



ALL INDIA TRINAMOOOL CONGRESS

# MANIFESTO 2021







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## Appeal

I sincerely thank each and every person in West Bengal from the bottom of my heart for supporting Trinamool Congress and being by my side throughout the last 10 years. When we formed the government in 2011, we were driven by a singular aim to take Bengal to a new pinnacle of progress, peace, and prosperity; and we have been unmoved in our commitment to fulfil this goal of ours. People from all walks of life have joined us in this journey, which has helped us in laying a strong foundation for holistic development in Bengal. Since that day, several initiatives undertaken by us in mission mode have transformed lives, further inspiring us to keep striving hard for the betterment of the State. The foundation stone of development that we have laid in Bengal over the last decade has received recognition both nationally and internationally. And I vow to keep up this pace of progress and development, even in the coming years.

It brings me to now mention the exceptional work we have done in the past 10 years. Despite going through a lot of ups and downs, our dedication and hard work has established Bengal as a top-ranking state in several sectors. Over the last decade, we have strengthened our economy, and our State Budget has increased by three times while the average income of the people has more than doubled. Lakhs of students have been given financial assistance through Kanyashree scheme to ensure literacy in every household. Every citizen of Bengal can now avail free healthcare facilities under the Swasthya Sathi scheme. Through Khadha Sathi scheme, we have guaranteed food security by providing food grains at subsidised rate. Under the Bangla Awas Yojna, we have ensured that rural families can now live in pucca houses. Today every household in Bengal

has an electricity connection. For better connectivity within the State, several lakh kilometer roads have been constructed and repaired. The budget for Agriculture and allied services has increased by almost five times, ensuring that farmers, who form the backbone of our society, have a better livelihood. We have increased the reservation for women in Panchayats. To promote inclusivity, the budget for the welfare of SC/ST communities has also doubled. In employment, Bengal has secured the top position in 100-days work scheme. And I promise that Bengal will continue to lead in - economy, industry, women empowerment, job creation, and welfare of minority, backward classes, SC/ST communities, covering each and every individual of the state in the next five years.

Our Bengal is a remarkable kaleidoscope of multiple religions, castes, communities, creeds and beliefs. We believe in unity and diversity, and this has been an integral part of our culture and tradition. This ideal is our legacy, which we have inherited from our great icons like Rabindranath Tagore, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Swami Vivekananda, Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar, Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam, Thakur Panchanan Barma, Babasaheb Ambedkar, Harichand Thakur, Guruchand Thakur, Birsa Munda, Raghunath Murmu, Mahatma Gandhi, Sidhu, Kanhu, Guru Nanak, Matangini Hazra, Master Da Surya Sen, Khudiram Bose, and many others. To take this rich legacy forward and extend Bengal's heart-felt commitment to the idea of India, our fight will forever continue. And as a daughter of Bengal, I shall always be indebted to my motherland, having devoted myself to her service.

The Constitution of India is the cornerstone of our democracy. However, in the past seven years, the Central government of the world's largest democracy has gone against its basic tenets. It has destroyed and devastated the lives of people with dictatorial attacks. It has weakened many of our nation's most respected institutions. Every day we hear news about the compromised state of women safety across the country, unspeakable oppression being meted out to our Dalit brothers and sisters, stifling of voices of our farmers and more such oppression. In my long career of public service, my main goal has always been to stand beside the people and fight for their rights. In the grave times that our country is in, I solemnly resolve to raise my voice for those who are being oppressed in other states while, on the other hand, stopping all such forces of oppression from entering our hallowed land.

The year 2020 was a difficult year for the world as well as for Bengal. While we were grappling with the directionless policies of the Central Government during COVID-19 pandemic, we also braved the havoc caused by the super cyclone Amphan. Even during this tough time, going against the spirit of federalism, the

Central Government provided next to negligible support to us. Further, they deprived our people of thousands of Crores of money that we legitimately deserve. However, we never gave up and our government launched several developmental initiatives to ease the hardships faced by the people. I am deeply indebted to the people of Bengal for bestowing their faith in their daughter, even in this time of crises.

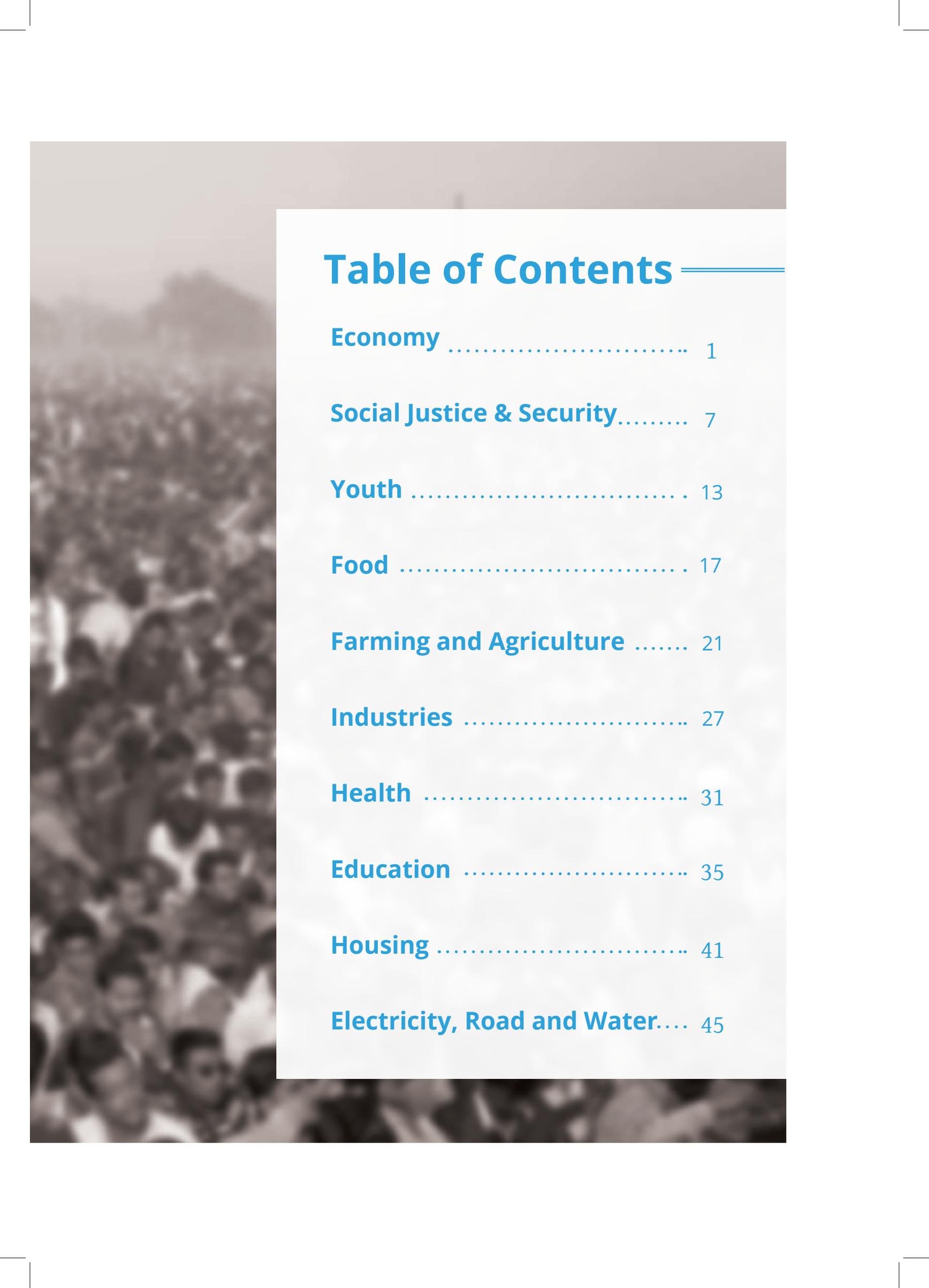
To ensure that Bengal's wheel of development keeps moving forward and to serve the people for the third time, I humbly present my 10 pledges to build a better and prosperous Bengal. These have been prepared following extensive consultation with the people from every constituency of the state. To transform Bengal into one of the leading states in the country, my 10 pledges will form the foundation pillars of our governance and will be my road map for the five years ahead.

Bengal will become the country's fifth largest economy and we will ensure the upliftment of 35 lakh people out of extreme poverty. For the youth, we will create 5 lakh new jobs every year and definitively reduce the unemployment rate. For the first time ever, a new scheme is being launched, wherein female heads of 1.6 crore households will benefit from a universal monthly income support. Female heads of General Category families will be provided ₹500 monthly and SC/ST families will be provided ₹1,000. To enable higher education for all eligible students, a new Student Credit Card scheme will be introduced. This Credit Card will have a credit limit of ₹10 lakh with an interest rate of only 4%, with a provision of easy repayment so that they do not have to depend upon their parents. New facility under the Khadya Sathi scheme will ensure delivery of monthly ration to 1.5 crore families at their doorstep. Farmers being an integral part of our society, their welfare and quality of life is crucial for us, hence, we are going to provide ₹10,000 per acre per annum to all small and marginal farmers through Krishak Bandhu scheme. Small and medium entrepreneurs play a critical role for industrial development of Bengal. As many as 10 lakh new MSMEs will be formed annually. We will ensure that every family in Bengal is guaranteed their fundamental right of a decent standard of living, education and healthcare. For this, we are going to increase the State spending in the health and education sectors, 25 lakh low-cost houses will be built, and each house will have tap drinking water and an improved drainage system.

I shall appoint a Special Task Force to examine and propose OBC status to all the communities who are not currently recognised as OBCs like Mahisyas, Tili, Tamul, Sahas, but were part of the recommended list of OBC communities in Mandal Commission. Along with this, expeditious closure will be ensured for the demands







# Table of Contents

---

**Economy** ..... 1

**Social Justice & Security**..... 7

**Youth** ..... 13

**Food** ..... 17

**Farming and Agriculture** ..... 21

**Industries** ..... 27

**Health** ..... 31

**Education** ..... 35

**Housing** ..... 41

**Electricity, Road and Water**.... 45

# Didir 10 Ongikar



## Ojosro sujog, somridhho Bangla

- ☑ Fifth largest economy with GDP size of ₹12.5 Lakh Crore and annual per capita income of more than ₹2.5 Lakh
- ☑ 35 lakh people uplifted to reduce people below poverty line to 5% from 20% in 2011
- ☑ 5 Lakh new jobs per year to be created to halve the unemployment rate

## Proti poribarke, nyunotomo mashik aay

- ☑ A new scheme to ensure monthly Basic Income support to female heads of 1.6 Crore households of Bengal- monthly ₹500 to families of General Category (Yearly ₹6,000) and ₹1,000 to families of SC/ST (Yearly ₹12,000)



## Arthik sujog, shobol jubo

- ☑ To make Bengal's youth self-reliant, a new scheme for all eligible students - Student Credit Cards with credit limit up to ₹10 lakh at an interest rate of 4%

## Banglay shobar, nishchit ahar

- ☑ New facility under Khadya Sathi - No need to go to the ration shop anymore. Free doorstep delivery of monthly ration to 1.5 Crore households
- ☑ 75 Crore subsidised meals at ₹5 per meal through 2,500 'Maa' Canteens across 50 cities



## Bordhito utpadon, sukhi krishok

- ☑ ₹10,000 per acre support to be provided to 68 lakh small and marginal farmers every year under the Krishak Bandhu Scheme
- ☑ To be the number 1 State in Net Sown Area and Cropping Intensity by adding 3 lakh hectares of cultivable land and converting 4.5 lakh hectares to double cropping system respectively
- ☑ To be in top 5 States in productivity for food grains and four cash crops - Tea, Jute, Potato and Tobacco

## Shilponnoto Bangla

- ✔ Additional 10 lakh MSMEs to be added every year to increase the total number of functional MSME units to 1.5 cr
- ✔ 2,000 big industrial units to be added to the existing base of 10,000 units in the next 5 years
- ✔ ₹5 lakh crore of new investments in the next 5 years



## Unnotoro swasthya byabostha, sushtho Bangla



- ✔ Double the spending on Health from 0.83% to 1.5% of the State GDP
- ✔ Medical College-cum-Super Speciality Hospital in all 23 district headquarters
- ✔ Double the number of seats for - doctors, nurses, and paramedics

## Egiye rakhte, shikkhito Bangla

- ✔ Increase the spending on Education from 2.7% to 4% of the state GDP
- ✔ Each block to have at least one Model Residential School
- ✔ Double the number of seats for teachers' training



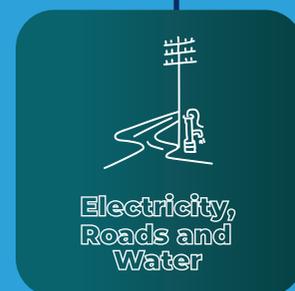
## Shobai pai, matha gonjar thaai



- ✔ 5 lakh additional low cost houses to be built under Banglar Bari Scheme in urban habitations to reduce slum population from 7% to 3.65%
- ✔ 25 lakh additional low cost houses to be built under Bangla Awas Yojana in rural areas and reduce kutcha houses to less than 1%

## Proti ghore bidyut, sodok, jol

- ✔ Piped drinking water facility to be provided to additional 47 Lakh households to ensure 100% coverage; up from 26%
- ✔ 24x7 electricity at affordable rates to all households
- ✔ Every rural household to be connected with all-weather roads, a functional drainage system and piped drinking water







## Economy

# Ojosro sujog, somriddho Bangla

## Key Goals

- ❁ Fifth largest economy with GDP size of over ₹12.5 Lakh Crore and annual per capita income of more than ₹2.5 Lakh
- ❁ 35 Lakh people uplifted to reduce below poverty line population to 5% from 20% in 2011
- ❁ 5 Lakh new jobs per year to be created to halve the unemployment rate



## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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- » **GSDP Growth:** In the last 10 years, Bengal's GDP (NSVA at constant prices) has grown from ₹4.51 Lakh Crore to ₹6.9 Lakh Crore showing an increase of 53%
- » **Per capita income:** Average per person income more than doubled from ₹51,543 in 2010 to ₹1,09,491 in 2019
- » **Fiscal Deficit:** State's Fiscal Deficit as percentage of GSDP has steadily decreased from 4.24% in 2010-11 to 2.94% in 2019-20
- » State's own Tax Revenue collection has increased over the last nine years by almost three times from ₹21,128 Crore to ₹60,669 Crore
- » There has been a massive increase in Capital Expenditure amounting to about seven times from ₹2,633.48 Crore in 2010-11 to ₹17,236.83 Crore in 2019-20
- » **Sectoral Growth:** In the past 10 years, Agriculture and allied services grew by 30%, Industries by 60%, and the Service sector by 62%. The estimated budget expenditure of West Bengal has increased more than 3.5 times from ₹84,804 Crore in 2010-11 to ₹2.99 Lakh Crore in 2021-22
- » West Bengal is ranked 5th in terms of foreign tourist arrival and was ahead of States like Kerala and Goa in the year 2019-20
- » 95% increase in international passenger traffic and 132% increase in domestic passenger traffic since 2011
- » **Duare Sarkar:** Under this initiative of people-centric governance at their doorstep, 32,830 camps were organised across the State, and prompt resolution of issues pertaining to the government schemes were provided to 2.75 Crore people
- » **Paray Samadhan:** This initiative primarily focused on strengthening projects requiring refurbishing or reinforcement, completing stalled or unfinished projects and initiating new projects to meet rising aspirations of the residents. With an overwhelming response from the people, we have succeeded in addressing more than 10,000 community level issues

## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

### 1. Fifth largest economy with GDP size of over ₹12.5 Lakh Crore and annual per capita income of more than ₹2.5 Lakh

West Bengal is the sixth largest economy in the country with a GSDP (constant price) of ₹7.93 Lakh Crore (2019-2020). Over the last ten years, West Bengal's GSDP has seen a growth of 53%. The State's per capita income currently stands at ₹1,09,491 in 2019. The year-on-year GSDP growth rate for the State has been 6.67% from the year 2015 to 2020. By further accelerating the growth trajectory, West Bengal will grow at an increased growth rate of 9%, making the State among the leading 5 economies in the country. The additional benefit arising out of this would lead to the doubling of per capita income to more than ₹2.5 Lakh.

### 2. 35 Lakh people uplifted to reduce below poverty line population to 5% from 20% in 2011

The State has 1.85 Crore people living below the poverty line (2012). Between 2005 and 2012, the year-on-year rate of decline in poverty was 7%, adjusted for population growth. In the next five years, through inclusive growth and a comprehensive social safety net, West Bengal will uplift an additional 35 Lakh people from extreme poverty (2021-2026) at a 33% higher rate than the current rate.

### 3. 5 Lakh new jobs per year to be created to halve the unemployment rate

There are around 21 Lakh unemployed people in West Bengal, and with an increase in GDP size and expansion of industrial and service sector, the State will create additional 5 Lakh new jobs every year to halve the unemployment rate.

### 4. Rank in top 3 States in the tourism sector

The State has been consistently performing well in the tourism industry. It is ranked 5th in 2020. With continued investment into this sector, West Bengal will be among the top 3 States in the country for national and international tourist arrival.

### 5. Duare Sarkar and Paray Samadhan to be held twice a year

Owing to the phenomenal success of Duare Sarkar and Paray Samadhan, these initiatives shall be conducted twice every year during August-September and December-January. We will ensure that benefits and services of all government schemes and projects reach the beneficiaries at their doorstep.

### 6. Setting up of High-Performance Delivery Unit for effective delivery of all key measures

The West Bengal High Performance Delivery Unit will ensure efficient implementation

and last-mile delivery of priority government policies, with regular monitoring and performance evaluation to improve service-delivery. This unit will work closely with the Chief Minister's Office and operate under the chairmanship of a specially appointed Principal Advisor. This unit will provide a platform for a two-way engagement between the people and the Chief Minister's Office for collating and analysing people's aspirations, feedback, and grievances regarding Government policies and programs in order to make informed State-level policy-making decisions on a regular basis.

#### **7. Revival of Legislative Council**

We will re-introduce and establish a Second Chamber in the State Legislature i.e. the Legislative Council, which will comprise eminent persons, who will play an active role in shaping the State's functions. The Legislative Council will be established by passing a resolution in the State Assembly in accordance with Article 169(1) of the Constitution of India, after which it will be the constitutional mandate and obligation of the Parliament to complete the formality by passing a law to that effect.









## Social Justice and Security

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### Proti poribarke, nyunotomo mashik aay

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#### Key Goal

 A new scheme to ensure monthly Basic Income support to female heads of 1.6 Crore households of Bengal- monthly ₹500 to families of General Category (Yearly ₹6,000) and ₹1,000 to families of SC/ST (Yearly ₹12,000)

## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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### Jangalmahal areas

- » **West Bengal Kendu Leaves Collectors Social Security Scheme:** Around 35,000 ST persons from Paschim Medinipur, Bankura, Purulia and Jhargram have benefited under this scheme with financial assistance for accidental, medical and funeral benefits
- » In 2020, the **Jangalmahal Battalion** was formed with its headquarters in Jhargram District
- » **Jangalmahal Action Package** in 34 Blocks covering 5 JAP districts has been implemented

### Hills areas and Tea Estates

- » A budget of ₹11,523 Crore has been dedicated for the development of these areas for the year 2021-22
- » Gorkha Battalion was formed in 2020 with its headquarters in Darjeeling district
- » 35 Kg free-of-cost food grains per family per month have been provided to tea garden workers

### Workers/Labourers, Contractual Workers and Self-Help Groups

- » Bengal is the top ranked State in '**100-days work**' scheme. In 10 years, almost 260 Crore workdays have been generated at the cost of ₹60,000 Crore
- » Over 9.5 Lakh Self Help Groups have been benefited from the Jaago scheme under which one-time assistance of ₹5,000 was provided
- » **Samarthan scheme** had provided a one-time grant of ₹50,000 to labourers who were forced to return to the State from different parts of the country after demonetisation

### Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe, and Backward Sections Welfare

- » Narayani Battalion was formed with its headquarters in Coochbehar district
- » Jai Johar and Tapashili Bandhu provides ₹1,000 pension per month to poor ST persons above 60 years
- » Issuance of Caste Certificate: In the current financial year, 19,24,523 Caste Certificates have been issued
- » **Development and Cultural Board:** Six Cultural and Development boards have been set up for Tamang, Sherpa, Bhutia, Limbu, Adibasi and Mayel Lyang Lepcha communities. Additionally, for focused development of specific communities, Development Boards

have been set up for Bauri, Namasudra, Matua, Rajbanshi, Kurmi, Kami and Bagdi communities

- » Distribution of Patta under Forest Rights Act, 2006: As of December 2020, 48,964 tribals and 190 other traditional forest dwellers have been granted individual titles of forest land held by them

### **Sundarban and Coastal Areas**

- » Government has also approved 263 schemes for restoration and renovation works that were damaged during Amphan
- » At present, the State has a total of 446 flood shelters and 268 relief godowns. Besides, construction of 221 Multipurpose Cyclone Shelters (MPCS) in the coastal districts of Purba Medinipur, North 24 Parganas and South 24 Parganas have been completed

### **Refugee Rehabilitation**

- » 244 refugee colonies in the State have been regularised. The residents of these colonies have been provided with a freehold title deed that has benefitted around 45,000 families
- » Griha Patta, Krishi Patta and Banaj Patta have been given to 3.5 Lakh families

### **Culture**

- » Financial Assistance to Priests: A monthly scheme to provide financial assistance of ₹1,000 for purohits and priests from lower income groups of communities like Christians, Jains, Buddhists and Parsis, including Tribals under 'Jai Bangla' Scheme
- » During 2020-21, Paschimbanga Dalit Sahitya Akademi has been constituted and Paschimbanga Hindi Akademi has been reconstituted
- » Construction work on Harichand Guruchand Stadium has been completed and inaugurated
- » State Holidays for prominent icons: State holidays has been declared for birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Birsa Munda, Thakur Panchanan Barma among others

## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

1. **A new scheme to ensure monthly Basic Income support to female heads of 1.6 Crore households of Bengal- monthly ₹500 to families of General Category (Yearly ₹6,000) and ₹1,000 to families of SC/ST (Yearly ₹12,000)**

The State's monthly average Consumption Expenditure of a household is ₹5,249. Providing a monthly income support of ₹500 (yearly ₹6,000) to General Category households and ₹1,000 (yearly ₹12,000) to SC/ST Category households, would account for 10% and 20% of their monthly expenditure respectively. This amount would be directly deposited into bank accounts of 1.6 Crore female heads of the families in West Bengal. It would include every household from SC/ST community. For General Category, this income support would be provided to all households except those having at least one tax-paying member (42.30 Lakh people) and those owning land more than 2 hectare (2.8 Lakh people). The budget outlay for the scheme would be approximately ₹12,900 Crores every year.

2. **Proactive measures for accelerated development of communities or geographic regions**

A Special Task Force will be set up to examine and propose OBC status to all the communities who are not currently recognised as OBCs like Mahisyas, Tili, Tamul, Sahas, but were part of the recommended list of OBC communities in Mandal Commission.

We will aggressively follow up with the Government of India on our recommendation to grant ST status to Mahato community.

Expeditious disposal of the long pending demand of Kisan Jatis to be recognised as STs who are living in parts of the Malda region.

For holistic development and upliftment of the people of Tarai-Dooars region, a special Development Board will be formed which will have proportional representation from all communities of the area.

3. **Affordable Loan to 10 Lakh new SHGs**

A new scheme, 'Matri Bandana', to be launched under which 10 Lakh new SHGs will be formed with women from the low-income bracket of the society. Affordable loans worth ₹25,000 crore will be provided to these SHGs in the next 5 years from the banks with easy repayment options. Apart from this, three-day program named Bangla Moder Gorbo will be organised in each district to create economic opportunities for Self Help Groups, artisans, folk artists who have been adversely affected by the pandemic.

#### 4. Opening of new schools for improved access to education

100 new English medium schools will be opened to benefit SC, ST and poor children. 500 new schools will be started where 1,500 para teachers will be employed for the promotion of education in Alchiki language. 100 new schools in Sadri language will be opened and 300 para teachers will be employed for the same. In addition to these, 100 new schools for Nepali, Hindi, Urdu, Kamtapuri and Kurmali languages will be opened whereby 300 para teachers will also be employed. Government recognition and financial aid will be provided to nearly 200 Rajbangshi language schools.

#### 5. Special Intervention Plan for Tea Garden Areas and workers

We will complete Chaa Sundari project in the next two years and provide pucca housing to more than 3 Lakh permanent tea garden workers. We will also take several steps in the stressed tea garden areas to reduce the distress faced by tribal communities dwelling in Alipurduar, Jalpaiguri and plains of Darjeeling. 23 tea gardens will come under Tea Garden Renewal Project.

#### 6. Building a 'Model Nandigram'

Nandigram will be developed into a model town, with better infrastructural facilities including well-connected roads, 24x7 affordable electricity and piped drinking water supply for all. Additionally, a new university will be constructed to provide greater access to higher education for the youth.

#### 7. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose memorials to be made to honour his contribution towards nation-building

To commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Azad Hind Monument will be built in New Town, Kolkata; Jai Hind Bhawan will be constructed in each district; a battalion named Netaji Battalion in the Kolkata Police will be created; and finally, 'Netaji State Planning Commission' will also be formed.

#### 8. Completion of Ghatal Master Plan Flood Management Scheme

Although there was no funding available from the Government of India for the Ghatal Master Plan Flood Management scheme, resuscitation of 19 km of the river has already been completed and that of 84 km has been initiated. The proposed plan is 147 km of total river resuscitation in Purba Medinipur and Paschim Medinipur.







## Youth

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### Arthik shujog, shobol jubo

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#### Key Goal

 To make Bengal's youth self-reliant, a new scheme for all eligible students - Student Credit Cards with credit limit up to ₹10 lakh at an interest rate of 4%

## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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### Education and Skill Development

30 new Universities, 51 new colleges, 78 new industrial training institutes, 36 new polytechnics were created

### Employment Generation and Assistance

- » With nearly 9 million MSME units (vs 34.6 Lakh in 2012) employing 1.35 Crore people, we have achieved Rank-1 in MSME in India
- » Under Yuvasree, an assistance of ₹1,500 per month to unemployed youth has increased their employability, benefitting around 1,81,477 young people of Bengal
- » Bangla Swanirbhar Karmasansthan Prakalpa has benefited more than 2,84,000 people with self-employment opportunities by providing loans to set up viable units of industry, trade services, etc.
- » 4 Lakh posts lying vacant since 2011 in police and administration were filled
- » **Self-Employment Loan:** With a view to providing opportunities for self-employment, Term Loan and DLS (Micro Finance) are being provided to individual entrepreneurs and Self-Help Groups. Minority youths & members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) have been provided with 9.43 lakh Term Loans and Micro Credit to create sustainable employment during 2011-20
- » **Sports:** 12,460 clubs were given grants for encouragement of sports activity
- » Since 2018-19, a new scheme “**Strengthening of Sports Coaching Camp**” was established to improve the infrastructures of grass root level coaching camps throughout the State. 475 Coaching Camps have been sanctioned, ₹1 lakh each provided for talent hunt and infrastructure development at grass root level



## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

**1. To make Bengal's youth self-reliant, a new scheme for all eligible students - Student Credit Cards with credit limit up to ₹10 lakh at an interest rate of 4%**

Through Student Credit Cards, students pursuing higher education - under-graduation and post-graduation, shall be eligible to receive credit up to ₹10 Lakh at a subsidized rate of 4%. Unlike a loan that is drawn as a lump sum, a Student Credit Card will provide money to students on demand at their convenience benefiting more than 1.5 Crore students over the next 5 years.

**2. 10,000 internship opportunities in Government Departments**

10,000 students every 3 years will be provided with an internship and post-internship opportunities in different government departments under a new scheme called 'Yubashakti'.

**3. Special Initiative to provide 1.1 Lakh government jobs**

1.1 Lakh posts will be filled in various government departments and police systems by the State in the next 3 years.

**4. Free-of-cost coaching for 100 students to be provided for IAS/IPS examination**

Special Training Centre in Administrative Training Institute to impart free-of-cost coaching for IAS, IPS examinations to one hundred students with additional provisions of free food, lodging and a monthly stipend.







## Food for all

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### Banglay shobar, nishchit ahar

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#### Key Goals

-  New facility under Khadya Sathi – No need to go to ration shops anymore. Free doorstep delivery of monthly ration to 1.5 Crore households
-  75 Crore subsidised meals at ₹5 per meal through 2,500 'Maa' Canteens across 50 cities



## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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### Khadya Sathi

- » In 2016, Khadya Sathi was launched to provide highly-subsidized good-quality food grains to the marginalised and economically weaker section through a vast network of about 500 distributors and over 20,000 Fair Price Shops
- » To mitigate the difficulties faced by the people due to unplanned lockdown during COVID-19 pandemic, food grain was provided **free of cost** to all the beneficiaries under Khadya Sathi. This initiative was extended till June, 2021
- » In addition to this, **4.85 Lakh** Khadya Sathi Special Coupons were issued to people who did not have digital ration cards. Currently, **10 Crore people** have benefited from this scheme
- » Apart from this, Temporary Food Coupons were provided to **45.89 Lakh migrant and stranded labourers** and 45,894 MT of Rice and 2,655 MT of Chana were also distributed
- » To ensure no individual is left behind during times of crises, a special drive was conducted to provide Digital Ration Cards and Khadyasathi Special Coupons to **sex workers and transgenders**

### Expansion of procurement and storage facilities

- » There are 349 Government operated Centralised Procurement Centres (CPCs) and 1,098 Co-Operative Societies, Food Producers' Organisation and Self-Help Groups for procurement and storage in the State
- » **Khadyasathi Annadatri** mobile app has been launched as an easy and convenient platform for farmers to register and sell their paddy
- » With rice being part of the staple diet for most of the people in the State, storage facilities for rice have been significantly increased to **10 Lakh MT**, which was only 63,000 MT in 2011

### Subsidised Food Canteens

- » Post the success of Ekushe Annapurna that provided meals at a subsidized rate of ₹21, 'Maa' scheme was introduced in February, 2021. The cooked meal consists of rice, dal, vegetables and egg curry and is provided at a subsidised rate of ₹5 at 27 operational 'Maa' canteens across the State

## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

### 1. New facility under Khadya Sathi – No need to go to ration shops anymore. Free doorstep delivery of monthly ration to 1.5 Crore households

Free delivery of food grains through dedicated personnel shall ensure transparent allocation of ration at the grassroots, while catering to the average nutritional requirement of the people of West Bengal. The State shall aim to deliver ration from the fair-price shops to nearly 1.5 Crore households across the State every month for the next five years.

### 2. 75 Crore subsidised meals at ₹5 per meal through 2,500 'Maa' Canteens across 50 cities

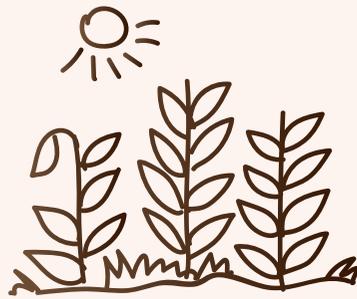
'Maa' canteens will aim to provide nutritious meals to urban poor at a subsidised rate of ₹5 per meal. As many as 2,500 'Maa' canteens will be set up across 50 cities to provide 75 crore subsidised meals.

### 3. Free Ration to be provided to all 10 Crore citizens

Due to the distress faced during COVID-19, the government launched Free Ration to all citizens until 30 June 2021. However, now this Free Ration will be continued for all even after June, 2021, with a budget allocation of ₹1,500 Crore for the next financial year.







## Farming and Agriculture

# Bordhito utpadon, sukhi krishok

### Key Goals

- ₹10,000 per acre support to be provided to 68 Lakh small and marginal farmers under the Krishak Bandhu Scheme
- To be the number 1 State in Net Sown Area and Cropping Intensity by adding 3 Lakh hectares of cultivable land and converting 4.5 Lakh hectares to double cropping system respectively
- To be in top 5 States in productivity for food grains and four cash crops - Tea, Jute, Potato and Tobacco



## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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- » Government expenditure in agriculture and allied sector activities has increased by 6.1 times as compared to 2011; it grew from ₹3,029.39 Crore in 2010-11 to ₹18,603 Crore in 2019-20
- » Food grains production has increased from 148.10 LMT in 2010-11 to 198.65 LMT in 2019-20, total rice production has increased from 133.9 LMT in 2010-11 to 165.03 LMT in 2019-20, productivity of Maize remarkably increased from 4.60 ton/Ha in 2016-17 to 6.80 ton/Ha and production of pulses has increased from 1.77 LMT in 2010-11 to 3.93 LMT in 2019-20
- » During 2020-21, 12.90 LMT of fish and 24,875 million fish seed have been produced in West Bengal up to December, 2020
- » In past nine years, egg production increased by 143.31%, meat production increased by 56.50% and milk production increased by 33.45%
- » 'Sufal Bangla' project initiated in 2014, presently operates with 63 mobile vans, 3 Hubs and 331 retail outlets across the State. About 75-80 MT of agricultural produce amounting to ₹18 to ₹20 Lakh are sold daily through Sufal Bangla outlets to serve 2-2.5 Lakh consumers daily
- » West Bengal, for the 6th consecutive year has been awarded "Krishi Karman Award" for the best performance in coarse cereals production during the year 2017-18
- » Under Krishak Bandhu, ₹2,647.89 Crore has been disbursed benefitting 46.76 Lakh farmers. Death benefits have been provided to family members of 16,563 deceased farmers
- » 186 Kisan Mandis have been constructed with storage facility to ease the selling of the produce for the local farmers
- » **Amar Fasal Amar Gola:** To prevent post-harvest losses and to enhance farm level value addition, a one-time assistance is provided through 'Amar Fasal Amar Gola' at ₹17,975 for constructing a Farm Family level paddy processing yard (Gola) to sun dry parboiled paddy and/or ₹5,000 for constructing an improved low-cost paddy and grain storage structures
- » From 20 lakhs in 2011, a total of 70 Lakh Kisan Credit cards have been issued till 2020, with an additional 20 Lakhs cards in the process of being distributed
- » Under **Farmers' Old Age Pension Scheme**, a monthly pension of ₹1,000 is being provided to nearly 1 Lakh farmers

- » Under fully State funded crop insurance 'Bangla Shasya Bima' scheme, 64 Lakh farmers have been insured under this scheme covering 22.55 LHa, during Kharif 2020
- » **Matir Shristi:** This programme was launched to make productive use of fallow land in 6 western Districts viz. Birbhum, Bankura, Purulia, Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram & Paschim Bardhaman. Last year, the project was launched on 13,000-acre land in 1,942 sites. This year another 14,000-acre land will be converted, creating huge employment opportunities in agriculture, horticulture, pisciculture, animal husbandry, etc.
- » Under **Watershed Development program**, a fund of ₹409.36 Crores has been released. 31,285 Ha of additional area has been brought under irrigation providing benefit to 2,21,127 farmers
- » 14,472 Ha of agricultural land benefitting 30,845 farmers were covered under Micro Irrigation by installation of Sprinkler and Drip Irrigation
- » Electronic delivery systems have been made operational to enable services like the leasing, mutation and conversion of land. 21.45 Lakh farmers have registered for the e-paddy procurement system
- » West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board has introduced an online integrated electronic single platform permit (e-Permit) system for fast and hassle-free transactions of agricultural produce in the State



## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

**1. ₹10,000 per acre support to be provided to 68 Lakh small and marginal farmers under the Krishak Bandhu Scheme**

West Bengal currently has 71.23 Lakh farmer households, of which 96% are small and marginal farmers. The average landholding size in West Bengal is 0.77 Ha. A financial assistance of ₹10,000 per annum will be provided to 68.38 Lakh small and marginal farmers of the State.

**2. To be the number 1 State in Net Sown Area and Cropping Intensity by adding 3 Lakh hectare of cultivable land and converting 4.5 Lakh hectare to double cropping system respectively**

West Bengal currently has a net sown area of 93%, and is ranked 2 (among large States) with Punjab topping the list (97%). In the next five years, the State will increase the Net Sown Area to 98% by bringing additional 3 Lakh Ha of arable land under cultivation, making it the number 1 State in Net Sown Area. Additionally, West Bengal stands 3rd with an average cropping intensity of 182% (2011-16) among big States, with Punjab and Haryana being the Top 2 States. By converting an additional 4.5 Lakh Ha of land to double-crop system, West Bengal would attain Rank 1 in Cropping Intensity.

**3. To be in top 5 States in productivity for food grains and four cash crops - Tea, Jute, Potato and Tobacco**

West Bengal currently ranks first in the productivity of Tea (2,076 kg/Ha), Jute (2,617 kg/Ha) and Potato (29,901 kg/Ha). The State ranks sixth in productivity of tobacco (1,263 kg/Ha) and food grains (2,856 kg/Ha). In the next five years, while retaining the first rank in tea, jute and potato, the State will improve its rank in the productivity of food grains and tobacco.

**4. Establishing mega/mini food parks in each district**

In order to promote agro-processing industries in a big way, crop-specific mega/mini food parks will be established in each district, along with cold chain and quality checking facilities.

**5. Promote Farm Mechanisation**

Farm Machinery Hubs (Custom Hiring Centre) will be set up in different cooperative societies to increase agricultural yield by farm mechanisation. So far, 379 cooperative societies have been financially assisted with ₹108.70 Crore for this purpose.

## 6. Promote development of allied services

A new scheme for nurturing 'Fish Fry to Fingerling' will be taken up with the help of SHGs. Two such units will be taken up per Block and the fingerlings nurtured by the SHGs will be brought back and distributed to other SHGs for rearing by the Department in the first year for providing assured incremental income to the SHGs.

Development of Horticulture activities through introduction of non-traditional fruits like apple, hazelnut, walnut, blueberries, raspberries, peach, pear, plum, kiwi, pomegranate, strawberry, avocado, etc. Development of Infrastructure for production of Mushroom, Rubber processing, essential oil extraction, post-harvest processing of fruits and medicinal plants.







## Industries

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# Shilponnoto Bangla

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### Key Goals

-  Additional 10 Lakh MSMEs to be added every year to increase the total number of functional MSME units to 1.5 Crore
-  2,000 big industrial units to be added to the existing base of 10,000 units in the next 5 years
-  ₹5 Lakh Crore of new investments in the next 5 years



## Achievements in Past 10 Years

- » About 89 Lakh MSMEs of the State contribute nearly 14% of the total MSMEs of the country. MSMEs have grown at 11% CAGR in the last 9 years
- » With 23.42% share, West Bengal leads in the country in respect of total female owned proprietary enterprises in India
- » Number of factories in Bengal increased from 8,322 in 2010 to 9,534 (15%) in 2020, with average factory worker earning rising from ₹1.3 Lakh to ₹2.3 Lakh (77%)
- » **Bengal Silicon Valley Project:** More than 100 acre of land has been allotted to over 20 organisations attracting an investment of around ₹11,317 Crore
- » **Deocha Pachami** is the world's second-largest coal block, with an estimated reserve of 2.1 billion tonnes. More than one lakh jobs will be created once the Deocha Pachami coal block in Birbhum district operationalises.
- » **Sea Port in Tajpur** will attract investments worth ₹15,000 crore and generate around 25,000 jobs in the region.
- » **Rural Craft & Cultural Hub (RCCH):** The State Government, in collaboration with UNESCO came up with this project to promote and preserve Bengal's traditional and heritage products through a slew of interventions. This is an extension of earlier Rural Craft Hub project and will cover 50,000 artists
- » **Common Facilities under Cluster Development:** 9 Common Facility Centres have been set up in MSME, handloom and village industries clusters to provide need based common facilities to cluster stakeholders
- » **Interest Subvention Scheme for Handloom Weavers:** A special initiative undertaken for facilitating working capital support to handloom weavers by effectively reducing the actual burden of loan to the weaver to only 2%



## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

### 1. Additional 10 Lakh MSMEs to be added every year to increase the total number of functional MSME units to 1.5 Crore

As per Annual Report 2019-20 of Ministry of MSME, the number of MSMEs in West Bengal has increased from 34.64 Lakh in 2006-07 to 88.67 Lakh in 2015-16 (NSS 73rd Round, 2015-16) at a year-on-year growth rate of 11%. In the past 9 years, on an average, 6 Lakh MSME units have been added each year. Taking the benefits of industrialisation to the masses and fostering decentralised economic growth, the State government is committed to increase the number of MSMEs to 10 Lakh every year for the next five years to reach an overall number of over 1.5 Crore units.

### 2. 2,000 big industrial units to be added to the existing base of 10,000 units in the next 5 years

As per the Annual Survey of Industries Report 2017-18, the number of factories in West Bengal was 8,232 in 2010-11 which has increased to 9,534 in 2017-18 with over 6.5 Lakh persons engaged in them. Considering the need of industrialisation at a faster pace, the total number of industries will be increased to more than 12,000 units.

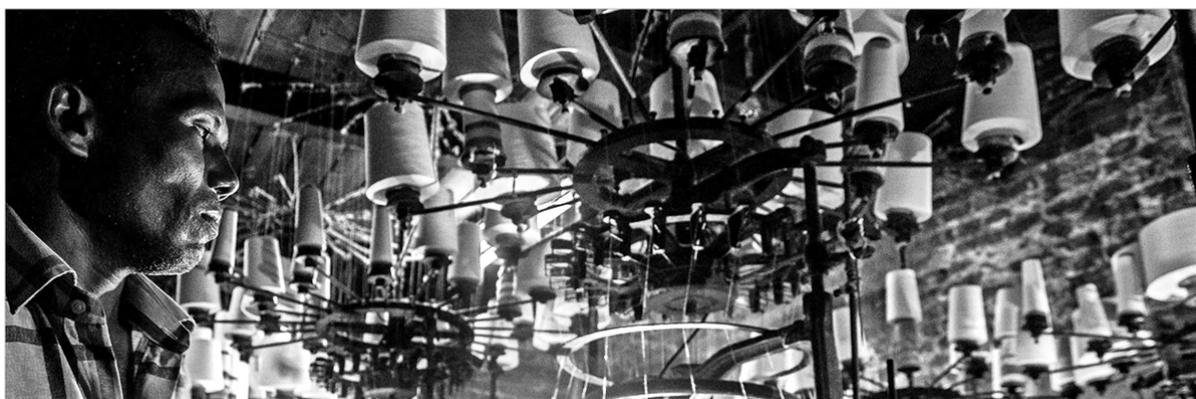
### 3. ₹5 Lakh Crore of new investments in the next 5 years

The State over the last 5 years received investment of ₹4.45 Lakh Crore in large industries from five Bengal Global Business Summit. We will bring in ₹5 Lakh Crore additional investment in the coming 5 years from the Bengal Global Business Summit organised every year in the State.

Steps will be taken to attract IT and BT companies, both industrial and foreign, to establish their businesses in West Bengal.

### 4. Digital Revolution in the industrial sector

Ambitious policies and programmes will be undertaken to bring the power of Digital Revolution to all sectors of industrial and economic activities in the State.







## Health

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# Unnotoro swasthya byabostha, sushto Bangla

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### Key Goals

-  Double the spending on Health from 0.83% to 1.5% of the State GDP
-  Medical College-cum-Super Specialty Hospital in all 23 district headquarters
-  Double the number of seats for - doctors, nurses, and paramedics

## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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### **Inclusive Health for all**

- » Swasthya Sathi, a scheme that provides an annual health insurance of ₹5 Lakh, has been made universal covering over 1.94 Crore families (Nearly 10 crore people)
- » The health and family welfare budget increased by more than 3-times, from ₹3,442 Crore in 2010 to ₹12, 561 Crore in 2021-22
- » 1,000 advanced Matri Yan ambulances have been started for transportation of pregnant mothers and newborn babies
- » For ensuring proper treatment to COVID-19 patients, the State created 102 dedicated COVID-19 hospitals with 13,588 oxygen beds and 2,523 CCU/HDU beds and also requisitioned 57 private hospitals

### **Super Specialty Hospitals, Critical Care Unit (CCU) and Diagnostic Services**

- » The State has 41 units of fully functional super specialty hospitals and 72 critical care facilities with more than 1,90,000 people having received quality critical care treatment
- » 152 High-end Fair Price Diagnostic and Dialysis Centers have been established with over 96.44 Lakh patients availing the free services
- » Five separate health-districts have been organised and structured in Basirhat, Diamond Harbour, Rampurhat, Bishnupur and Nandigram
- » Under Shishu Sathi Prakalpa, free heart operation is arranged for children

### **Increase in hospital beds, doctors and nurses**

- » In the last 10 years, government hospital beds increased from 58,647 to 85,627 marking an increase of 46%. Bengal has the highest number of government hospital beds in the country
- » Number of doctors increased from 4,800 to 15,338 and the number of nurses increased from 37,366 to 56,589
- » From a maximum of just ₹1,500 in the form of incentive-pay in 2011, the earnings of ASHA workers has now increased to around ₹6,500 per month

## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

### 1. Double the spending on Health from 0.83% to 1.5% of the State GDP

West Bengal spends ₹12,561 Crore that is 0.83% of its GSDP on Health and ranks 10th in health in terms of budget allocation among Indian States. An average annual increase of ₹5,500 Crore to the current budget outlay will push the State to spend 1.5% of the GSDP by 2026.

### 2. Medical College-cum-Super Specialty Hospital in all 23-district headquarters

West Bengal has 18 Government Medical College-cum-Super Specialty Hospitals, including 5 in Kolkata. Additionally, 5 more colleges have been approved in Howrah, Hooghly, Purba Medinipur, Jhargram and North 24 Parganas. Medical College-cum-Super Specialty Hospital will be built in all 23-district headquarters.

### 3. Double the number of seats for - doctors, nurses, and paramedics

The State currently has a ratio of 15 doctors and 10 nurses per 10,000 population, respectively. This is higher than the national average of 13.4. At present, there are 6,362 seats in nursing colleges and 2,850 seats in medical Colleges. West Bengal shall double the number of seats for doctors, nurses and paramedics.







## Education

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# Egiye rakhte, shikkhito Bangla

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### Key Goals

-  Increase the spending on Education from 2.7% to 4% of the State GDP
-  Each block to have at least one Model Residential School
-  Double the number of seats for teachers' training

## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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### State Expenditure on Education

- » The budget for education, sports, art and culture has increased by almost 3 times in 10 years from ₹13,872 Crore in 2010-11 to ₹37,059 Crore in 2020-21

### Early Childhood Education

- » **Shishu Aloy**, an early childhood care and education curriculum has been operationalized in 53,894 centres across the State
- » 22.28 Lakh home-bound children aged between 3-6 years benefitted from a mobile-app based initiative that ensured continued pre-school education services during COVID-19 pandemic. The initiative has received the **Gold Skoch Smart Governance Award 2020**

### School Education

- » Since 2010, 95,378 new school classrooms have been constructed to accommodate the growing number of students
- » Under the Sabooj Sathi, over 1 Crore students have been provided with bicycles and the scheme was awarded the prestigious WSIS Prize in 2020 by the United Nations
- » Kanyashree Prakalpa has provided financial support for education to more than 70 Lakh girls. Kanyashree won the United Nations Public Service Award in 2017
- » Mid-day Meal program has provided food to 1.13 Crore students. Additionally, 92 Lakh students have received school uniforms
- » Free text books have been provided from pre-primary to class XII students in 2020
- » ₹10,000 has been provided to students of class XII for purchasing Tablets/Smartphones for accessing the e-learning mode under Taruner Swapno

### Higher Education

- » The Gross Enrolment Ratio doubled in the last 10 years, owing to 30 newly constructed universities and 51 new colleges by the government
- » Four new all-girls government colleges were inaugurated to promote girl education
- » 1.35 Lakh underprivileged meritorious students have been provided scholarships under Swami Vivekananda Merit cum Means Scholarship Scheme

## Technical Education and Skill Development

- » The intake for polytechnics more than doubled from 17,185 in 2011 to 39,835 in 2020
- » Under the Paschim Banga Society for Skill Development, more than 9 Lakh candidates have been trained under the ambit of Short-Term Skill Development Interventions
- » More than 20 Lakh candidates have been trained under the Utkarsh Bangla Scheme since 2016



## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

### 1. Increase the spending on Education from 2.7% to 4% of the State GDP

West Bengal ranks among the top 10 Indian States in terms of Budget allocation for Education. In order to achieve a place among Top 5 ranking, budgetary allocation will be increased to 4% to continue improving the State's facilities.

### 2. Each block to have at least one Model Residential School

More investment in building technologically-equipped Model Residential Schools for the students from Class VI to Class XII in all 341 blocks. These schools will be enabled by State-of-the-art infrastructure like digital-classrooms, libraries and curricular-facilities.

### 3. Double the number of seats for teachers' training

West Bengal presently has 33,095 seats for teacher-training in B.Ed colleges. Number of seats for teaching professionals will be doubled to over 62,000 which will foster a faster, equitable and wholesome progress for the students.

### 4. Extend the Kanyashree Scheme to Higher Education and Employment

Kanyashree Scheme will be expanded to enable girls in pursuing higher education and securing employment opportunities. This scheme will be referred to as Kanyashree Plus.

### 5. Granting Tablets to 9 Lakh students of Class XII under 'Taruner Swapno' scheme

Taruner Swapno scheme will be continued every year to provide tabs to 9 Lakh students studying in class XII for furthering their education.

### 6. Increase Remuneration of Para-Teachers and Grant Retirement Benefit of ₹3 Lakh

Para-teachers will be given an annual increment of 3%. In addition, they shall be given one-time ex-gratia of ₹3 Lakh as retirement benefit after completing 60 years.

### 7. Increase the intake for Paschim Banga Society for Skill Development (PBSSD) Scheme

PBSSD was initiated for training around 1 Lakh candidates under the Recognition of Prior Learnings (RPL) mode in 2021-22. The government shall extend the scheme further to cover more candidates.

### 8. Extend Smart classrooms to all 278 Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITI)

Currently, smart classrooms exist in 42 Government ITIs. It will be extended to all 278 ITIs of the State, with intake capacity of 86,300.

### 9. Digital Education for All

Digitally enriched education will be provided to every student, teacher in every school and college in West Bengal.

### 10. Educational content in all major languages

Creative educational content will be developed in Bengali and other major languages with the participation of best educators in the State.

### 11. Ensure better quality education

Every necessary measure will be taken to improve the quality of education- from primary to university levels so that West Bengal maintains its reputation as the best centre of learning in India. Our goal will be to attract students from all over India and world to come and study in West Bengal.







## Housing

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# Shobai pai, matha gonjar thaai

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### Key Goals

-  5 Lakh additional low-cost housing to be built under Bangla Bari Scheme in urban habitations to reduce slum population from 7% to below 3.65%
-  25 Lakh additional low-cost houses to be built under Bangla Awas Yojana in rural areas and reduce kutchha houses to less than 1%



## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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- » **Bangla Awas Yojana:** The scheme has provided ₹1.2 Lakh to 33.7 Lakh rural families for the construction of a 'pucca' houses at a total cost of ₹39,009 Crore
- » **Integrated Housing and Slum Development:** Construction of 49,705 numbers of Dwelling Units (DUs) has been completed
- » **Nirmal Bangla Abhijaan:** Over 82.60 Lakh toilets have been constructed under the scheme. Today, every block and gram panchayat of West Bengal is Open Defecation Free
- » **Karmanjali:** 14 Karmanjali has been made operational to provide accommodation on rental basis to the less-paid single working women in 'Working Women Hostel'
- » **Night Shelters:** Construction of 11 night shelters for patient and their families have been completed
- » Under **Akanksha** housing scheme, 576 flats have been provided to the serving State government employees
- » Bengal is Ranked 1 in the construction of **Gramin Awas**. Since 2011, 50 lakh houses have been constructed



## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

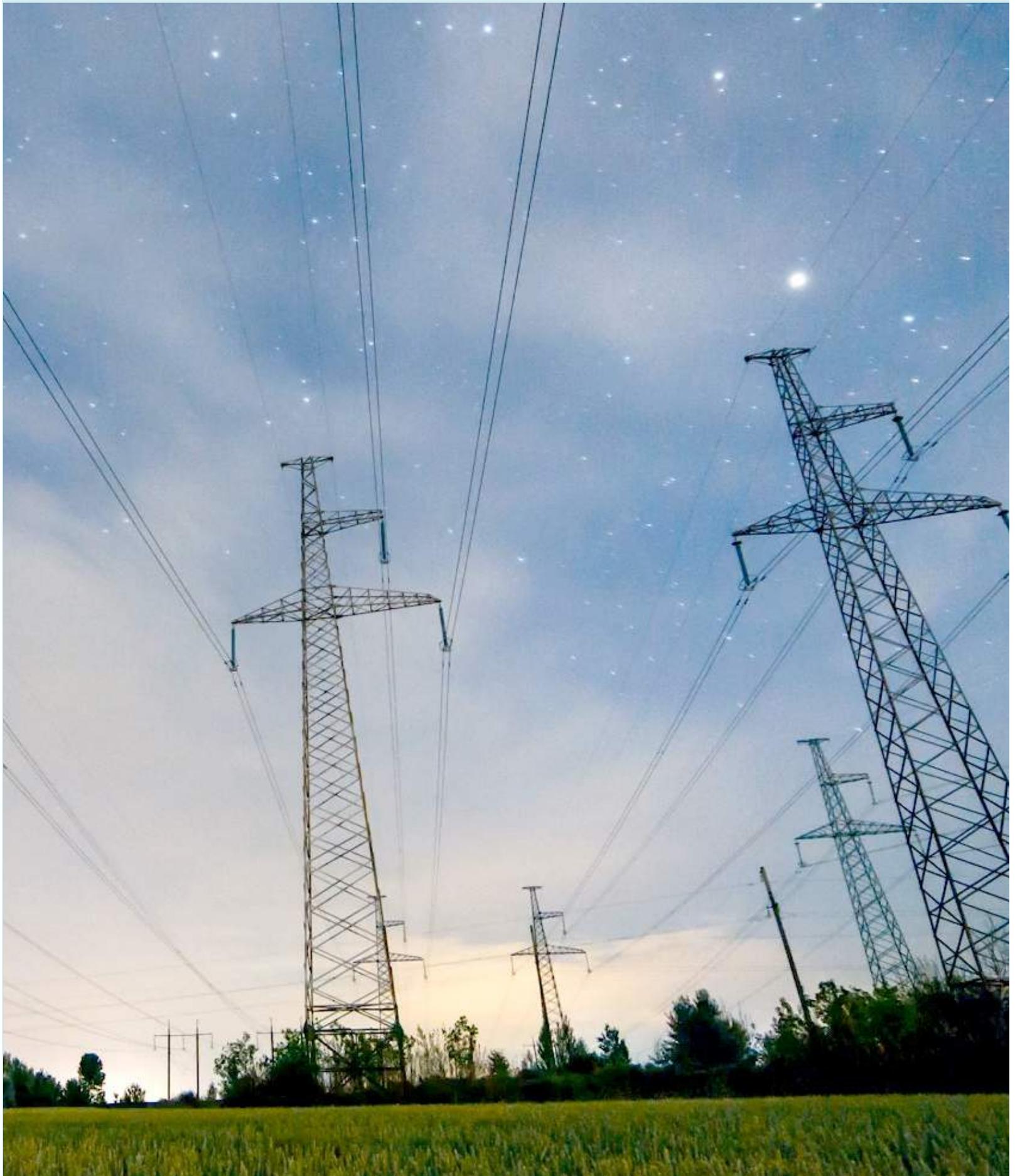
**1. 5 Lakh additional low-cost housing to be built under Bangla Bari Scheme in urban habitations to reduce slum population from 7% to below 3.65 %**

The percentage of slum population in the State is 7%. The State will construct 5 Lakh houses to accommodate 27.5 Lakh people to bring the slum population to below 3.65%.

**2. 25 Lakh additional low-cost houses to be built under Bangla Awas Yojana in rural areas and reduce kutcha houses to less than 1%**

Under Bangla Awas Yojana, a total of 33.62 Lakh houses have been registered till now and 21.82 Lakh houses have been completed. To ensure a roof for all in Bengal and cut down the number of kutcha households to below 1% in rural areas, additional 25 Lakh low cost pucca houses will be built in the next 5 years.







## Electricity, Roads and Water

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### Proti ghore bidyut, sodok, jol

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#### Key Goals

-  Piped drinking water facility to be provided to additional 47 Lakh urban households to ensure 100% coverage
-  24x7 electricity at affordable rates to all households
-  Every rural households to be connected with all-weather roads, a functional drainage system and piped drinking water

## Achievements in Past 10 Years

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### Power/Electricity

- » **Electrification:** 95.3 Lakh new households were electrified since 2011 to achieve 100% electrification
- » **Rural electrification:** Bengal has achieved 100% rural electrification by providing electricity to all 37,960 villages
- » Per person consumption rose from 550 kWh in 2010 to 703 kWh in 2019 showing a 30% increase
- » **Hasir Alo** provides free electricity of up to 25 units including meter rent to 16.5 Lakh eligible beneficiaries per month

### Roads

- » **Rural roads:** A total of 1,18,128 km of new rural roads were constructed and upgraded over the last decade
- » **Bangla Sadak Nirman Yojana:** West Bengal has achieved number one position in the country by constructing 20,000 km roads
- » **Banglar Gramin Sadak Yojana:** 35,611.41 km of road length has been sanctioned involving an amount of ₹16,561.62 Crore

### Water

- » 35,819 piped water supply systems and tube-wells have been set up for 2.25 Crore rural people during 2011-19, compared to 15,631 during 2004-11
- » **Jal Dharo Jal Bharo:** In 2020-21, nearly 20,070 water bodies and water retention structures have been created and renovated, and 15,597 water conservation and harvesting structures have been constructed
- » 1,741 Minor Irrigation schemes with irrigation potential of 31,952 hectare have been completed
- » Under **Jalatirtha**, in high water deficient districts check dams were constructed on major river catchment areas to check runoff velocity, erosion of topsoil, and stabilization of downstream areas.
- » **Arsenic-free water:** 217 water-testing laboratories are functioning in the State to monitor the status of drinking water quality parameters like Arsenic, Fluoride, Iron and Salinity. Till December 2020, more than 3.15 Lakh samples from 1.73 Lakh water sources have been tested

## Key Promises for Next 5 Years

### 1. Piped drinking water facility to be provided to additional 47 Lakh urban households to ensure 100% coverage

With a target of providing 100% urban households having piped water supply, additional 47 Lakh urban households will have piped drinking water facilities. The Government has announced the Jal Swapno Scheme to provide piped drinking water to entire 2 Crore households in West Bengal in the next five years with a budget outlay of ₹58,000 Crore.

### 2. 24x7 electricity at affordable rates to all households

Now that West Bengal has successfully achieved 100% electrification, our next goal has been towards making the State maintain a constant 24 x 7 supply of electricity at a cost affordable for all residents of the State.

### 3. Every rural household to be connected with all-weather roads, a functional drainage system and piped drinking water

Our government has announced to provide piped drinking water to entire 2 Crore households in West Bengal in next 5 years. Our government over the last 10 years has built 1, 18,128 km new roads in the state. Keeping up with this progress, over the next 5 years, the government will connect all rural households with all-weather roads.

### 4. Road betterment and safety will be a key priority

In the next 5 years, we will build 46,000 km of new rural roads under the Pathasree Scheme and we will connect all rural roads to state highways. The State will build new concrete bridges instead of wooden bridges over 373 old irrigation and drainage canals. We will establish of effective trauma care units at accessible distances on all highways to considerably reduce deaths due to road accidents.



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- 5. Water resources enabled for Conservation, agriculture and transport**

Coverage under Jal Dharo Jal Bharo shall be extended. Irrigation water shall reach all farmlands of the State. Multi-Modal Transport facilities will be provided using 295 rivers and tributaries in the State. These will be leveraged taking into account global best practices from rivers like river Rhine in Germany which operates like a highway, to not only facilitate transportation but also advance tourism.
  - 6. Set up a task-force to ensure arsenic free drinking water**

A task force will be formed to ensure the implementation of a surface water based Piped Water Supply Scheme for Arsenic affected regions. There are 1.98 Crore people spread across 83 blocks and 7 districts in the State who are directly affected by the arsenic content found in the water. This task force will monitor the reach of clean piped water supply schemes to all affected villages.
  - 7. Construction of Check Dams, Dug Wells and digging farm ponds**

The State will invest into constructing check dams, dug wells and digging farm ponds at all necessary locations. Apart from being important for disaster management such as cyclones, this will also assist with improving the water supply to nearby villages for domestic and agricultural uses.



We are committed and always dedicated towards implementing our promises; the past decade has witnessed the holistic development of Bengal across all sectors. We need your unwavering support to take Bengal towards greater heights.

The heritage of Bengal, its history of struggle and its glory must be protected at any cost. The divisive forces who want to divide the society must be resisted. Only the people can further strengthen the fight that Trinamool Congress took up for the betterment of Bengal.

Vote for the candidates of All India Trinamool Congress for peace, unity and progress of Bengal.

Your trust, confidence and faith is our strength in this journey. Bengal has always stood up democratically against all divisive forces, propaganda and forces of arms and money. Keeping our history in mind, this is our appeal to vote for All India Trinamool Congress candidates all over the State in the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly Elections.

Best wishes, congratulations and greetings in advance for the Bengali New Year.

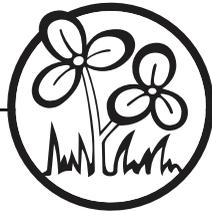
**Jai Hind! Jai Bangla!**

**Presented by**



**Mamata Banerjee**





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