widening and strengthening to 2 - lane

paved shoulder from 33.5 km to 72.962 km (Raghunathpur to Purulia) of Barakar-Purulia Road (SH-5) in the district of Purulia have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 108.26 crore.

Widening and strengthening of Chaitanyapur-Kukrahati Road from 0 kmp to 6.8 km and Chaitanyapur-Balughata Road Ch. from 0 kmp to 9.2 km in the district of Purba Medinipur have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 100.22 crore. Strengthening of Chandrakona-Ghatal Road (SH-4) from 0 kmp to 17.855 km in the district of Paschim Medinipur have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 62.06 crore.

Widening to 2 Lane and strengthening from 32.09 km to 54.57 km of SH 10 i.e, from 6 kmp to 21.28 km of Bamongola - Habibpur Road and from 0 kmp to 7.20 km of Bulbulchandi - Habibpur Road in the district of Malda have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 48.49 crore. Widening and strengthening of Damda-Chakoltore-Daradi-Kenda-Manbazar Road from 12 kmp to 18 kmp & 32 kmp to 46 kmp in the district of Purulia have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 47.87 crore.

Widening and strengthening of Balarampur -Barabazar -Sindri Road (SH-4) from 0 kmp to 19 kmp in the district of Purulia have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 44.09 crore. Strengthening of Baruipur-Ramnagar-Uttarbhag - Port-Canning Road from 0 kmp to 25 kmp in

the district of South 24 Parganas have been completed at a project cost of Rs. 45.09 crore.

3.22 Land & Land Reforms and Refugee Relief & Rehabilitation

To harmonize and streamline citizen services, the Government has placed special emphasis on the timely disposal of mutation and conversion cases. In FY 2025-26, 45,68,042 mutation cases and 1,27,564 conversion cases have been disposed off till 30th November 2025.

Earlier obtaining loans by mortgaging leasehold interests or transferring such interests traditionally required prior approval from the Government (the LESSOR), resulting in delays. To address this, a provision for freehold transfer of Government land was introduced in 2023 through an amendment of Section 52(2) of the WBLR Act, 1955.

To enable the productive use of unused 6 (2) lands by Retainers/Transferees for specific purposes, including residential use, an order was issued in Notification No. 631-LP dated 18/02/2020, aligned with Section 4B(2) of the WBLR Act, 1955.

To reduce financial burden during the Renewal of Long-Term Settlement (LTS) for industrial and other purposes, Rule 226 of the WBL & LR Manual, 1991 was amended in 2024 through Notification No. 3920-LP/1A-02/24 dated 30/10/2024.

Under the Ease of Doing Business reforms, the process of conversion for industrial purposes was further simplified in 2025 through Memorandum No. 3927-LP/1A-12/13 dated 17/11/2025.

To facilitate the operation and regularization of closed or abandoned tea gardens, an SOP for grant of short-term leases for tea gardens was issued in 2024 via Notification No. 3955-LP/3T-03/24 dated 06/11/2024.

Complete exemption of khajna (land revenue and cess) for all agricultural lands has been in effect since 2017. The e-Khajna module, launched in 2022, allows citizens to pay land revenue online from home. The response has been remarkable over 50,24,939 raiyats of non-agricultural land have used the online service, voluntarily paying more than Rs. 225.43 crore.

Government land has to be put to use judiciously for purposes which are in tune with the policies of the Government. From time to time, this Department has made land available to various Government Agencies by way of inter-departmental transfer of land and to private entrepreneurs by way of long term settlement for various social and economic infrastructure projects.

During the financial year 2025-26, 62 Long Term Settlement (LTS) cases have been sanctioned involving 878.35 acres of Government vested land earning Salami and Annual Rent for the first year to the tune of Rs. 147.41 crore.

During the FY 2025-26, 137 cases of Inter Departmental Transfer (IDT) have been sanctioned involving an area of 235.26 acres and 4 cases of transfer of State Government's land to Government of India have been sanctioned involving more than 10 acres and transfer value of Rs. 6.23 crore.

Till 30th November of this FY 2025-26, 7,210 Agri-Patta, 11,080 Tea Garden Patta, 5,511 Homestead Patta and 581 Free Hold Title Deeds (FHTD) in refugee colonies have been distributed. Since 2011, the cumulative distribution stands at 1,95,024 Agri-Pattas, 46,923 Tea Garden Pattas, 92,952 Homestead Pattas, and 59,707 FHTDs, along with 2,26,273 Nijo Griha Nijo Bhumi (NGNB) Pattas issued to eligible families.

With the object of transparency and ease of doing business, a brickfield module has been introduced in the Banglar bhumi portal since 2022. During FY 2025-26 (upto 30th November 2025), an amount of Rs. 16.18 crore has been collected.

During the current FY, the total revenue collection has been Rs. 2,449.11 crore upto 30th November 2025.

3.23 Power

5,72,182 new service connections were provided in the State during the current FY 2025-26, up to November, 2025. Thirteen 33/11 KV Sub-Stations with capacity of

around 245.2 MVA have been commissioned. Further, Capacity addition for eighty existing 33/11 KV Sub-Stations with additional capacity of 650.5 MVA to cater the additional load demand has been completed. 5,915 Numbers 11 KV out going feeder metering have been completed.

The Project for System Strengthening and Grid Modernization of distribution network of WBSEDCL under WBEDGMP, an externally aided project (EAP) funded by World Bank (IBRD) and AIIB loan & 30% (State Share), having total project cost of Rs. 2,800.54 crore, has been taken up since FY 2021-22 with cumulative outgo of Rs. 1,883 crore. Projects in Siliguri, Baruipur, Chandannagar, Asansol, Baguiati-Kestopur, Rajarhat and Kharagpur have reached 85% completion under WBEDGMP. Also 16 GIS sub-stations across 11 districts are under construction with a total investment of Rs. 205.28 crore.

The 'Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS)' with total outlay of Rs. 10,216.83 crore, a joint endeavor of the State and the Central Government has been finalized for various improvements in electrical infrastructure throughout the State of the West Bengal with the estimated contribution of Government of West Bengal for Rs. 1,394.46 crore in phases. So far, 60% of the works have been completed with financial progress of Rs.1,900.68 crore. The State Govt. has already released Rs. 494.13 crore under State Share of RDSS.

Through citizen-centric programs like 'Duare Sarkar' and 'Amar Para Amar Samadhan', 39,429 new connection applications were received; 23,751 connections has already been delivered, 63,249 applications for outstanding dues (OSD) waiver has been processed and 57,316 waivers have been granted.

For development of e-Vehicle charging infrastructure, the e-Vehicle charging stations have been planned in the vacant land of Sub-Stations on revenue sharing mode with private players. The process of setting up of 188 e-Vehicle charging stations have been taken up under the EV Accelerator Cell in 3 different phases. 30 EVCS are operational, achieving a financial progress of Rs. 4.5 crore so far.

Procurement of 4 Pelton Runners for Rammam Stage-II (Rs. 13.10 crore) has been completed. 5 MVA transformer added at Jaldhaka Stage-II for capacity enhancement. DPR completed for 120 kW Micro Hydel Project at Rammam Stage-II. 253.16 MW solar capacity installed (240.20 MW ground-mounted + 12.96 MW roof top), 937.39 MU generated as on 31.10.2025. 20 MW Solar Project (Gangapur Phase-I & Phase-II, Birbhum), and 5 MW Floating Solar at PPSP Upper Dam (Purulia) are work in progress.

To mitigate the price hike in tariff, the State Govt has released Rs. 1,408.55 crore, up to third quarter, as upfront subsidy benefitting 1.74 crore of domestic consumers including agricultural consumers. In addition, Rs. 149.09

crore have been provided to WBSEDCL for free-electricity under 'Hasir Alo' benefitting nearly 34 lakh consumers in aggregate. Moreover, State Govt. has released Rs. 7.75 crore up to 3rd quarter of the current financial year to CESC for providing free-electricity under 'Hasir Alo' benefitting nearly 1.50 lakh consumers monthly.

WBSEDCL has achieved ISO 27001:2022 certification across 17 critical installations. During the CFY, Automated services launched-WhatsApp Bot, AI-based meter reading, automated payment processes, iOS Vidyut Sahayogi App, Safety Inspection App and Smart Prepaid Dashboard.

At Basudebpur & Ranitala (Murshidabad District) and Belegachi (South 24 Paraganas District), new Customer Care Centers have been sanctioned during FY 2025-26 and out of which Basudevvpur Customer Care Centre has already been inaugurated in Nov. 25 and others are in pipeline for inauguration within current FY 2025-26.

WBSETCL has commissioned and upgraded several power sub-stations across West Bengal to strengthen the transmission and distribution network. During this period the Falakata 220/132/33 KV sub-stations in Alipurduar district was commissioned with a total transformation capacity of 420 MVA. The Habibpur 132/33 KV sub-station in Malda district was commissioned with a capacity of 100 MVA. The Silicon Valley 132/33/11 KV sub-station in North 24 Parganas districts was commissioned with a combined transformation capacity of 200 MVA. In addition,

the Satgachia sub-station in Purba Bardhaman district was upgraded from 220/132/33 KV to 400/220/132/33 KV with additional 1,000 MVA transformation capacity. The Raghunathpur sub-station in Purulia district was also upgraded from 132/33 KV to 220/132/33 KV with an additional 320 MVA capacity. Overall a total of 3,104.30 MVA Transformation Capacity including augmentation and 136.21 Circuit Kilometer (CKM) of Transmission Line have been added during this period. WBSETCL is maintaining its Transmission System availability consistently around 99.94% (till 31.10.2025).

During the FY 2025-26, WBPDCCL achieved a record-breaking gross generation of 20,758 MU(up to November, 2025), marking its highest performance during this period. Peak generation of 4,402 MW on 27 September 2025 surpassed installed capacity (4,265 MW), especially during Durga Puja.

Santaldih Thermal Power plant has been ranked first in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) merit order ranking of power plants based on plant load factor, Bakreswar Thermal Power Plant has been ranked second, and WBPDCCL as an organization has secured the top position in the country.

During the CFY 2025-26, all coal supplied to WBPDCCL's power stations was sourced from its captive mines, eliminating the need to procure coal from Coal India subsidiaries.

During the CFY, WBPDCCL have commissioned two 10 MW Floating Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant on Raw Water Pond No. 1 & 2 of Bakreswar Thermal Power Project and on Raw Water Pond No 1 & 2 in Sagardighi Thermal Power Project. Out of 7.5 MW capacity Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant on Raw Water Pond No 2 & Dutta Bandh of Santaldih Thermal Power Station, 6 MW has been commissioned and power generation started while construction of balance 1.5 MW is underway.

On obtaining the Deocha-Pachami-Dewanganj-Harinsingh Coal Block, containing a reserve of 2,600 million tons of basalt in 326.78 acres of land has been earmarked for basalt mining .Global EoI has been floated for Under Ground Coal Mining in which six parties participated including one Global Bidder from Poland.

To meet up the demand supply gap beyond 2030, State Government has approved for development & operation of its 1st greenfield with aggregated capacity of 1,600 MW at Salbani, Paschim Medinipur through DBFOO (Design, Build, Finance, Own, Operate) route under PPP model and successfully awarded the project to M/S JSW Energy. The project has an estimated private investment of Rs. 16,000 crore which would also ensure a substantial employment generation in State of West Bengal.

For the same purpose, State Government has also approved for setting up 2nd 2×800 MW green-field power plant under the same route and land to be identified.

In-principle approval has also been given to set up 2 Brownfield (Thermal Power Plant) TPP units (1×800 MW at DPL, 1×660 at Bakreswar).

A Mega Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV) Plant at Bakreswar Dam along with Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a capacity of 250 MW at Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur and another additional greenshoe capacity of 250 MW at DPL has also been envisaged with funding tie-up with Asian Development Bank (ADB).

During the CFY (up to Nov. 2025), The Durgapur Projects Ltd. successfully extracted 1,31,459 MT of coal from Trans Damodar Coal Mine. During CFY 2025-26, DPL has generated 2,226.270 MU power with @ 70.27% PLF till 26th Nov. 2025. As per monetization of unused land of DPL, land at Bally, Howrah has been monetized successfully and monetization of land at Bahir Sarbamangala, Purba Bardhaman will be completed shortly.

Online approval for drawings of electrical installations by the CEI along with Online Grievance Mechanism for Service Delivery has been implemented in the Tathyasathi Portal. All the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) Plus 2,024 points have been successfully implemented.

3.24 Urban Development & Municipal Affairs

The Department of Urban Development & Municipal Affairs addresses the challenges of urbanization by ensuring critical civic amenities and employment

opportunities. It leverages IT initiatives to provide better living conditions and sustainable urban growth.

During the Financial Year 2025-26, under Development of Municipality Area (DMA), Rs. 256.46 crore has been allotted so far for construction and repair of road. In Basic Minimum Services (BMS), which deals with mainly drainage, Rs. 25.47 crore has been allotted so far. The UD & MA Department is encouraging mechanized cleaning of the drains, especially for the sake of maintaining dignity of the scavengers.

In Uttara para, 315 KWP rooftop solar PV power plant has already been installed.

Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), has adopted the policy of allotment of Rs. 30 lakh per ward towards Councillor's Area Development Scheme and Rs. 20 lakh per ward towards Integrated Borough Schemes. This year, Kalighat Skywalk has been completed. 'Talk to Mayor' is a successful step taken by KMC which is helping thousands of people by giving them a platform to submit their problems and grievances directly and also to share their valuable feedback.

State Urban Development Authority (SUDA) functions in significant areas of daily life. Emphasis has been given on general cleanliness through collection of segregated waste from the doorsteps by 75,000 Nirmal Bandhus (Conservancy Workers). There are functional fresh waste processing facilities at 18 ULBs, construction of fresh waste processing plant is in progress at 55 ULBs and remaining

55 ULBs are in different stages of tender for setting up fresh waste processing plant. 9 plants will be set up by December, 2026. 83.90 lakh MT legacy waste has been bio-mined and bio-remediated.

Under AMRUT, 58 Water Supply schemes, 7 Storm Water Drainage schemes, 3 Sewerage & Septage schemes, 2 Non-Motorized Urban Transport schemes, 421 Green Space Development schemes and 3 Waterbody Rejuvenation Scheme have been completed with an expenditure of Rs. 5,833.31 crore. Through implementation of Water Supply Schemes, 79% of urban households have been provided with functional water tap connections.

2,268 vulnerable homeless persons are currently residing out of many more rescued through Night Surveys and provided accommodation in 72 functional Shelters for Urban Homeless (SUH). Micro-finance of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 50,000 each has been provided to 2,78,353 Urban Street Vendors across the State. MAA Canteen is functional in 341 centres including 26 in Govt. Medical Colleges, with more than 8.30 crore beneficiaries till date.

Under Jai Bangla Scheme, Old Age Pension is being provided to 2,79,511 persons, Widow Pension to 2,08,908 persons and Disability Pension to 13,823 persons amounting to Rs.1,000 each. In 2024-25, 2,006 BPL families have been provided Rs. 40,000 each under Family Benefit Scheme for death of main breadearner. Under Samabyathi scheme, Rs. 2,000 have been provided to

4,47,213 poor beneficiaries for cremation/ burial of their deceased family member.

5.20 lakh houses have been constructed and handed over to the urban poor people. 2.17 lakh Dwelling Units are under construction. 762 UH & WCs have been sanctioned out of which 482 are completed.

In 2025-26, Kolkata Municipal Development Authority (KMDA) has taken up 50 projects worth Rs. 353.28 crore covering North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly, Nadia and Kolkata including Ultadanga-Garia 9.2 km Bridge on EM Bypass, retrofitting of Baghajatin ROB etc.

During 2025-26, New Town Kolkata Development Authority (NKDA) has completed modification of 24 parks, Baliguri market, construction of Hawker's market near Central Mall, Sapoorji, Gitanjali and Tarulia, covering of canal B (part), E and C, canal maintenance and de-silting, construction of Health Centre and 4 cottages at picnic spot, introduction of Advanced Ambulance service, plantation programme under NCAP etc. are some major works done by them.

Nabadiganta Industrial Township Authority (NDITA) has taken up a number of innovative initiatives for infrastructural upgradation, including upgradation of drainage system, beautification, better traffic management, etc. NDITA has also planned to implement comprehensive e-governance system for all citizen-centric services.

UD & MA Department has also taken steps to develop peri-urban areas to bridge the critical gaps in different infrastructural facilities and has already taken up schemes which involve Rs. 415 crore.

A concerted effort is being made to improve the quality of human life and nature in the urban space in West Bengal in a cost-effective manner.

3.25 Housing

The Department of Housing implements various social housing schemes and overseas real estate regulations to provide affordable housing solutions. It also manages infrastructure development through dedicated directorates like the Housing Directorate and West Bengal Housing Board.

Construction of 2,851 single storied dwelling units in 11 sites in Phase-II has been completed in stages between January-June 2025 and handed over to the respective District Authorities (Alipurduar: 1,842, Jalpaiguri: 1,009).

Under Chaa Sundari Extension Scheme, 1st instalment @ Rs. 60,000 per beneficiary was released as advance during FY 2023-24 in favour of 24,500 beneficiaries of three districts (Alipurduar: 14,000, Jalpaiguri: 10,000 and Uttar Dinajpur: 500). 2nd instalment @ Rs. 40,000 per beneficiary was released in favour of 17,633 eligible beneficiaries during FY 2024-25 out of 24,500 beneficiaries who had received 1st instalment earlier this year.

Since 2011, this Department has completed construction of 33 such RHEs comprising of 1,148 flats either in existing Rental Housing Estates or in new sites. During 2025-26, Construction of one RHE has been completed (Kalimpong RHE, Kalimpong B Type: 8 Flats). Work for one new RHE is in progress (Alipurduar Town (Court Rice Mill) RHE, Alipurduar: A and D Type 32 flats).

Since 2011, this Department has completed, 26 Night Shelters and handed over to the Health Department for operation. During 2025-26, construction of one Night Shelter has been completed (Murshidabad Medical College & Hospital: Seat: 120, Bed: 100 Dormitory). Works for construction of 1 new Night Shelter is in progress (M.R. Bangur Hospital, Kolkata: 58 beds).

Under Nijashree Housing Scheme for LIG and MIG people, since 2011, construction works were completed for 06 sites (1 BHK - 64 Units, & 2BHK-144 Units = Total 208 Flats.) i) Narampur-Medinipur, ii) Kharagpur-Inda, iii) Haldia-Basudevpur, iv) Bankura Sadar, Bankura, v) Ashokenagar-[North 24 Pgs], vi) Bishnupur Bankura. During 2025-26, construction of work at Ashokenagar-North 24 Pgs (2BHK: 16 flats) was completed.

Since 2011 construction of 14 Working Women's Hostel, under Karmanjali Scheme have been completed and low paid working women are given accommodation there at nominal rent.

Under the West Bengal Real Estate Regulatory Authority and West Bengal Real Estate Administrative Tribunal, all

functions of WBRERA and WBREAT including lodging and redressal of complaints have been made online. Total 1,516 complaint cases have been received, 584 disposed off and 927 cases are under hearing process.

3.26 Non-conventional & Renewable Energy Sources

The Department of Non-conventional and Renewable Energy Sources is committed to the development of clean and sustainable green energy solutions. Through its' parastatals - WBREDA and WBGEDCL, it aims to maximize the utilization of renewable resources for a greener and more energy-efficient future.

Bhajanghat 10 MW Ground Mounted Solar PV Power Plant has been made operational since March 2021 and is feeding power to the grid. Till date, 63.1348 MU (Million Unit) of solar energy have been generated and injected to the grid.

Till date more than 3,500 schools, colleges and madrasas have been provided with Roof top Grid Connected Solar Photovoltaic Power Plants. The installation has been completed and grid connectivity has been provided.

Similarly, all District Collectorate, some offices of SPs, BDOs and crucial Police installations have been provided with Roof top Grid Connected Solar Photovoltaic Power Plants.

On an experimental basis, the installation of a 1.5 MW Roof top Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant has been taken up at Kalyani Layer Farm of West Bengal Livestock

Development Corporation. This is expected to bring down the electricity consumption by 40% and will result in huge savings in energy cost. Another experimental project of 40kW/100 kWh Battery Energy Storage System including two nos. 7.4 kW EV Charging Station has been taken up at Bikalpa Shakti Bhavan, Sector V, Salt Lake.

Numerous projects of Solar Street Lights and Solar High Mast Lights are in progress in almost all districts of West Bengal. The sites have been identified by PWD, Transport Departments as well as District authorities as 'traffic black spots'. Steps have also been taken for implementation of projects of Solar Street Lights and Solar High Mast Lights as received under the flagship program 'Amar Para Amar Samadhan'.

Waste-to-Energy projects of Rs. 20 lakh each have been completed and functioning at NRS Medical College & Hospital, Pavlov Hospital, and Adyapith Ananda Polytechnic College, Dakshineswar, Kolkata.

NRES Department is exploring the use of Renewable Energy Sources for livelihood projects of SHGs, MSME, Fishery Value Chain and Agriculture sectors. Rs. 4.45 crore has been utilized through West Bengal Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation Ltd. for installation of solar irrigation pumps for 164 tribal SHGs in different districts.

WBREDA has installed Roof top Solar Power Plants at six. Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) along with

Solar PV Street Lighting Systems (SPV SLS), Solar Water Heating System (SWHS).

Installation of Solar Cold Rooms in different municipal markets / RMC in various districts have been taken upto maintain the freshness of fruits and vegetables. Implementation of 24 nos. Solar Cold Room at different location under Uttar Dinajpur and Darjeeling districts of Rs. 5.08 crore. and 5.43 crore. respectively, under RIDF-XXXI tranche (F.Y. 2025-26) have been taken up.

Installation of Roof top Solar Power Plant with Battery Energy Storage System at Saltora Layer Farm, Mekhliganj Layer Farm, Malda Layer Farm and Haringhata Layer farm with project costs of Rs. 6.43 crore, Rs. 11.57 crore, 11.58 crore and Rs. 11.91 crore respectively have been taken up under RIDF-XXXI tranche (F.Y. 2025-26).

Social Empowerment

3.27 Women and Child development and Social Welfare

‘Lakshmir Bhandar’, an innovative scheme aimed at the financial empowerment of women, assures a monthly basic income to all women between the ages of 25-60 years in the State, barring those holding a government job. Rs. 1,200 is the monthly sum paid to women from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe categories, and Rs. 1,000 to women belonging to other categories. Beneficiary coverage currently stands at 2.20 crore women. In the year 2025-26, the scheme’s expenditure Rs. 17,076.03 crore.

‘Kanyashree Prakalpa’, the West Bengal Government’s flagship scheme for the empowerment of adolescent girls completes 12 years of successful implementation. Till date, the scheme has covered 96.30 lakh beneficiaries. In 2025-26, 15.50 lakh girls were enrolled in the Annual Scholarship component of the scheme is Rs.1,000 to each beneficiary and 2.24 lakh girls were enrolled in the One-Time Grant component, which gives Rs. 25,000 to each beneficiary. An amount of Rs. 465.15 crore has been disbursed during 2025-26.

‘Rupashree Prakalpa’ is a cash transfer scheme designed to ensure that poor families do not take loans or sell assets on the occasion of their daughter’s marriage. In 2025-26, the scheme, which provides a cash transfer of Rs. 25,000 to indigent women for their first marriage, was availed of by 1,43,191 beneficiaries, with a total of Rs. 347.17 crore being disbursed.

The Department supports the basic needs of senior citizens, widows and persons with disabilities through Social Pensions of Rs. 1,000 per month. During 2025-26, Rs. 2,447.358 crore were disbursed to 34.53 lakh senior citizens and Rs.1,649.373 crore were disbursed to 20.57 lakh widows. Under the Manabik Pension scheme for persons with disability of 40% or more, Rs. 609.07 crore was disbursed to 7.59 lakh beneficiaries.

Under the Anganwadi Services Scheme, around 65.45 lakh children of 6 months to 6 years of age and 9.70 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers received

supplementary nutrition in the form of hot cooked meals for 25 in days each month regularly. Further, approximately 35.24 lakh children in the age group of 3-6 years were imparted preschool education through 1.19 lakh anganwadi centres in the State. The Scheme has improved the nutrition status of children, with only 1.12% of children below 5 years being under weight as on 31st October 2025.

Under 'Mission Vatsalya', which operationalizes the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection Act), the Department has provided care and shelter to 16,466 children through Government and NGO-run homes, specialized adoption agencies, and open shelters in this year so far. The Department has also placed 120 children in adoption, provided 4,440 sponsorships, and ensured the restoration and repatriation of 8,897 children.

The Department runs 36 Shakti Sadan shelter homes for women in difficult circumstances, and 24 One Stop Centres for women affected by violence. There are 10 homes for vagrants, and 31 shelter homes specifically for the urban homeless in Kolkata, Howrah and Asansol Municipal Corporations. Further, the Department runs 2 half-way homes called 'Pratyay' which shelter persons who have recovered from mental illnesses until they are able to live to independent life.

3.28 Minority Affairs & Madrasah Education

The Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education Department is catering to the specific needs and aspirations of the large minority community in the State. The

Department works for the development and welfare of minorities, thereby ensuring the protection of rights and providing opportunities for growth.

The Aikyashree scholarship, launched in the year 2019-20, was disbursed to more than 28 lakh applicants. Since 2011, over 4.85 crore scholarships have been provided to students under Aikyashree and other scholarship schemes, involving a total financial expenditure of Rs.10,208.34 crore. This year 617 education loans amounting to Rs. 17.40 crore have been sanctioned to meritorious students belonging to minority communities for pursuing professional/technical/vocational courses in India and abroad. Since 2011, education loans amounting to Rs. 326.80 crore have been disbursed, benefiting a total of 39,596 meritorious minority students.

To promote entrepreneurship and create opportunities for self-employment, Term Loans have been extended to 10,405 beneficiaries, while micro finance has been disbursed to 60,218 women members of the self-help groups. The total loan disbursed this year amounts to Rs. 304.08 crore. Since 2011, Term Loans and DLS (Micro Finance) have been given to 1,43,044 and 14,88,226 entrepreneurs respectively, with cumulative disbursements of Rs.1,291crore and Rs. 2,635 crore respectively.

92 text books have been published by the West Bengal Board of Madrasah Education for the academic year 2025. Administrative approval has been granted for the establishment of 600 smart classrooms across 300

Madrasahs, 100 digital laboratories in 100 Madrasahs, and the upgradation of science laboratories in 76 Madrasahs.

Digi-Locker facilities have been introduced to digitally empower students and citizens by providing secure access to authentic digital documents via a digital document wallet. The department has also implemented online registration for board examinations, online facilities for verifying candidates' data and online applications for Post Publication Review (PPR) and Post Publication Scrutiny (PPS).

Under the MsDP scheme, Rs.29 crore has been disbursed during 2025-26, benefiting 32 blocks across 14 districts. Under the MDW scheme, more than Rs.182.20 crore has been allocated for various initiatives spanning all 23 districts of West Bengal. More than 5.05 lakh projects have been successfully completed under the three schemes since 2011, utilizing funds exceeding Rs.10,337 crore. In this financial year so far 605 hostels attached to schools and colleges are being established, of which 463 are already operational. The maintenance grant has been enhanced from Rs.10,000 per annum per student to Rs.18,000 to those availing themselves of hostel facilities.

Aliah University, a State University under this Department, has been accredited with a Grade B+ by NAAC. A total of 1,842 new students have enrolled in various undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. 21 new students were enrolled for PhD this year and 50 scholars have been awarded PhD degrees till date. Under

the campus placement initiatives of this university 254 graduates from various disciplines have secured job offers across different sectors. One Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Aliah University, Kolkata has been awarded prestigious Humboldt Research Fellowship.

The traditional NACH mandate for loan repayment was replaced with an eNACH facility within the Term Loan software, significantly reducing the time taken to disburse the loan from the date of application, by more than one and a half times. The Corporation also launched a dedicated section, 'Aikyashree Connect' on its Aikyashree Scholarship portal to address students' grievances and queries regarding scholarship schemes, ensuring effective and timely support.

The parastatal organizations viz. WBMDFC, WBSHC and Urdu Academy organised coaching for competitive examination for Government job recruitment. Under Jogyashree Civil Services Coaching for Minorities WBSHC initiated imparting quality coaching for 100 aspirants from minority communities preparing for IAS and other examinations conducted by the UPSC. WBMDFC organised residential coaching for the WBCS (Exe) etc. Examination in Murshidabad and coaching for recruitment to the posts of constable in Kolkata Police and West Bengal Police for 1,000 candidates across all districts during the year. WBMDFC also implemented a short-term Entrepreneur Development Programme (EDP) to train over 2,430 individuals across all districts this year.

Currently, 175 candidates are undergoing four courses at NIFT and 260 in MSME offering high employment potential. A special Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme was launched and under this over 4,000 masons in Murshidabad and Malda districts received certificates after a three-day course and evaluation conducted by PBSSD. RPL training for skilled labourers in traditional crafts such as Jori work, gems and jewellery, and the leather industry is scheduled for completion within the current financial year. About 7,523 trainees have benefited in skill development in the current year.

A total of Rs. 1,387 crore has been utilized since 2011 for constructing 9,902 boundary walls for graveyards. Furthermore, Rs. 2,456 crore has been allocated since 2011 under the housing rehabilitation program for destitute minority women, benefiting over 2.6 lakh women.

3.29 Backward Classes Welfare

The Backward Classes Welfare Department works for sustainable development of the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes of West Bengal.

During 2025- 26, total 1,88,378 [SC: 1,34,149 ST: 29,309 OBC-A: 11,987 OBC-B: 12,933] Caste Certificates have been issued till date. Since, May, 2011, over 1.69 crore [SC: 100.39 lakh ST: 21.82 lakh OBC: 47.59 lakh] Caste Certificates have been issued.

Under 'Taposili Bandhu'— a social pension scheme provides a monthly pension Rs. 1,000 to all the senior citizens of SC community. In 2025-26 till date, around 11.66 lakh beneficiaries are getting monthly pension with a financial involvement of Rs. 910.05 crore. Since inception, total expenditure incurred under the said scheme amounts to Rs. 7,381.13 crore.

Under 'Sikshashree' in C.F.Y. 2025-26, an amount of Rs.49.75 crore has been granted to 6,21,867 SC beneficiaries till date. Total amount of beneficiaries under Post-Matric Scholarship for SCs and Pre-Matric Scholarship for SCs are 1,44,170 and 1,64,965 respectively and for implementation of Post-Matric Scholarship for SCs and Pre-Matric Scholarship for SCs Rs.23.60 crore and Rs.19.24 crore have been allotted respectively as on date. Similarly total beneficiaries under Post-Matric & Pre-Matric Scholarship for OBCs, EBCs & DNTs are 34,541 and 36,791 respectively with fund involvement of Rs. 25.41 crore and Rs. 11.427 crore respectively till date. Merit Scholarship has been awarded to 1,899 & 778 SC students reading in classes V-X & XI-XII respectively during the C.F.Y. 2025-26 as on date.

In the C.F.Y. 2025-26 under 'Medhasree' 1,94,509 students belonging to OBC studying in classes V-VIII, have been granted scholarship with a total expenditure of Rs.15.56 crore.

46 (Girls:34, Boys:12) central hostels under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (BJRCY) for SC students,

35 Central Hostels [SC:28 & Combined (SC&ST):7], 12 Central Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls and 97 Ashram Hostels for SCs are now functional across all the districts of West Bengal.

Since 2015-16, over 1.44 crore students were provided bicycles at a cost of around Rs. 4,903 crore till date under 'Sabooj Sathi'. During 2025-26, around 12.50 lakh students of Class-IX (AY 2025) are being covered at an estimated cost of around Rs. 524 crore.

Since 2011, WB SC, ST & OBC Development & Finance Corporation has assisted more than 2.59 lakh SC & OBC beneficiaries (SC-2,37,331 and OBC - 21,669) through various self-employment projects. During 2025-26 around 15,000 SC and OBC candidates are being covered at a cost of around Rs. 30 crore.

Education Loan is extended to SC/OBC/Safai Karmachari category students for pursuing full time technical / professional education from Govt. recognized institutes. The loan amount ranges from Rs. 15 lakh (for study within the country) to Rs. 30 lakh (for study abroad). During last 14 years, total 1,862 SC & OBC students (SC-1,345, OBC-517) received benefit under the scheme.

The BCW Department, launched the pre-examination training programme for SC & ST students to prepare them for JEE/NEET/WBJEE, through 36 centers across the State in 2022-23. During last three years, 20 students got admission in IIT, 56 in Govt. medical colleges and a considerable no. in NIIT, IISER and other reputed

institutions. Now, altogether 5,000 students are being trained in 110 centres located across the State under 'YOGYASHREE'.

Another component of 'YOGYASHREE' scheme viz. Pre-Examination Training for SC/ ST students for entry into Group B / Group C / Group D category posts in the Government, PSU, Bank, Railways, Post Office, Military and Para-military forces has started in 2025-26. In the 1st year, 1,150 SC / ST students have been taken on board for the training through 23 district level centers in the State. From 2026-27, 2,300 SC & ST students will get opportunity of training through 46 district level centers.

For focused and intensive development of the targeted communities, 18 Development/Cultural/Welfare Boards have so far been constituted. Necessary fund was allocated for 8 Development/Cultural/Welfare Boards under State Development Scheme (formerly State Plan), during the current financial year 2025-26.

During the C.F.Y. 2025-26, 'Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Medha Puraskar, 2025' have been awarded to 750 SC meritorious students. The birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Gambhira Utsav at Ramkeli Mela premises at Gour in Malda District, Thakur Panchanan Barma Birth Anniversary, Thakur Harichand Guruchand Award Ceremony has been celebrated by this Department.

During 2025-26, an amount of more than Rs.1.52 crore has so far been allotted for payment of wages to 'Dhakis'

(Drummers of Bengal) predominantly belonging to an ethnic group who have been engaged in 400 Blocks and Municipalities to popularize and disseminate the efforts and initiatives taken by this Department at rural haats & various melas.

During the year 2025-26, an amount of Rs. 193 lakh has been released towards payment of Inter-Caste Marriage incentives to 644 couples under the P.C.R. Act, 1955 and for extending monetary relief to 304 victims of atrocities under the P.O.A. Act, 1989, as on date.

Under RIDF-XXIX construction of Model Community Centers (34 Nos.) and installation of Smart Class Rooms (630 Nos.) for Schools in SC dominated areas of 22 districts of West Bengal have been taken up.

As per Hon'ble HC Judgment and leave from Apex Court, after a fresh survey of 190 communities, West Bengal Commission for Backward Classes has recommended for inclusion and sub-classification of 49 communities as OBC-A and 91 communities as OBC-B and our government has accepted the recommendation during the financial year 2025-26.

Under the 'Duare Sarkar' initiative, 47,60,314 (SC: 32,37,566, ST: 6,62,442 & OBC: 8,60,306) Caste Certificates have been issued; 36,406 SC students have been awarded with 'Sikshashree' Scholarship; 1,139 OBC students have been awarded with 'Medhasree' Scholarship

and under ‘Taposili Bandhu’ pension scheme, 85,688 SC persons of 60 or 60+ age group have been received old-age pension as on date.

3.30 Tribal Development

The Department of Tribal Development drives the socio-economic and cultural upliftment of Scheduled Tribes. It emphasises sustainable growth, education, and empowerment, ensuring holistic development for tribal communities.

In 2025-26, the Department has provided ‘Sikhshashree’ Scholarship to 1,09,272 Scheduled Tribes students studying from classes V to VIII in Government Aided/Sponsored schools. This year Rs. 18.72 crore has been spent for the benefit of 10,307 Scheduled Tribes Ashram Hostellers for payment of meal charges to students and procuring furniture in the hostels and. Rs. 4.5 crore has also been spent for remuneration of staff of Ashram Hostels. Rs. 30.23 crore has been spent to provide meal charges for 19,501 Scheduled Tribe School Attached Hostellers so far. From January 2024, the monthly meal charges received by hostellers has been increased from @ Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,800 per head.

The State government has taken an initiative to set up three Santali medium schools in the name of ‘Sidhu Kanu Memorial (Santali Medium) Abasik Schools’, for giving the option of pursuing education in the mother tongue to the

children of the Santal community at Keshpur and Debra in Paschim Medinipur District and Gazole in Malda District.

Under 'Jai Johar', 2,98,315 beneficiaries have received monthly pension of Rs. 1,000 covered under the scheme so far, in the current financial year.

Around 35,845 persons belonging to the ST community living in Jangal Mahal districts viz. Jhargram, Bankura, Purulia, Paschim Medinipur are covered under the Scheme 'West Bengal Kendu Leaves Collectors' Social Security Scheme 2015. One-time assistance on attaining 60 years of age, financial support is provided to registered collectors on the grounds of accidental death, injury, maternity cases, medical purposes. So far, in 2025-26, 186 beneficiaries have received Rs.1.48 crore under this scheme.

To extend livelihood support to women Self-Help Group (SHG) members of the LAMPs, the State Government has provided assistance of Rs. 30,000 to each SHGs in this financial year. So far, since the launch of the scheme in 2024-25, Rs. 23.80 crore has been provided to 7,932 SHGs under the scheme.

For development of sectors like last-mile connectivity, drinking water and sanitation, education, health and nutrition as well as for preservation of cultural heritage of tribal communities, activities like construction of roads, culverts and bridges, boring of hand pumps/solar based pump/rig bore tube wells, repair and renovation of ST hostels, construction of community halls, construction of ICDS centers, construction of Jaher Thans and Majhi

Thans, installation of solar street lights, the State Government has disbursed Rs. 78.94 crore to the districts till date.

3.31 Labour

The Department of Labour focuses on ensuring the welfare and social security of workers in both organized and unorganized sectors. It strives for a conflict-free work environment, elimination of child labour, and employment generation while promoting investment-friendly reforms.

The Bina Mulya Samajik Suraksha Yojana (BMSSY) has been implemented for the workers engaged in 61 unorganized sectors and also include construction workers and transport workers. Since inception, Rs. 2,880.04 crore have been disbursed to 36.7 lakh beneficiaries amongst more than 1.83 crore registered workers and Rs. 305.03 crore was disbursed to 60,484 pensioners under this scheme.

The State Government had introduced a scheme called Financial Assistance to the Workers of Locked Out Industries (FAWLOI) to provide financial assistance to jobless workers engaged in various industries of the State, which are under lock out/ suspension of work/ closure. Till date financial year 2025-26 (up to November 2025), a cumulative amount of financial assistance of Rs. 978.34 crore has been provided to more than 8.12 lakh beneficiaries under the scheme. Financial benefit of Rs. 14.79 crore has been provided to 16,021 workers from 146 industrial units during 2025-26 up to 3rd quarter of this year.

Under ‘Yuvashree’, the Government of West Bengal is providing unemployment assistance to one lakh jobseekers registered in Employment Bank since October 2013 to enable the jobseekers to increase their employability or become suitable to set up self-employment ventures by upgrading their skills. Each of the one lakh selected jobseekers is paid a stipend of Rs.1,500 per month under this scheme. Total 2,13,114 jobseekers have been given the benefit of ‘Yuvasree’ till November, 2025.

West Bengal Migrant Workers’ Welfare Board, which was constituted to address unique vulnerabilities of migrant workers of this State and is applicable to registered migrant workers under the West Bengal Migrant Workers’ Welfare Scheme, 2023, and those possessing Aadhaar/EPIC from West Bengal. Along with the West Bengal Migrant Workers’ Welfare Scheme, 2023, the Government of West Bengal has launched the ‘Shramashree Scheme’, 2025 to support migrant workers originating from West Bengal, who are compelled to return to their native places due to discrimination and hardship faced in other States. The scheme ensures protection of life, livelihood, and rehabilitation on humanitarian grounds as rooted in the obligations under Articles 21 and 41 of the Constitution.

Employment under schedule of Minimum Wages have been increased from 61 in the year 2011 to 93 in the year 2025. The rate of monthly minimum wages has been increased from Rs. 2,448 and Rs. 4,753 in the year 2011 to Rs. 8,588 and Rs. 13,748 in the year 2025 for unskilled and skilled workers respectively.

Employment Bank, inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal on 26.07.12, is a State-Owned job-portal whose basic objective is to open better employment opportunities for the enrolled job seekers' and to provide access to a wide variety of job seekers' data to the enrolled employers for fulfilling their manpower requirements.

In the year 2025-2026, total 28,217 jobseekers & 13 employers have registered themselves in the portal, till November, 2025. Since the year 2012, total 42,12,094 job seekers and 2,196 employers have enrolled in this and they are availing the services of this portal.

There are 285 tea gardens in the North Bengal zone of West Bengal registered under the Plantations Labour Act, 1951. Of these, there are 120 tea gardens in Darjeeling District, 6 tea gardens in Kalimpong District, 88 tea gardens in Jalpaiguri District, 61 tea gardens in Alipurduar District, 5 tea gardens in Cooch Behar District and 5 tea gardens in Uttar Dinajpur District.

The Government of West Bengal issued an advisory for disbursement of Bonus at the rate of 20% for all the tea gardens in North Bengal. Approximately 2,56,772 tea garden workers have been benefitted.

The conciliation machinery of Labour Commissionerate has successfully handled the issue of temporarily non-operation of the 25 number of tea gardens and made those operational. Financial Assistance has been paid to 8,766

eligible tea garden workers in the first two quarters of Financial Year 2025-26 in the scheme FAWLOI.

There are 95 creches and 52 health centres sanctioned by Government of West Bengal in the different tea estates in North Bengal, out of which 34 creche and 14 health centres are already made fully operational.

The Jute Industry provides employment to 2.5 lakh workers nearly with a few thousand more in supporting services. In addition, there is a large number of persons engaged in the trade of jute. There are 116 jute mills in West Bengal. Till date 19,372 jobseekers have been sponsored to the jute mills out of which 6,840 have joined the jute mills.

Labour Department through the Directorate of Employment is conducting various programmes like 'On-site training-cum-Engagement Programme on Jute', 'Data entry operator and front office management for the dependants of tea garden workers', 'Skill development training of domestic workers', 'USKP', 'Self-employment awareness-cum-motivation camp', etc.

Under the scheme USKP (Udiyaman Karmasansthan Prakaalpa), total 47,666 cases have been sponsored to banks, out of which 12,061 cases have been sanctioned and 12,020 cases disbursed till 30.11.2025.

Since the year 2023 till 14.11.2025, 1,967 job drives with 2,025 employers & 65,102 participant job-seekers

have been organized where 18,586 job-seekers were offered jobs & 4,879 jobseekers have joined jobs.

Number of registered factories has increased to 387 and now total factories registered in our State is 22,235. Number of workers have increased by 22,590.

During this financial year, Rs. 3.29 crore has been collected as licence fees. The Directorate of Factories disbursed Rs.1.89 crore as benefit to 90 beneficiaries under 'Rehabilitation Assistance before and after death' and 37 beneficiaries under 'Silicosis Rehabilitation Pension' in the scheme 'Silicosis Relief, Rehabilitation and Treatment Policy, West Bengal'.

ESI (Medical Benefit) Scheme provides medical treatment to all 23 districts of West Bengal, to about 22.20 lakh insured persons 1.10 crore beneficiaries through 13 ESI hospitals with out of 3,154 Beds and 85 Service Dispensaries & 67 Speciality tie-up hospitals. Two 100 bedded new hospitals at Siliguri & Haldia and 50 bedded new hospital building at Asansol have been operationalized.

Cardiology Hub & Super Speciality Referral Centre of Cardiology at Manicktala ESI Hospital have been operationalised by own manpower and 16 bedded ICCU & 17 bedded ITU have been operationalised in 2024-2025, which can save life of numerous critically ill cardiology patients by implanting stents, pacemakers and ICDs.

3.32 Self Help Group & Self Employment

The Department of Self Help Group & Self Employment is mandated to coordinate activities of different stakeholder

Departments forming Self Help Groups, especially by the women.

West Bengal Swarojgar Sahayak Prakalpa (WBSSP), provides interest subvention to the loans received by the SHGs with the primary objective of keeping the interest burden of the SHG to a meagre 2 per cent. During the current financial year till 30.11.2025, Rs. 43.67 crore interest subvention have been provided to the 1,59,626 eligible SHGs.

Under the Swami Vivekananda Swanirbhar Karmasansthan Prakalpa (SVSKP), to encourage self-employment in rural and urban areas through promotion, during 2025-26, an amount of Rs. 65,82,628 have been paid as incentive, TA & bonus to Prakalpa Sahayaks.

With a view to create self employment opportunity, upgrading the skill, developing qualitative standard of products, various training programmes have been organized on various trades by the 'West Bengal Swarojgar Corporation Limited'.

In F.Y. 2025-26 under Micro-Project in convergence with ARD Department, an amount of Rs. 2.95 crore have been released for Poultry Farming, Goatery, Piggery and Duckery for livestock rearing by the 368 eligible SHGs. Whereas in the previous financial year (2024-25) an amount of Rs. 7.23 crore have been provided to 1,010 eligible SHGs for Poultry Farming and Goatery.

SHGs run canteens in Government Offices and Hospitals are being set-up by this Department with a view

to promote livelihood generation of the Women SHGs. An amount of Rs. 22,89,715 has been granted for procurement of utensils in 18 canteens.

The Department had participated in Bengal Pre-Puja Handloom Mela at New-Delhi where 15 artisans were sponsored. In the Mango Mela at New Delhi 5 artisans were sponsored.

To provide a platform for exhibition and sale of the produce of the Self Help Groups and SVSKP entrepreneurs, this Department organizes 'State Sabala Mela' in Kolkata and 'District Sabala Mela'. The State Sabala Mela 2024-2025 was held on and from 17th January '25 to 26th January '25 at New Town Mela Ground, Kolkata.

3.33 North Bengal Development

The North Bengal Development Department is tasked with the comprehensive and holistic development of the 8 districts in North Bengal, actively formulating and implementing schemes across numerous key sectors. The Department has completed 3,339 notable schemes up to 30th November 2025 in the 8 districts of North Bengal region since its inception in the year 2011-12.

This Department played a significant role in the field of development, starting from the construction of classroom to connectivity chosen as per the recommendations received from the end of elected representatives and the various district authorities in the financial year 2025-26.

Some of the notable works which are being implemented are : (1) Rural hat sheds at Samuktala in Alipurduar district,(2) Composite bridge over river Dharala in Mekhliganj Block,(3) Swimming pool under Dinhata Municipality, (4) Gallery at Dinhata Sanhati Maidan under Dinhata Municipality in Cooch Behar District, (5) Box Bridge over Jorapani River under Jalpaiguri District, (6) Paver Block Road Chathat Bansgaon Kismat G.P and Phansidewa Block in Darjeeling District, (7) Bridge over Pitane river, Uttar Dinajpur, (8) Paver Block road from Puratan Gangarampur High School Field to Boro Akhira, Dakshin Dinajpur, (9) Construction of class room and internal pathway in Harishchandrapur College at Harischandrapur-I Block and CC road from Ganga prasad colony to Bhangachira Bridge under Bamongola block, Malda.

3.34 Sundarban Affairs

The activities of the Sundarban Affairs Department implements development concerned with the area development programme of the State Government. The plan proposals and the work programme are prepared in such a manner that maximum benefit reaches out to the poorest of poor of the society.

During 2025-26, a number of RCC Jetties and RCC Bridges have been constructed. Some important constructions are R.C.C. Bridge, interconnecting roads and illumination near Moukhali Kheya Ghat over Matla river connecting Matla-I GP of Canning-I Block &

Tambuldaha-I GP of Canning-II Block in South 24 Pgs. with Project Cost of Rs. 65.68 crore. Construction of R.C.C. Jetty with approach Road and Soil Investigation at Rajapur Ghat over Bidyadhari river at Mouza-Bagbagan, G.P.- Rangabelia, P.S. & Block - Gosaba, in South 24 Parganas with a project cost of Rs. 1.17 crore, Construction of Precast RCC Pile Jetty with Approach Road at Saterkona Ghat over Dutta river at Mouza- Amlamethi, G.P.- Bally-I, P.S. & Block- Gosaba, in South 24 Pgs. District with Project Cost- Rs. 1.42 crore. Construction of Precast R.C.C. pile jetty with approach road at Kalidaspur 9 no. ferry ghat over Kapura river at Mouza-Kalidaspur, G.P.- Chotomollakhali, P.S. - Chotomollakhali Coastal, Block- Gosaba in South 24 Parganas district with Project Cost of Rs 1.39 crore.

During 2025-2026, construction of 201 km road [27 km Brick paved road, 164 km Concrete road, 10 km Bituminous road] has been completed (up to 30.11.2025). Works of another 6 Bridges are in progress. Construction of 7 Jetties have been completed.

As part of Agricultural Programme, efforts have also been undertaken to cover 90,000 (approx.) of beneficiaries e.g. [19,190 agricultural implements (Battery Operated Sprayer- 13,870, Paddy Thresher- 5,320), & 70,810 agricultural inputs (Agro Shade Net-4500 nos. beneficiaries, Elephant foot yam- 32,300 beneficiaries, Water Soluble Fertilizer- 34,010 beneficiaries)] during the current financial year 2025-26.

30,000 poor fishermen have been provided with 500 pcs. fish fingerlings of Indian Major Carps (Rohu, Katla, Mrigel) and 50 kg floating fish feed per beneficiary through this Department.

Creation of Mangrove and Jhaw Plantation over 635 hectares (Mangrove- 435 hectares and Jhaw-200 hectares) has been completed in Sundarban region.

Sundarban Divas will be observed on 11th December in all the 19 blocks under Sundarban Region for creation of awareness among the people of the region regarding conservation of the bio-diversity and environment of the region.

A scheme for capacity building & skill development and income generation of small and marginal farmers through hands on training & agro-ecological education (poultry, fish & crab cultivation, paddy/beetle vine/organic farming) in Sundarban Region during the current financial year 2025-26 has been taken up through Ramkrishna Mission Lokasiksha Parishad (RKMLSP), Narendrapur at a total estimated cost of Rs. 67.67 Lakh.

In collaboration with the Transport Department following projects are being implemented - construction of Pontoon Jetties with approach road and Vessels with a project cost of Rs. 48.64 crore at Godkhali under Basanti Block, South 24 Parganas, at Gosaba under Gosaba Block, South 24 Parganas, at Bamanpukur under Minakha Block, North 24 Parganas, at Majherpara under Minakha Block, North 24 Parganas. 2 vessels have been procured for plying

between Godkhali and Gosaba and 1 vessel has been procured for plying between Bamanpukur and Majherpara to facilitate smooth communication of the people of the island.

3.35 Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs

The Department is bridging critical gaps for the upliftment of the downtrodden people living in the 7 (seven) western districts of the State predominantly inhabited by SC & ST population by way of implementing infrastructure development projects, livelihood projects as well as organizing cultural events like Jungle Mahal Utsav for presenting the cultural heritage of the tribals.

This Department has disposed nearly 231 major legacy projects / schemes with the administrative approval of approximately Rs. 353.81 crore under State Plan and CAPEX projects on rural connectivity, installation of solar power-driven reverse osmosis drinking water plants, livelihood generating projects as market complexes, etc.

A project named 'Construction of market complex at Plot Nos. 1,703, 1,705, J.L. NO. 50, Mouza - Domohani, Barabani, Paschim Bardhaman' of which foundation stone laid by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, West Bengal, will help the local sellers to sell their product, thus help to boost economy of the area and approximately 20,000 people will be directly and indirectly benefitted.

Installation work of 130 plants under project of 'Installation of solar power-driven reverse osmosis enabled drinking water plant' taken up in various locations in 7 districts of Paschimanchal Unnayan Parshad. It is

supplementing the efforts improving public health conditions by ensuring purified drinking water to about 50,000 inhabitants of the fringe isolated water scares areas/ hamlets of the districts where supply of pipeline drinking water is extremely difficult. Each plant has a capacity of supplying 1,000 liters of purified water per hour.

15 water bodies in Garbeta-I and Garbeta-II Blocks in Paschim Medinipur District have been re-excavated and resultantly 90 hectares (approx.) of land are being irrigated & thereby ensuring sustainable livelihood to some 8,000 farmers and fishermen.

Two commercial poultry layer farms have been established in convergence with ARD Department at Salbani, Paschim Medinipur with 3 lakh layer birds for production 945 lakh egg per annum and Gobindapur, Purulia with 2.4 lakh layers birds for production of 756 lakh eggs per annum respectively.

39 RIDF-XXIX projects aimed at improving rural connectivity with total Financial Outlay of Rs. 60.83 crore are ongoing.

Jungle Mahal Utsab has been successfully organised showcasing regional and traditional art, craft, culture, sports, livelihood & entitlements of the marginalised population mostly belonging to STs & SCs with the objective of main streaming into the larger socio-economic development.

Governance

3.36 Home & Hill Affairs

To upgrade provision of safety and security of the people, the State has taken impactful initiatives by rendering sincere service to all its people, by modernization through arms and ammunitions, entangling CCTV surveillance in all vulnerable places and also sensitizing the public through social media and increasing the number of regular posts and recruiting thereof.

To strengthen the police Administration, Government has given approval for creation of 25 posts of senior officers in the rank of joint commissioner, deputy commissioner and inspectors. A sum of Rs. 28.14 crore has been released by the Govt. for procurement of various vehicle and weapons. Procurement and installation of CCTV cameras, Software defined radios and Tear Gas Gun has already been completed and handed over to police personnel. 478 trichi assault rifles and 1,91,633 cartridge are in the pipeline for procurement.

Continuous efforts of the Government has helped in further strengthening of the State Police Administration. Creation of 2 Special Task Force Police Stations at i) Nabadiganta Bhawan (HQ), Kolkata-700091, ii) Ambika Nagar, Siliguri and 3 Police Outposts have also been newly created at i) Digha Jagannath Mandir, ii) Barasat Medical College and iii) Rampurhat Medical College. Creation of total 148 regular posts as well as 64 contractual posts in the West Bengal Police is a leap forward to materialise the goal.

West Bengal Police as well as Kolkata Police have been continuously strengthening their physical infrastructure by construction of various Police Lines at Nimtouri and Salboni. Construction of Office of Police Commissionerates at Bidhannagar are on the verge of completion and are expected to be handed over by January 2026.

Forensic Science Laboratory has been strengthened for speedy disposal of cases, by initiating important measures like procurement of modern instruments and procurement of 32 Mobile Forensic Vans for establishing Mobile Forensic Units throughout the State. Video conferencing system at headquarters, RFSL Jalpaiguri and Durgapur have been installed to save the time of physical appearance before the Court by the concerned officer.

Till now 54 candidates have been enrolled as Home Guard Volunteers by way of special dispensation and 51 enrolments to next of kin of Home Guard Volunteers who died while on duty have been made since 1st April 2025.

3.37 Personnel & Administrative Reforms

Bangla Sahayata Kendras (BSKs) have been made accessible for payment of utility bills through e-wallet for Electricity, Land Mutation, Khajna, Registration, Stamp Duty and Driving Licenses. Services such as Aadhaar Link with Ration Card, Caste Certificate, Bangla Sashyo Bima Yojona, Students Credit Card, Minority Term Loan Application, Death and Birth Certificate, Marriage Registration and status searching facilities of schemes like

Swasthasathi and Kanyashree are provided through the Bangla Sahayata Kendras (BSKs).

Since its roll-out, Rs.1,385 crore has been mobilized through BSK e-wallet. Presently, 325 services of 40 State Government Departments have been on-boarded, while the basket of services is expanding day after day. So far 8.77 crore citizens have availed nearly 14 crore services through 3,561 Bangla Sahayata Kendras (BSKs) across the State.

e-Office has been implemented as a Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the National e-Governance programme to improve productivity, quality, resource management, turn around time and increase transparency. About 50 thousand users are working through e-office platform throughout the State. In the next phase Block level offices will also come under the ambit of e-office platform.

Satyendranath Tagore Civil Services Study Centre (SNTCSSC) under Centre for Excellence in Public Management (CEPM) is a noble initiative of the Government to provide quality coaching-cum-guidance to the young aspirants of West Bengal appearing in Civil Services Examination conducted by the UPSC. 17 students appeared in the Personality Test for the 2025 Exam., out of them 4 students -1 each in IAS, IPS, IRMS and IIS achieved success.

Two new State Information Commissioners have been appointed in the West Bengal State Information Commission.

Office of the Resident Commissioner, West Bengal at New Delhi organized (i) Bengal Theatre Festival from 1st - 4th May, 2025 in which many eminent Bengali theatre groups from Delhi and one theatre group from Kolkata participated (ii) Bengal Film Festival from 7th - 9th August, 2025 based on Satyajit Ray's movies and (iii) The 1st edition of the Bengal Music Festival from 18th - 20th April, 2025 to promote the rich musical heritage of Bengal.

Construction of New SDO Office Building (G+1) including Electrical Sub-station building at Debhog, Haldia in the district Purba Medinipur has been completed.

3.38 Disaster Management & Civil Defence

During this year, 14 new disasters have been declared as State Specific Disaster by the Department making the people affected by it eligible for State assistance. Also, the HB grant for the entire State has been enhanced to Rs. 1.2 lakh for fully damaged houses and Rs. 70,000 for severally damaged houses.

Total 94 calls have been received in Extension Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) (Dial 112) platform regarding relief and rescue operations. Total 2,871 warning messages have been disseminated to public mobile users through Common Alert Protocol (CAP) sachet platform.

During this financial year, 91 Familiarization Exercise (FAMEX) programmes have been completed. Besides 3 mock exercises have been conducted on cyclone and flood related disasters in North 24 Parganas, South 24

Parganas & Purba Medinipur and 1 mock exercise has been conducted on 'Cloud Burst and Landslide' in Kalimpong District.

Out of total approved 24 number of Multipurpose Rescue Shelter (MPRS) (North 24 Parganas-4, South 24 Parganas-15, Purba Medinipur-5), eight of MPRS have been completed, including 5 in Purba Medinipur & 3 in South 24 Parganas.

During floods and landslides that affected the different districts of the State during monsoon season from June to October, 2025, total 13.86 lakh tarpaulin, 13.68 lakh clothing & garments, 30,150 piece. Disaster Management Kits and Rs. 16.8 crore relief contingency have been allotted by this Department to the districts.

Rs. 868.99 crore has been sanctioned under SDMF for various mitigation related works to 12 departments and districts.

200 personnel along with 19 boats with OBMs and sufficient CDVs were deployed during Ganga Sagar Mela, 2025. Sufficient deployment was also made during other occasions like Durga Puja, Jagaddhatri Puja, Srabani Mela etc.

State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) has been functioning 24×7 for 365 days, and all District EOCs are also operational round the clock. Department is using 66 satellite phones for better communication during disaster situation.

776 Civil Defence Volunteer (CDV)s have successfully completed advanced training at Central Civil Defence Training Institutes (CCDTI), West Bengal and total 40 trainees have successfully completed special training on 'Coastal Disaster Management', from 01/09/2025 to 10/09/2025. Besides total 24 trainees have successfully completed special training on hilly region on 'Hill Disaster Management' and 50 trainees have been trained by St. Xavier's University through online mode.

Riot Drill and INSAS training have been imparted by the WBNVF Directorate to 589 Agramis & Camp Guards during 2025-26. An amount of Rs. 30.09 lakh has been disbursed to 65 Ex-NVF Volunteers till date during 2025-26 in connection with payment of one-time Ex-gratia / Terminal Benefit.

Rs. 44.94 crore has been sanctioned from SDRF for procurement of rescue equipments and rescue vehicles for State Disaster Response Team (SDRT) and State Disaster Regional Response Team (SDRRT) for running SDRT & SDRRT in full swing. Also, Rs.19.38 crore has been sanctioned from SDRF for procurement of rescue equipment for Civil Defence Organisation.

3.39 Fire & Emergency Services

During 2025-26, the Department has taken a number of steps for development of Fire Fighting arrangements throughout the State by means of setting up of new fire stations at various vulnerable places, procuring many appropriate fire tender and fire equipment etc. and made

substantial changes in procedural issues in relation to speedy disposal of applications for Fire Safety Certificate & its renewal.

The Department has secured sanctions for construction of the following 14 new fire stations across the State namely: 1. Manbazar, Purulia, 2. Dhulagarh, Howrah, 3. Amta, Howrah, 4. Amtala, South 24 Parganas, 5. Haral, South 24 Paraganas, 6. Gopiballavpur, Jhargram, 7. Barjora, Bankura, 8. Dhaniakhali, Hooghly, 9. Labpur, Birbhum 10. Nalhati, Birbhum, 11. Sukhiapokhri, Darjeeling, 12. Gorubathan, Kalimpong 13. Nonadanga, Kolkata and 14. Debra, Paschim Medinipore

Moreover, works for renovation and maintenance of existing fire stations have been taken up by this Department through Public Works Department. Number of Fire Stations has been raised from 109 in 2011-12 to 167 as on date.

Important initiatives on statutory issues include reforms made with respect to Self Certification for low-risk and small businesses with 24,353 citizens availing the benefit. Fire Report Fees for residential buildings, school buildings and Government Buildings have been waived. Fire NOC period have License Period, to Spot License Period for Government Primary Schools have been increased from 3 years to 5 years. Eateries of all kind (up to 2,000 sq. ft. and 75-seat capacity) are now permitted to get fire license through self-certification.

Various user friendly reforms have been introduced to the Department's e-District (<https://edistrict.wb.gov.in>) Portal including Auto-Rejection Mechanism for applications pending for more than 30 days.

Revenue collection made from License Fees and FSR/ FSC Fees during the FY 2025-26 (excluding the last quarter) is Rs. 45.29 crore as compared to Rs. 30.28 crore made during the FY 2024-25 showing a steady growth. 2,892 Fire Licenses and 7,789 renewal of fire license have been issued online.

Other initiatives includes setting up of help desk with landline and email-based support for citizen queries. Outreach Camps, Spot Licensing. 3,298 fire audit has been conducted in the vulnerable buildings. Five Fire Officer/Personnel have been awarded President's Fire Service Medal for meritorious service on the occasion of independence day-2025. 20 officer/personnel have been awarded Hon'ble Chief Minister's Commendation Certificate for outstanding performance in the North Bengal floods during 2025-26.

During the year 2025-26, 4,180 Fire Safety Awareness Programs were conducted at schools, colleges, hospitals and nursing homes, shopping malls, office buildings, clubs, puja pandels etc. throughout the State by several units of West Bengal Fire & Emergency Services.

3.40 Correctional Administration

The Department of Correctional Administration is devoted to reform correctional homes through modern

infrastructure, technological upgrades like the e-Prison Suite, and enhanced security systems. It emphasizes the rehabilitation and human treatment of inmates while addressing issues such as overcrowding.

The construction of a new Central Correctional Home at Baruipur, South 24 Parganas involving Rs. 138.88 crore is at an advanced stage and is expected to be completed in 2026-27. The construction of another new correctional home at Baruipur, South 24 Parganas involving Rs. 203.57 crore is at an advanced stage, too and is expected to be completed in 2026-27. The inmates of the Presidency Correctional Home will be shifted to this location. The construction of quarters for officers and Staff of Presidency Correctional Home at Baruipur, South 24 Pgs. with an administrative approval of Rs. 41.20 crore is under progress and a total fund of Rs. 37.49 crore has been utilized. The project is expected to be completed in the financial year 2026-27.

Other infrastructure development activities such as the construction of sweeper's barrack, vertical extension of the staff barrack, additional 24 interview counters, public address system, modular furniture and CCTV surveillance system at Baruipur Central Correctional Home involving Rs. 4.13 crore is at an advanced stage and is expected to be completed in 2026-27.

Construction work of the 3-storied (G+2) office building of DIG (Baruipur Range) of Correctional Services, WB, and Executive Guest House, along with allied works involving Rs. 2.48 crore is expected to be completed in

2025-26. Construction of a Safe Home for the accommodation of all released foreign national inmates and other allied works at a cost of Rs. 3.32 crore is at an advanced stage.

Construction of a new double-storied building inside Kalyani Sub Correctional Home for accommodation of 100 inmates at a cost of Rs. 1.66 crore is under progress and is expected to be completed in 2026-27. Construction of RCC perimeter wall circumferencing existing two storied new building in Krishnanagar DCH at a cost of Rs. 1.97 crore is under progress and is expected to be completed in the financial year 2026-27.

As part of e-Governance initiatives, so far, more than 2.93 lakh people have been registered in the year 2025-26 in Visitor Management System (VMS) module to avail the facility of interviewing with their family members lodged in the correctional homes. Facility of virtual communication between the inmates and their family members have been provided through e-Mulakat module and 2,319 inmates have availed this facility in 2025-26. During the current financial year till 30.11.2025, more than 1.46 lakh inmates have been virtually produced before the court and provided hearing by utilizing the facility of e-court.

3.41 Planning and Statistics

With the belief that inclusive, sustainable and appropriate development can be ushered in only through effective community participation and ownership, the State Government launched 'Amader Para, Amader Samadhan'

(APAS), a unique flagship initiative aimed at institutionalizing participatory governance and re-imagining grassroots service delivery through people-engagement and empowerment covering, 80,000+ polling booths across the state and committing budgetary allocation of more than Rs. 8,000 crores (Rs. Ten Lakh per booth).

Under APAS, people were invited to attend meetings held at the local level, where they deliberated on and actively identified and prioritized implementation of schemes totalling up to Rs. Ten Lakhs to resolve small but crucial link infrastructure gaps/issues in their polling booth area. More than 2.44 crore visitors attended a total of 31,762 APAS Camps that were held across the entire state. The local people have chosen various kinds of interventions to be taken up with the funds allocated to the booth including connectivity (roads, pathways etc.), street lighting, drainage, drinking water points, and improvement/repair of community infrastructure including ICDS Centre and schools etc.

Altogether more than 9 lakh schemes were received from the community level meetings, after due scrutiny based on various parameters, around 5.96 lakh schemes were found feasible and readied for execution. Presently, quotations/ tenders have been invited for more than 5.74 lakh schemes, work orders issued for more than 3.54 lakh schemes and almost 67,000 are completed and geo-tagged. The State Government has already released more than Rs. 5,616 crore in different phases for ensuring

the proper and timely implementation of these APAS Schemes through the Planning and Statistics Department.

APAS is the first programme of its kind in India where a State Government has created additional avenues for Participatory Governance to its citizens at such a large scale. Through this bottom-up development model, APAS enables communities to co-create solutions, restore agency, and deepen civic ownership.

Additionally, in these APAS camps, citizens were also given opportunity for submission of their applications for receiving various Government benefits under 37 Schemes of 18 Department under the umbrella of the State Government's National award-winning 'Duare Sarkar' initiative. Out of 1.04 crore applications received of these schemes in APAS camps, more than 92.61 lakh services have already been delivered.

'Duare Sarkar,' launched on 1 December 2020, continues to deliver citizen-centric services at the doorstep through habitation-level outreach camps. The number of schemes/services offered under the umbrella of 'Duare Sarkar' has increased from 12 in the first edition to 37 in the ninth edition. Till the ninth edition, 12.48 crore visitors have registered themselves in 7,75,030 camps. More than 10.86 crore applications have been received and 9.52 crore services have been delivered. Applications for the latest edition of Duare Sarkar have been taken simultaneously in the APAS camps.

Under 'Bidhayak Elaka Unnayan Prakalpa' (BEUP) programme, during the 17th Assembly (2021-26), more

than 12,722 schemes have been sanctioned so far (up to 30.11.2025) and Rs. 877.25 crore was released to districts and Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC).

Under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), during the period of 17th Lok Sabha (2019-2024), Rs. 576.76 crore has been utilized till 30.11.2025. During the period of 18th Lok Sabha (2024 onwards), Rs. 91.49 crore has been utilized till 30.11.2025. For the sitting Rajya Sabha MPs, Rs. 199.07 crore has been utilized till 30.11.2025.

The regular works of the Bureau of Applied Economics & Statistics (BAE&S) are estimation of yield rates and production for 21 major insured crops at block and district levels, preparation of Gross and Net State Domestic Product (GSDP & NSDP), District Domestic Product (DDP), Index of Industrial Production (IIP), Consumer Price Index (CPI), Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), publication of the State and District Statistical Handbooks, Statistical Abstract etc. The Economic Review 2024-25 was presented during the State Budget 2025-26, and the Economic Review 2025-26 is under preparation.

The State Spatial Data Centre (SSDC) provides GIS-based planning support to various departments. Geo-referenced administrative layers (district, sub-division, gram panchayat, mouza, parliamentary and assembly constituencies, NH/SH, railways, and metal roads) have been prepared for the entire State. GIS mapping of industrial and economic corridors has been completed in

collaboration with the Industry, Commerce & Enterprises Department. Geo-tagging of all court complexes in the State is in progress.

3.42 Science and Technology and Biotechnology

The Department is presently supporting 384 ongoing Research & Development (R & D) projects during the year 2025-2026 in various Government aided institutions across the State to promote scientific research. Another 61 R & D projects are under consideration during the current financial year.

In Biotechnology sector, the Common Instrument Facility at the Kolkata Biotech Park is being upgraded with a series of high-end modern instruments, to support cutting edge research of the incubatees and the researchers from different research and academic organisations. The BOOST program (Biotechnology based Opportunities Offered to Science & Technology Development) has extended financial support to 9 UG and PG Colleges.

The RISE program (Research Internship in Biotechnology based - Sciences and Engineering) has provided hands-on training to 38 M.Sc. students in different fields of Life Sciences. The Genetics Services Unit of the National Institute of Biomedical Genomics, funded by the DSTBT, has performed 1,106 genetic tests for 983 patients, referred from 21 Govt. Hospitals, free of cost, of which the market value is approximately 1.2 crore.

The Department, through its Geoinformatics and Remote Sensing Cell, is providing spatial data support to

various Government Departments including Agriculture, Forest, Directorate of Registration and Stamp Revenue and Water Resources Investigation and Development Department through multiple projects. Department also supported multiple capacity building program on 'Geoinformatics' during the financial year.

This year the Department has reintroduced the scheme WB-FIST (Fostering Infrastructure for Science & Technology), to provide financial assistance to develop/upgrade Science Laboratory facilities in academic and research institutes within the State from Universities, Colleges etc. (PG to UG level) and schools (H.S level). Under this, 34 schools (HS) have already been funded.

The Technology Development and Adaptation Centre (TDAC) is supporting grassroot innovators/faculties/scientists and academicians from Universities and Colleges. As the nodal Department for Patenting and GI Registration, the Patent Information Centre has facilitated filing of 42 items for GI registration out of which 32 GI certificates have been granted through the Patent Information Centre and 10 GI items are in process of final registration. 8 new GI have been registered during the financial year. 10 technologies have been mentored for commercialisation. A professional course on Intellectual Property Rights and Technology Business Management is also being run. A new course with St. Xaviers University has been introduced.

This year this Department has received two National Intellectual Property Rights award in Technology Innovation

Support Centre and Patent Information Centre categories from Government of India.

Under the Jagadish Bose National Science Talent Search (JBNSTS) program, 298 students and 29 accompanying teachers from 21 institutions were trained through 11, one-day workshops and 2, three-day residential workshops.

3.43 Environment

The major functions of the Environment Department involve promoting ecological balance, control of pollution, climate resilience, preservation of biodiversity and sustainable environmental management. These works are executed by the Department itself and through its parastatals.

The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), under the aegis of the Environment Department, has accorded 152 environmental clearances. While the national average for processing of an EC application is 141 days, the average time for the same in West Bengal is 51 days. The total amount of processing fee which got submitted to the State Government for the above-mentioned projects which were granted EC by SEIAA was Rs. 84 lakh.

The West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) has developed the most intensive air quality monitoring network in the country. Ambient air quality is regularly monitored

in 83 locations in West Bengal. Under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), to improve the air quality of Kolkata and other non-attainment cities of West Bengal, WBPCB provided Rs. 2 crore to Fisheries Department for 9 electrical vehicles for fish product vending and committed financial support of Rs. 50 crore to Transport Department for 25 electrical buses for plying in Kolkata, Howrah and Durgapur/Asansol region.

WBPCB has also installed 320 sensor based CAAQMS as well as Real time Noise Monitoring Stations along with 270 LED display. Surface and groundwater quality from various sources are being regularly monitored at 143 locations in the State. Under Namami Ganga Programme, River Ganga, from Farakka to Diamond Harbour is monitored at 15 locations.

Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) is operational at Bantala Leather Complex Kolkata having capacity of 40 MLD (8 modules each of 5 MLD) for treating tannery effluent. 47 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) have been monitored on quarterly basis during 2025. The 1,000 TPD Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste Processing Plant is operational at Patharghata, New Town.

WBPCB regularly conducts Environmental Education Programme (EEP), involving students and teachers of schools and colleges of the State. So far, in 2025, about 666 such programmes were conducted.

An Integrated Management Plan (IMP) of the East Kolkata Wetlands for the period 2021-2026 has been

prepared under the guidelines of National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA) by the East Kolkata Wetlands Management Authority (EKWMA). De-siltation of bheries is a major component of the IMP. EKWMA has released approx. Rs. 70 lakh to the State Fisheries Development Corporation to desilt 4 ponds of Nalban Bheri area.

Ground Truthing of 12,615 wetlands all over West Bengal has been started by the State Wetlands Authority (SWA) and Ground Truthing of 11,500 wetlands has been completed. Fisheries Department has been engaged for demarcation of boundary of 12,615 wetlands.

The West Bengal Biodiversity Board (WBBB) has extended technical and financial support for the conservation of traditional crop varieties in 13 agro-climatic zones. Seed Banks have been established and maintained at 12 sites in 9 districts, each preserving nearly 50 traditional crop varieties, ensuring long-term conservation of genetic diversity. 'Chunoputi, Mourola Jalasoy' conservation, Butterfly conservation, indigenous tree conservation through community-level plantation of locally threatened tree species and the Green Fencing Programme in schools by utilizing medicinal plant species are some of the new initiatives taken by WBBB.

Industry: Small, Medium and Large

3.44 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Textiles

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector plays a crucial role in the economy of our State,

contributing significantly to employment, industrial output, and exports. Our State has one of the largest bases MSMEs in India and the sector provides employment to millions, especially in rural and semi-urban areas.

Since 2011, West Bengal has emerged as a powerhouse in MSME growth. Today the State accounts for 16.02 % of all Indian MSME manufacturing enterprises and 13.09 % of 'other services' MSMEs, while also boasting the highest share of women-headed MSMEs in the country, at 36.4%. Moreover, it leads in female workforce participation in MSMEs, with 12.73% of all such female workers nationwide based in West Bengal. This reflects a remarkably diverse, resilient and gender-inclusive MSME ecosystem, where manufacturing and services thrive side by side, and women entrepreneurs play a central, leading role.

In this financial year special emphasis has led to the registration of around 4 lakh Micro Enterprises on Udyam Portal and 1.33 lakh Micro Enterprises on Udyam Assist Platform, taking the cumulative number of registered MSMEs to 48.80 lakh. In the last four years, banks have consistently exceeded the Annual Credit Target to MSMEs, achieving 100.34%, 115%, 102% and 122% respectively. In the first two quarter of the current financial year 2025-26, the bank credit to MSMEs is estimated at Rs. 1,45,372 crore indicating a 27.83% increase over the corresponding periods in the last financial year.

To strengthen technology support to clusters, 12 common facility centres/common production centres

have been set up. Under the West Bengal Bhabishyat Credit Card Scheme, project subsidy to the tune of around Rs. 22 crore has been disbursed to 10,149 beneficiary accounts in Banks. Additionally, Rs. 17.30 crore has been released as interest subsidy in favour of 39,326 beneficiary accounts.

Financial assistance of nearly Rs.72 lakh has been provided to 480 artisans engaged in various crafts and traditional trades under the 'West Bengal Artisans Financial Benefit Scheme' and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) has been made to 471 Handloom weavers @ Rs. 5,000 per weaver under 'West Bengal Handloom & Khadi weavers Financial Benefit Scheme'. Under the same scheme, supply of high-count cotton yarn at subsidized rate has been made to 3,120 khadi weavers. Under the 'Scheme of Death Benefit for Weavers and Artisans', one-time financial grant @ Rs. 2 lakh per family has been provided to 26 artisans/weavers families for sudden & untimely death of artisan/weaver.

To strengthen industrial infrastructure in districts for MSMEs, WBSIDCL has developed Gangajalghati Industrial Park in Bankura and Dharma Industrial Park at Asansol in Paschim Bardhaman and also completed development of infrastructure of Kalyani Integrated Textile Park and Raiganj Integrated Industrial Park. In 2025-2026, 66 plots have been allotted to different entrepreneurs for setting up industries in the Industrial Parks of WBSIDCL with a view to create dedicated marketing spaces for SHGs

and artisans in West Bengal, foster economic growth and promote local crafts through a collaborative public-private partnership (PPP), Marketing Hubs for Self-Help Groups and Artisans are being set up across the State. So far, developers have been/are being engaged in 11 Hubs in 11 districts.

To promote manufacturing, storage & selling of Green Fire crackers in the state, 9 parcels of Govt. land in 7 districts (5 for manufacturing and 4 for selling) have been identified for green fire cracker cluster. So far, the project at Baruipur under South 24 Parganas district, involving project cost of Rs. 2.50 crore has been completed and the process of implementation of 3 projects at Paschim Medinipur, North 24 Parganas & Darjeeling, involving total project cost of Rs. 5.34 crore has been initiated.

A number of infrastructural projects are currently underway in 'Karmadiganta-Bantala Leather Complex'. The major ones are—Storm Water Drainage Network in added Tannery Zones, Renovation & Upgradation of existing ETS, Footwear Park, CFC for leather goods manufacturing units etc.

The State continues to promote handloom and textile sector through multiple activities with special emphasis on generation of employment opportunities in the State. So far, 578 worksheds for individual weavers have been constructed while 2,616 handlooms and 238 lighting units have been distributed across 10 clusters. Trainings on

‘Eco-Friendly Dyeing’ and ‘Design Development’ have been conducted in 8 locations, imparting training to 240 weavers across the State. Besides, 51 link roads spanning over 50.5 km have been sanctioned during this FY 2025-26 in Nadia to improve road connectivity for handloom weavers.

To enhance value addition in ‘Baluchari Weaving & Packaging’, two batches of ‘Certificate Course’, with 40 students/weavers per batch have been completed at Regional Design Centre at Bishnupur of Bankura inside KG Engineering College, Bankura in association with Govt College of Engineering & Textile Technology-Berhampore (GCETTB). Furthermore, two common production centres for Malda Carpet Cluster have been established and made operational.

To increase the outreach of ‘Banglar Saree’, so far 14 showrooms including franchisee outlets have been opened in and outside the State making the total number of sales outlets to 21. This initiative has ensured sustainable employment for 3,600 weavers and created 1.75 lakh additional man-days in 2025-26.

So far more than 10 crore meter fabrics and 1,500 high speed power looms have been set up in the State under the prestigious ‘School Uniform Project’. More than Rs. 410 crore investment has been made so far for creating this eco-system in the State. Local fabric production, from 35 lakh meters in 2022, has increased substantially and reached 500 lakh annual meters in 2025-26. The entire fabric for school uniform is now being woven and supplied

by the local powerloom units. Tantuja's production unit at Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur has commenced production and has woven approx. 4 lakh meters so far in 2025-26.

Tantuja has continued to provide marketing support to more than 20,000 handloom weavers, artisans, dyers, printers through procurement camp and regular purchase, ensuring their sustained employment. Approximately Rs. 15.98 crore worth of handloom saree, dhuti, lungi, gamcha, fabric etc. has been procured so far. Additionally, Tantuja has undertaken a project to adopt a village engaged in the production of Eri Silk at Kumargram in Alipurduar. This initiative is expected to boost the socio-economic condition of the Mech and Rava women in the region. To have wider market access, Biswa Bangla Marketing Corporation has entered into strategic alliance with the six prominent entities, viz, Apna Mart, Arambag Food Mart, Blinkit, Flipkart Minutes, Sumo Save Retail Ventures and Nature Baskets for selling heritage FMCG products of the State of West Bengal.

Shilpanno-Leather and Cottage Product Marketing Hub has been created by HIDCO at Alipore in the former 'Press and Forms' office building. Spread across three floors and covering approximately 42,000 sq ft., the hub houses 45 stalls under one roof, showcasing export-quality leather garments, bags, shoes, sarees, traditional handloom products and a wide range of handicrafts. Besides, prominent Government Organizations, well-known brands like Urban Gypsy, Skyle and Indian Silk House, have set

up their presence in this Hub. Banglar Haat consisting of 5 stalls have been created adjacent to Biswa Bangla Convention Centre at New Town, Rajarhat in the rooms allotted by HIDCO. These stalls showcase the items of Biswa Bangla, GI products and district specific crafts.

To address the challenges faced by MSMEs in a comprehensive and participatory manner, the flagship event ‘Synergy and Business Facilitation Conclave’, has so far been conducted at 7 locations across the State, covering 18 districts.

‘Shilper Samadhane — MSME Camps’ have been organized across every Block, Municipality and Corporation area, to bring services of 8 key departments directly to grassroots, offering access to schemes and support at the local level. More than 3.75 lakh entrepreneurs have participated in around 2,500 camps. Nearly 1.4 lakh applications, combining all services, have been submitted by the entrepreneurs and more than 70% of these applications have been processed and services delivered.

To enhance the services under ‘Ease of Doing Business’ integration of services with Silpasathi portal has been broad based and now 130+ services are available in Silpasathi portal. In addition to already implemented reforms, several initiatives/reforms have been undertaken. These include, self-certification-based fire approval for Low-risk buildings for obtaining FSR, FSC & renewal of FSC in real time. Exemption from obtaining permission for extraction of ground water upto 5KLD for MSMEs/Commercial

establishment where water is used only for drinking / sanitation / hygiene purpose, rationalization of road width requirement for setting up industry/Business in rural area, launching of dedicated helpline through WhatsApp etc.

3.45 Industry, Commerce & Enterprises

With the objective of making the sand mining more scientific, sustainable and socially responsible, Govt. of West Bengal introduced a new Sand Mining Policy in 2021. Under this policy, the West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Ltd. (WBMDTCL) has conducted auctions in multiple phases covering a large number of sand-mining blocks totalling approximately 2,316 hectares, an additional 673 hectares have been lined up for auction. The entire mining life cycle (from excavation to transport and sale) has been brought under a centralised online system to ensure ease of doing business and transparency. As a result, the State revenue from sand mining has surged dramatically from Rs. 150 crore to Rs. 1,036 crore in 2024-25.

The Ministry of Coal, Government of India, has allotted Gourangdih ABC Coal Mine in Paschim Bardhaman district to WBMDTCL. The mine has an extractable coal deposit of about 62 million tonnes, with a proposed mine life of over 27 years and with a peak mining annual capacity of 2.5 million tonnes. WBMDTCL has already secured approval of the Mining Plan from the Ministry of Coal, GoI. Other statutory clearances like Forest clearance and Environmental certificate etc. have also been received. The

State Government has already sanctioned Rs. 55 crore for land acquisition and implementation of the Relief & Rehabilitation (R & R) package. It is expected that the mine will become operational by March 2026.

A large section of the population in the western districts of Bankura, Purulia, Birbhum and neighbouring areas derive their livelihood from mining of minor minerals and its associated ancillary industries, such as processing, transport and related services. To enable them to earn sustainably and equitably, the State government notified Raiyati Policy, 2022, appointing West Bengal Mineral Development & Trading Corporation Ltd. as the State Nodal Agency.

Under the policy, applications from raiyats are evaluated via a transparent online portal, by date over 248 applications have been received and 150 Letters of Intent issued. Of these, 17 mines have already become operational after securing statutory clearances. These efforts aim to deliver social justice and equitable opportunities for land owners and labourers alike, while promoting responsible, scientifically regulated mining, and it is expected that more mines will be operational in 2026.

WBMDTCL introduced a unique Zero Cost model to carry out dredging and desilting operations, as recommended by Irrigation & Waterways (I & W) Dept. to restore the health of water bodies across the State. The I & W Department has entrusted WBMDTCL with 7 projects for carrying out dredging and desilting operations, out of

which dredging has been successfully completed at Iswarda and Tirat in Paschim Bardhaman, Sankrail and Keshiari in Paschim Medinipur and Mayurakshi River in Birbhum, 2 dredging areas one at Kumargram in Alipurduar will be completed soon and Nagrakata in Jalpaiguri is in progress.

WBMDTCL has also taken up Dredging/Desilting operations on recommendation of Dept. of Irrigation & Waterways, where the excavated material primarily consists of silver sand/earth/silt/soil. These projects are being implemented under a unique Zero-Cost Model, in which the dredged materials are repurposed for brick-field manufacturing and use in road construction. Under this model, 2 projects have been successfully completed at Gangakhali Canal in Purba Medinipur and Palaspai River in Paschim Medinipur. Similar projects have been taken up at Soadighi Canal (Purba Medinipur), Keliaghai River (Paschim Medinipur) and Mathura Beel in North 24 Parganas, where dredging operations are currently going on.

The Mokdamnagar & Tentulberia China Clay & Fire Clay Mine (72 acres), Birbhum is operational and functioning at its optimum production level. A blackstone mine has also been made operational at Hatgachha Jethia covering an area of 178 acres. Steps have also been taken to make two additional blackstone projects operational at Hatgachha and Panchami.

Two blackstone mines have been made operational under Palsara Black Stone Project I & III, Purulia. Initiatives

have been taken to make one Quartz & Feldspar mine operational at Mirmi and one Apatite mine at Beldih. Two Granite projects are successfully running at BaroPanjania and at PaschimBero. Steps have also been taken to make Purulia district as a Granite hub.

The ICE Department is working towards the updation of District Survey Report (DSR) for all districts for developing a district mineral repository, earmarking all the potential mining zones. Blackstone blocks in Birbhum and Granite & Blackstone Blocks in Purulia have been identified for auction in the near future. In addition, 7 major mineral (Rare Earth Mineral, Copper & Apatite) blocks have also been identified in Purulia and are proposed to be auctioned as per the applicable norms.

During the current financial year, till date, total 3,064 acres of land have been allotted in various Industrial Parks of WBIDC & WBIIDC under the ICE Department amongst intending Industrial units following standard land allotment procedure after due approval in the Standing Committee of Industry, Infrastructure & Employment and concurrence of appropriate authority.

After introduction of the Freehold land allotment policy of the State Government in 2023, till date, 36 proposals for direct freehold land allotment and 27 cases of conversion of holding status from leasehold to freehold have been approved.

WBIDC, under the aegis of the ICE Department, has conceptualized and successfully organized 8 editions of

Bengal Global Business Summit, which has been the flagship investment promotion event of the Government of West Bengal from 2015 onwards.

The 8th Edition of BGBS was held on February 5-6, 2025 with participation from 400 international delegates from across 40 countries. 20 (twenty) countries joined the event as Partner Countries. 25 Ambassadors & High-commissioners and round 5,000 delegates from India and abroad attended BGBS 2025. More than 200 sector-specific MoUs & LOIs were signed during BGBS 2025.

The present day Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan stands out as a landmark in Kolkata's infrastructure landscape. Spread across area of 89,930 square metres, it houses an impressive 31,894 square metres of dedicated exhibition space. This makes it the largest exhibition and convention facility not only in Kolkata but in the entire eastern region of India.

Overall, the development of the Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan has significantly enhanced West Bengal's capacity to host large-format exhibitions and business events. It continues to contribute to economic activity, foster industry linkages, encourage tourism, and strengthen the State's position as a growing centre for trade, business and cultural exchange.

The Tea Tourism and Allied Business Policy, 2019 was introduced to allow the use of unutilized and fallow land in the tea gardens located in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Coochbehar, Uttar Dinajpur, Alipurduar and

Kalimpong for promoting eco-friendly Tea Tourism and Allied Business activities, without affecting the normal functioning of the tea gardens. A total of 34 project proposals from 27 companies have been received till date under the initiative.

16 project proposals have already been approved for implementation. The approved projects include 11 projects across 8 tea gardens in Darjeeling district undertaken by 7 companies, 2 projects in two tea gardens of Jalpaiguri district by two companies, two projects in one tea garden in Kalimpong district and one project in Alipurduar district.

Overall, the initiative is expected to bring in a substantial investment estimated at Rs. 2,207.63 crore, while the approved projects are projected to generate 7,628 employment contributing significantly to economic growth and livelihood opportunities in the region.

The City Gas Distribution (CGD) project involves the distribution and supply of natural gas through a network of pipelines to the domestic households, as well as commercial and industrial customers. The CGD network is categorised as PNG (Piped Natural Gas), and CNG (Compressed Natural Gas). In accordance with the rules and regulations framed by the Govt. of West Bengal, the entities authorised by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) such as BGCL (Bengal Gas Company Ltd.), HPCL, IOCL, BPCL and IOAGCL are operating in different parts of state to develop and promote City Gas Distribution infrastructure.

BGCL, one of the CGD entities is Joint Venture between GAIL and Greater Calcutta Gas Supply Corporation Ltd. (GCGSCL) is carrying out the execution of the CGD project for supplying natural gas to the Kolkata Geographical Area covering KMC and adjoining districts such as Hooghly, Howrah, Nadia etc. with a total area of 1,529 sq.km BGCL has already provided 5,337 domestic PNG connections, established made 23 CNG stations, laid 176 km of steel pipeline and 576 km MDPE pipeline. The necessary infrastructure for supply of domestic PNG in Kalyani, Nadia has been completed and approximately 500 households are expected to have access to PNG from March, 2026, with about 20,000 households projected to be connected over the next 3 years. Additionally, the first Company-Owned-Company-Operated (COCO) mother station of Bengal Gas has been completed at Mouza - Jhanpa in the District Hooghly.

3.46 Public Enterprises and Industrial Reconstruction

The Department of Public Enterprise & Industrial Reconstruction oversees State Public Sector undertakings and joint ventures. It works towards industrial growth, strategic disinvestment and sustainable business operations for economic resurgence.

The Public Enterprises & Industrial Reconstruction Department (PE & IR), supervises state-owned Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and joint ventures, working actively to revive sick or closed industrial units. It undertakes restructuring of State Enterprises, facilitates rehabilitation

under relevant legal and policy frameworks and manages recycling of idle or surplus industrial lands to support new projects. Through these efforts, the Department seeks to foster industrial revival, ensure sustainable operations and contribute to overall economic resilience in the State.

Saraswaty Press Limited (SPL), together with its subsidiary, West Bengal Text Book Corporation Ltd. (WBTBCL), ranks among the largest printing companies in India. It is an ISO 9001:2015-certified enterprise, empanelled with the Indian Banks' Association as a security printer, and is widely considered the leader in Eastern India for security and confidential printing, school textbooks, holograms and related work. In 2025-26, the organisation printed and delivered roughly 13.86 crore school textbooks and khatas, across some 735 different titles. These are distributed to over 1,573 locations in West Bengal, in six languages, supporting large-scale educational outreach.

Services

3.47 Tourism

The policies and guidelines framed by Tourism Department have been instrumental in skill development and enhanced livelihood generation of the people attached to this sector.

As of 30th November 2025, a total of 5,409 homestays have been registered with the Tourism Department, alongside additional registrations under the Forest (401)

and Tribal Development Departments (2,391). These homestays have collectively generated employment to 43,272 People (27,045 direct and 16,227 indirect).

As on 30.11.2025, Tourism Department has engaged more than 240 Tourism Service Providers (T.S.P.) for giving services to the Tourists.

West Bengal Tourism Service Provider Capacity Building Scheme, 2023 has been introduced to standardize services and continuous skill development of Tourism Service Providers with modern skills and knowledge ensuring sustainable employment in tourism sector and quality service.

West Bengal Tourist Guides Certification Scheme, 2021 has been introduced focusing on strengthening capacity for guides and opening avenues for new livelihood across the state. Training has been completed in respect of 2,050 candidates and is ongoing in respect of 1,832 candidates. Tourism Department has engaged more than 2,000 Trained Tourist Guides (T.T.G.) including more than 450 registered female tourist guides.

‘AAHORAN’, The State Institute of Hotel Management (SIHM), Durgapur which was established in the year June, 2018, is a Government-run Institute of Hotel Management under the Tourism Department. The name ‘AAHORAN’ given by the Hon’ble Chief Minister represents the vision of imparting soft and hard skills and positive attitude to

enable students to get employment in the Hospitality industry.

In North Bengal, destinations such as Siliguri, Darjeeling, Kalimpong and the Dooars are witnessing rapid MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) development, high-end conferences and corporate retreats, leveraging the region's scenic beauty, serene environment, and improving connectivity to major hill stations. Kolkata remained the dominant MICE hub with 867 events in 2025-26. Durgapur and Asansol showed steady growth. Digha has emerged as an active role player in this sector, hosting 8 events in 2024-25 and 5 events in 2025-26.

7 MoUs were signed with reputed organizations including ITC Ltd., BCCI, ICPB, Alpcord Network Travel & Conferences, Indian Society of Blood Transfusion and Immunohematology (ISBTI), Indian Endodontic Society (IES), IA Meetings, International Neonatology Association (INA) and the AIDS Society of India (ASI). These collaborations aim to position West Bengal as a premier MICE destination in South and Southeast Asia by attracting high-profile national and international conferences, particularly in the medical, engineering and corporate sectors, thereby enhancing the State's global visibility and brand image.

In 2023, the tourism sector was granted 'Industry Status' to ease business operations and offer institutional support, with a dedicated online portal for certification

applications. 42 premium star-category hotels are expected to be operational in West Bengal over the next 2 years.

The State Government has been proactive in promoting West Bengal Tourism through multiple platforms, including its official website, social media channels, national and state level campaign for wide publicity of Jagannath Dham at Digha, Red Road Carnival and Gangasagar Mela through print and electronic media.

The Tourism Department has procured 6 Oculus VR devices and produced six high-quality 3D Video Recordings showcasing prominent WBTDCL properties (Mangaldhara Tourism Property, Muruguma Tourism Property, Moorti Tourism Property, Bhorer Alo Tourism Property, Bishnupur Tourism Property) and Kolkata Christmas Festival.

The Tourism Department organizes the Kolkata Christmas Festival annually in Allen Park, Park Street, Kolkata in December and the Bishnupur Classical Music Festival in collaboration with the I & CA Department since 2011.

The Department has actively participated in a variety of events throughout the year to promote West Bengal Tourism, including the Durga Puja Carnival held on 5th October, 2025 in Red Road, Kolkata, Bangla Moder Gorbo across different districts, the Kolkata International Film Festival, the Kolkata International Book Fair and the Bengal Pre-Puja Handloom and Handicraft Exhibition at Delhi Haat among others.

Tourism Department has curated more than 100 religious tourism circuits covering more than 400 religious touch points. These circuits have been categorized based on unique cultural and geographical regions which includes Swarga Bhoomi Circuit (Darjeeling Himalayan Terai), Raj Bhoomi Circuit (North Bengal plains), MahaBhoomi Circuit (Rarh region), RangaBhoomi Circuit (western plateau and highlands), MatriBhoomi Circuit (Gangetic Delta), SaikatBhoomi Circuit (coastal plains).

In 2025, the newly inaugurated Jagannath Temple, Digha was integrated into these circuits to further boost spiritual tourism. To enhance the experience of pilgrims, the Tourism Department has implemented key interventions, including the provision of accommodation, drinking water, improved accessibility and way-side facilities.

BAUL BITAN has been made operational in 2025 by West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation Limited (WBTDCL). Some other properties have also been renovated and reopened to be Baul Academy, Morgan House, Tashiding, Kurseong etc.

WBTDCL has operated around 200 tourist packages across the State that includes Jhargram package tour, Sundarban package tour, Hooghly Safar package tour, Kolkata connect Double Decker Bus and Gangasagar package tour, in addition to the 3 special packages under 'Pujo Parikroma 2025'. Two new packages will be

introduced very soon in Birbhum centering Shantiniketan and another in Temple town, Bishnupur.

West Bengal ranked 2nd in Foreign Tourist Footfall and 7th in Domestic Tourist Footfall in 2024 as per data published in India Tourism Data Compendium 2025. From 2022 to 2024, total Domestic Tourist Arrival increased from 8.8 crore to 18.44 crore and Foreign Tourist arrival increased from 10 lakhs to 31 lakhs. There is an average annual growth rate of 45.2% in total tourist footfall from 2022-2024 in the State, making West Bengal as one of the most preferred tourist destinations. In 2025, till October, a total of 24.24 crore tourists visited the State out of which domestic tourist footfall is 23.94 crore and foreign tourist footfall is 30 lakh.

3.48 Information Technology and Electronics

In the financial year 2025-26, the Information Technology & Electronics Department (IT & E) has achieved significant milestones that underscore West Bengal's emergence as a leading technology hub in Eastern India. The State has recorded IT sector exports of Rs. 35,000 crore, compared to Rs. 8,335 crore in 2010-11, marking an extraordinary growth of 677%. This achievement has been driven by sustained investments and the creation of world-class infrastructure across the State.

The Bengal Silicon Valley IT Hub spread over 250 acres continues to emerge as a premier destination for technology companies and alone is expected to attract more than Rs. 30,000 crore in investments and will generate 75,000

direct and indirect employment, powered significantly by AI and next-generation digital services. The Hub now hosts major data centres with an installed capacity of ST Telemedia 6 Megawatt (MW), CtrlS data centres 16 MW, with scalability planned up to 60 MW.

In addition to this, the State Government has established a Data Centre in Siliguri, equipped with one of the world's most powerful state-of-the-art AI facilities, a pioneering initiative and among the first of its kind in the government sector. This facility will serve as a cornerstone for emerging technologies, enabling advanced Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML) research and fostering collaboration between startups, academia and industry. Alongside, initiatives to promote Artificial Intelligence adoption across sectors are being implemented to ensure that West Bengal remains at the forefront of emerging technologies.

Infrastructure development has been a key focus, with 32 IT Parks and buildings operational across the State, providing modern facilities for technology companies. Currently, the State offers 9,37,000 sq. ft. of built-up space for IT/ITeS Sector, creating employment opportunities for nearly 11,724 IT professionals. In the field of higher education, IIIT Kalyani has become fully functional and is set to shift to its newly completed campus, established with the support of the State Government. This marks a significant milestone in our efforts to build a skilled workforce for the future.

Digital mobility solutions have advanced significantly under the Government's initiatives. The Yatri Sathi platform has been expanded to include online bus ticketing and ambulance booking services, with pilot phases of ambulance booking successfully running in Durgapur and Asansol. This initiative has enabled 35,000 new drivers in FY 2025-26, bringing the total number of registered drivers since inception to 1.40 lakh. These efforts have improved the last-mile connectivity for citizens and provided sustainable livelihood opportunities. Yatri Sathi received the Award of Excellence in Urban Transport under the category of Running Trophy for the State/UT for implementing the Best Transport Project at the 18th Urban Mobility India Conference & Expo 2025, organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.

The State's digital backbone has been strengthened through the West Bengal State Wide Area Network (WBSWAN), which now provides up to 155 Mbps speed connectivity across more than 2,000 government offices, ensuring secure and reliable e-Governance services. Additionally, a total of 2,939 internet connections were provided to various government offices since April 2025 under the ongoing Fiber to the Home (FTTH) project to strengthen digital infrastructure and enhance connectivity in the state.

The Government is also taking proactive steps to build capacity in emerging areas of digital governance. Training

programmes on the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) framework are being introduced to strengthen institutional expertise in this information security. In addition, the West Bengal Next Generation Cyber Security Operations Centre (WBNGCSOC) has played a critical role in safeguarding digital infrastructure in recent cyber-attack surges, ensuring uninterrupted services and resilience.

The IT & E Department is undertaking several initiatives to strengthen digital infrastructure and promote innovation across the State. The proposed Innovative Bengal Technology Development (IBTD) Hub is envisioned as an integrated platform for fostering innovation in blockchain, data analytics and emerging technologies.

To meet the rising demand, the Department plans to develop Phase-IV of Siliguri IT Park of 50,000 sq. ft. on existing campus at an estimated cost of Rs. 25 crore. The Department has proposed an initiative to install solar panels on the rooftops of all its 32 IT Parks at an estimated cost of Rs. 15 crore to cut electricity costs and promote green energy adoption.

Two high-speed Internet lease lines of 10 Gbps each are being provisioned for the West Bengal State Data Centre at the Monibhandar Building, Kolkata through an investment of Rs. 8.77 crore to significantly strengthen the State's core digital infrastructure. Further, the State has planned to enhance the high-performance Data Centre, along with a Disaster Recovery Site at Purulia, at a total estimated cost of Rs. 22.19 crore.

3.49 Consumer Affairs

The Department of Consumer Affairs safeguards consumer rights through awareness campaigns, promotion of consumer movements and grievance redressal mechanisms. It also implements the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and ensures transparency in delivering public services under the West Bengal Right to Public Services Act.

Special consumer awareness campaign among Tribal people was conducted by the Directorate of Consumer Affairs & Fair Practices by participating in observation of International day of the World Indigenous People (Biswa Adibasi Dibas) on 9th August, 2025.

Awareness campaign on consumer rights has been undertaken through 8 F.M. Channels, Public Display System at 26 metro stations in Blue-Line and 12 metro stations in Green-Line. Awareness programme KenaKatar Age Pore is telecast at All India Radio along with six regional channels. Wall writings on Consumer Protection Act, 2019, News Paper advertisements, leaflets in Bengali, Urdu, Nepali and English is being done to expand awareness.

Joint Awareness campaign by BIS Care App and campaigns & seminars on banking fraud, cyber security and WBRERA have been undertaken. 30 Regional Offices and 3 sub-divisional offices have organized 9,029 Awareness Camps and participated in Amader Paray Amader Samadhan Camps from 2nd August to 3rd November, 2025.

From April 2025 to November, 2025, 108 new consumer clubs have been set up, out of which 69 are in Colleges and 39 are in Schools and Madrasahs. At present, there are 1,356 Consumer Clubs in various educational institutions all over West Bengal.

After completion of Chanchal Sub-divisional office and Kalimpong R.O., two other sub-divisional offices have been inaugurated at Basirhat and Diamond Harbour. Foundation stone is laid for the integrated office building at Balurghat, Dakshin Dinajpur.

Directorate of Legal Metrology has realised Rs. 16.81 crore Non-Tax revenue by covering 4,47,029 Traders and 3,393 markets. Verified weighing instruments at 2,100 M.R. shops, at Anganwadi centres and Paddy Procurement Centres.

Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) has been strengthened by digitizing approvals, introducing a public dashboard for application trackers and strengthening field verification capacity. E-Parimap portal has enabled transparency, efficiency and accountability in approvals and verifications.

West Bengal State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (WBSCDRC) functions with 5 benches (3 in Kolkata and 2 Circuit benches at Siliguri and Asansol). There are 26 District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (DCDRCs) in the 23 Districts.

Through Virtual Hearing in Hybrid Mode at 2nd Bench of WBSCDRC, total 265 cases have been heard during the financial year 2025-26, up to 30th November, 2025.

In all the Consumer Commissions in West Bengal, including the State Commission, 4,621 cases were filed and among those 3,091 cases were disposed from 01.04.2025 to 30.11.2025. 64 cases have been settled through Lok Adalat. To reduce harassment of the public in general, 5,055 cases have been filed through the e-jagriti portal till 30.11.2025.

29 Departments have revised their notified public services and now, approximately 350 services are under West Bengal Right to Public Services Act, 2013. The commission has received total 32 complaints and all have been disposed off.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

As per the far sighted vision of our Honourable Chief Minister for the inclusive and holistic development of all strata of people of the State, I would like to place a few projects and proposals for the upcoming Financial Year.

1. Each year our Government takes different measures to prevent erosion of the banks of River Ganga to protect the people of Murshidabad and Malda districts. A permanent solution is needed in this regard. Our Government envisages to prepare and implement a Master Plan in consultation with national and international experts in this field.
2. Honourable Members of this August House are well aware that our Government has taken up the development of 6 Industrial and Economic Corridors in the State. For development of the infrastructure of these corridors jointly with the Government, renowned Financial Institutions have submitted proposals. This rapid infrastructure development will lead to large scale employment generation.
3. You will be happy to know that in order for further employment generation, it has been decided that 5 new MSE Industrial Parks will be set up in the State — two in Jalpaiguri district and one each in the districts of Birbhum, Bankura and Murshidabad.

4. Further a state-of-the-art Global Trade Centre will be set up on Government land through joint collaboration.
5. For development of games and sports in the State, a “Sports City” is in the making at Dumurjala in Howrah. You also know that a “Tele Academy” has come up at Baruipur, near Kolkata. Now it has been decided that a “Cultural City” will also be set up at Baruipur centering the Academy.
6. I am happy to announce that our Government has decided to undertake holistic development of a number of cities of the State to make them into business friendly, environment friendly and employment friendly modern cities with all amenities of modern life and digital infrastructure. At present such modernization will be taken up for the cities of Howrah, Diamond Harbour, Bardhaman, Durgapur, Bolpur, Krishnanagar, Barasat, Raiganj, Siliguri, Baharampur, Malda, Kalyani, Srirampur, Andal, Bankura, Purulia, Digha, Medinipur, Jhargram, the NKDA area, Gangarampur, Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, Alipurduar and Darjeeling. The Government will constitute a Committee to explore how the project can be taken up without adversely affecting the existing inhabitants

of these cities. The Committee after completion of survey work will submit the Report within December, 2026.

7. With 5.95 million tonne cold storage capacity, West Bengal stands first among all States in terms of cold storage capacity. To preserve the excess agricultural produce and fruits in the State, the Government shall jointly set up 50 new Cold Storage Units in suitable areas across the State.
8. I am happy to announce that for the benefit of small tea garden owners of the State, the exemption of Agricultural Income Tax on green tea leaves is further extended for one year, i.e. till 31.03.2027. Further the exemption of Cess on Tea production is also extended till 31.03.2027.
9. I am happy to announce that the monthly honorarium of the ASHA workers will be increased by Rs. 1,000 from April, 2026 onwards. Like other workers of similar nature they will also be entitled to maternity leave of 180 days from April, 2026 onwards.

In addition, the next of kin of an ASHA worker will be entitled for onetime compensation of Rs. 5 lakh in case of death before attaining the age of 60 years.

I propose an allocation of Rs. 100 crore for this in the Budget of the next Financial Year 2026-27.

10. The ICDS workers take an effective role in primary child care, child health and nutrition. I am happy to announce that the monthly honorarium of the Anganwari Workers and Anganwari Sahayaks will be increased by Rs. 1,000 from April, 2026 onwards.

Also, their next of kin will be entitled for a onetime compensation of Rs. 5 lakh in case of death before attaining the age of 60 years.

I propose an allocation of Rs. 250 crore in the Budget of the next Financial Year 2026-27.

11. You will be happy to note that the monthly honorarium of Para-teachers, Shiksha Bandhu, Sahayak/Sahayika, Samprasarak, Mukhya Samprasarak, Special Educator and Management Staff will be increased by Rs. 1,000 from April, 2026 onwards. Their next of kin will be entitled for a onetime compensation of Rs. 5 lakh in case of death before attaining the age of 60 years.

I propose to allocate Rs. 110 crore for this purpose in Budget of the next Financial Year 2026-27.

12. There are more than 1 lakh 25 thousand of Civic Volunteers, Village Police and Green Police Workers

in the State who are doing a commendable job in helping the Police Administration. To acknowledge their contribution I am happy to propose an increase in their monthly remuneration by Rs. 1,000.

The amount of onetime compensation to the nearest family of such workers, in case of death before attaining the age of 60 years is increased to Rs. 5 lakh from the present 3 lakh.

For this, I propose to allocate Rs. 150 crore in the Budget of the next Financial Year 2026-27.

13. Our government is well aware of the important role of the fast growing gig-economy for the growth of e-Commerce. A large number of gig-workers are engaged in this Sector in our State as well. To provide social security coverage to such gig-workers, I am happy to extend the benefits of our Government's existing Social Security Schemes (e.g. "Swasthyasathi") to these workers.
14. You are well aware that as a form of protest against the deprivation of West Bengal by the Union Government, the State Government launched the "Karmashree" Scheme, which has now been rechristened in the name of the Father of the Nation as "Mahatma-Shree". Through this Scheme, a minimum of 100 days of work is ensured for each Job Card-holder. For smooth running of the Scheme,

I propose an allocation of Rs. 2,000 crore for this Scheme in the Budget of next Financial Year 2026-27.

15. Landless agriculture labourers are the front-line workers in the Farm Sector. Their livelihood is critically dependent on agriculture and allied activities. In order to mitigate the vulnerability of these workers, I propose an annual support of Rs 4,000 to each such labourer. The amount will be paid in two installment of Rs. 2,000 each, one during Rabi Crop season and the other during Kharif Crop season. For this purpose, a database will be prepared for such eligible workers who do not own any agriculture land and, therefore, are not entitled for the Krishak Bandhu (Natun) Scheme, are not recorded as a sharecropper and are completely dependent on others' farm activities for their livelihood as wage earners.
16. To reduce the burden of cost of cultivation of small and marginal farmers, I am happy to announce the complete waiver of the fee or charge on irrigation by Government Tubewells and RLI Schemes.
17. It has been the endeavour of our Government to be sensitive to the needs of our State Government employees. They actively take part in policy formulation and its implementation. The period of the Sixth Pay Commission's recommendations for State Government employees has ended on 31st December 2025.

I am happy to announce the constitution of the Seventh Pay Commission which will look into all aspects of the pay and allowances of all State Government employees for the subsequent period and give its recommendations.

18. Now the pensioners of the State Government are entitled to cashless treatment up to Rs. 2 lakh under the West Bengal Health Scheme. To reduce their burden of medical expenses, I am happy to propose that the limit of cashless treatment will be enhanced up to 75 percent of the additional expenditure beyond Rs. 2 lakh. A Notification in this respect shall be published soon.
19. I am happy to announce that in order to reduce the burden of inflation on the government and semi-government employees, teaching and non-teaching staff and pensioners, the government has decided to release another installment of DA of 4 percent with effect from 1st April, 2026.
20. I am also happy to announce that for the educated unemployed youth of West Bengal, our Government shall launch a new scheme named “Banglar Yuba-Sathi” to assist them in getting employment. This Scheme shall commence from 15th August 2026. Under this Scheme, youth aged 21 years to 40 years who have passed Madhyamik, are unemployed and are not

covered under any social security scheme of the government other than educational benefit or scholarship, shall be entitled to a monthly assistance of Rs. 1,500 till they get employment or up to 5 years, whichever is earlier.

For this Scheme, I propose an allocation of Rs. 5,000 crore in the Budget of next Financial Year 2026-27.

21. Honourable Members are all aware that the “Lakshmir Bhandar” scheme, the brainchild of our Honourable Chief Minister, is immensely popular among the women of the State. Already 2 crore 21 lakh women are being benefitted under the Scheme. I am happy to further include another 20 lakh 62 thousand women whose applications have been received under the ambit of coverage under the Scheme. In order to strengthen the hands of about 2 crore 42 lakh women of the State a bit further, I am happy to propose that all women covered under this Scheme will be entitled to an additional amount of Rs. 500 per month from February, 2026 onwards.

For this, I propose an additional annual allocation of Rs. 15,000 crore in the next Financial Year 2026-27.

Conclusion

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Starting the journey with the blessings of Ma, Mati, Manush, our people oriented government is working relentlessly to ensure sustained improvements in life and livelihood for our people for the last 15 years.

Hon'ble Members,

You are kindly aware that despite the partial and irrational behavior of the Central government refusing our legitimate demand, the State Government has ushered a new dawn in the State, implementing women, SC, ST, OBC and Minority empowerment, ensuring social security for all, achieving unparalleled progress in agriculture, industry, infrastructure, skill development and health services, and delivering transparency and excellence in governance in all areas.

Our Government is committed to fulfil the hopes, desires and dreams of its citizens by successfully implementing policies based on pro-people and inclusive socio-economic planning.

Sir,

I propose to provide Rs. 4,06,084.17 crore (Net) in the Budget of Financial Year 2026-27.

Sir,

The untiring champion of humanity, our Hon'ble Chief Minister has held the ray of hope by conquering all obstacles, which is reflected in the following lines written by her:

শতাব্দী পেরিয়ে যায়
চলে যায় পুরাতন শতাব্দী
নূতন দিগন্ত উঁকি মারে
চলে আবার শুরু থেকে শেষ অবধি।

হংস বলাকা উড়ে যায়
দূরে কালের মরীচিকায়
ভয় কী? সময় চলে যায়?
শতাব্দী আসে নূতন আশায়।

এসো না নূতন, নূতন সাজে
উধাও হয়ো না আকাশমাঝে
উতলা উত্তরীয় উড়িয়ে দাও
নবদিগন্তে আলো দেখাও।।

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 2026-2027

WEST BENGAL ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 2026–2027

(Rupees in Crore)

	Actuals 2024–2025	Budget 2025–2026	Revised 2025–2026	Budget 2026–2027
Receipts				
1. Opening Balance	2.63	2.88	(–)28.12	(–)58.70
2. Revenue Receipts	2,13,699.56	2,66,060.42	2,44,866.90	2,87,791.73
3. Raising of Public Debt	90,654.82	1,10,771.73	1,03,843.96	1,05,387.96
4. Repayment of loans by PSUs and Government employees	127.89	2,223.63	256.22	1,262.55
5. Receipts from Contingency Fund and Public Account	13,94,416.72	12,94,222.54	13,26,644.15	13,64,510.60
Total	16,98,901.62	16,73,281.20	16,75,583.11	17,58,894.14
Expenditure				
6. Revenue Expenditure	2,53,426.99	3,01,375.37	2,86,030.95	3,09,551.07
7. Capital Expenditure	21,621.44	39,337.75	26,438.54	41,315.41
8. Repayment of Public Debt	31,464.66	47,732.08	43,795.10	54,606.53
9. Disbursement of loans to PSUs and Government employees	703.25	748.89	427.60	611.16
10. Transfer to Contingency Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11. Expenditure on Contingency Fund and Public Account	13,91,713.40	12,84,087.23	13,18,949.62	13,52,872.67
12. Closing Balance	(–)28.12	(–)0.12	(–)58.70	(–)62.70
Total	16,98,901.62	16,73,281.20	16,75,583.11	17,58,894.14

(Rupees in Crore)

	Actuals 2024–2025	Budget 2025–2026	Revised 2025–2026	Budget 2026–2027
Net Results—				
Surplus (+) / Deficit (–)				
(a) On Revenue Account	(–)39,727.44	(–)35,314.95	(–)41,164.05	(–)21,759.34
(b) Outside Revenue Account	39,696.67	35,311.95	41,133.47	21,755.34
(c) Net, excluding Opening Balance	(–)30.77	(–)3.00	(–)30.58	(–)4.00
(d) Net, including Opening Balance	(–)28.12	(–)0.12	(–)58.70	(–)62.70
(e) Expenditure for New Programmes/Additional Outlays				
(i) On Revenue Account	..	..	..	..
(ii) Outside Revenue Account	..	..	..	..
(f) Additional Resource Mobilisation under Tax Revenue	..	..	..	..
(g) Net Revenue Deficit	(–)39,727.44	(–)35,314.95	(–)41,164.05	(–)21,759.34
(h) Net Surplus/Deficit	(–)28.12	(–)0.12	(–)58.70	(–)62.70

