

HON'BLE SPEAKER, SIR,

1. I rise to present the Budget of our Government for the year 2005-06.
2. Sir, Delhi's economy is growing at a better rate as compared with a large number of other States and also the growth at national level. All the major indicators of our economy have been described in detail in the third Economic Survey of Delhi presented in the last Budget Session of the Assembly in July, 2004. Our Government is exploring all possible avenues to further accelerate the growth of our economy in the coming years. For this purpose, we are consulting a number of institutions, agencies, and research organizations having expertise and experience on the subject.
3. Sir, the measure of successful economic development is being increasingly linked to a higher level of human development. As such, for measurement of human development a few but most critical human development indicators relating to longevity, literacy and quality of life are taken into consideration. I am pleased to announce that our Government has decided to prepare the first Human Development Report for Delhi with the assistance of various experts, NGOs, Voluntary Organizations, academicians, etc. The UNDP and Planning Commission have agreed to provide financial assistance and also to share their experiences in preparation of the Human Development Report for Delhi, which will be the first for a city. We are making efforts to finalize and release this first Human Development Report within the next three months.
4. Sir, the year 2004-05 is the mid year of the Tenth Five Year Plan. While discussing the Mid-Term Appraisal, in a meeting of the group of Chief Ministers of the Northern Region, the Planning Commission has appreciated the efforts put in by our Government in implementation of the projects / schemes of the Tenth Five Year Plan as well as in managing the resources for financing our Tenth Five Year Plan Programmes and Schemes.

ECONOMIC SCENARIO

5. The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) indicates that Delhi has a strong and vibrant economy. The Gross State Domestic Product at current prices increased from Rs.74807 crore in 2002-03 to Rs.83825 crore in 2003-04, registering a growth of 12.1%. However in real terms the growth in GSDP in Delhi during 2003-04 is estimated at 9.3% as compared to 8.5% at the national level.

6. The Tertiary Sector has a dominant role in Delhi's economy and its contribution is about 78%. The growth in Tertiary sector in real terms in Delhi during 2003-04 is 10.3% as compared to 9.06% at the national level. In Delhi's economy, the banking and insurance sector has an important role and their contribution is about 22%. The growth of this sector during 2003-04 is estimated at 9.6%. Similarly the contribution of trade, hotels and restaurants in Delhi's economy is 21% and this sector registered a growth of 8.8% during 2003-04. The contribution of Delhi in GDP at the national level is about 3.3% as compared to 1.4 % share in the total population of the country.

7. The per capita income of Delhi at current prices is estimated at Rs.51664 during 2003-04 as compared to Rs.20989 at the national level. The per capita income of Delhi increased by 8.9% at current prices and 6.2% at constant prices during 2003-04.

FINANCIAL POSITION

8. Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Members are aware that the rate of Stamp & Registration Fee was reduced from 13% to 8% and specifically 6% in case of registration of properties only in the name of women registrants. Further, no increase in Sales Tax rate on major items was made during 2004-05. In spite of that, our current year's Own Tax Revenue realization is expected to exceed the current year's budgetary target of Rs.6521 crore. We have, therefore, set a higher target of Own Tax Revenue at Rs.6581 crore in the revised estimate for 2004-05 which is about 12% higher than the collection of Rs.5884 crore made during 2003-04. Sir, this has confirmed our belief that resources can be mobilized effectively and efficiently with the rationalization of the tax structure rather than only by increasing the rate of taxes.

9. The tax buoyancy of the Government of Delhi during 1998–2004 was 1.2. This also implies better tax administration during the tenure of our Government.
10. Mr. Speaker Sir, we have managed to have a revenue surplus which places Delhi in a unique position as compared to other States. Delhi's revenue surplus was Rs.2261 crore in 2003-04 which was 2.70% of GSDP. The current year's revenue surplus is likely to be Rs.1960 crore and the proposed target for next year is Rs.2359 crore.

FISCAL DEFICIT

11. Sir, the Delhi Government's Fiscal Deficit was 2.91% of GSDP during 2003-04 which was lower than that of the estimated figure of 5.1% of GDP for all States and 4.5% in case of the Government of India in the same year. The Delhi Government's Fiscal Deficit is likely to be Rs.2361 crore in the revised estimate for 2004-05. The Fiscal Deficit is budgeted at Rs.2062 crore for 2005-06. Our Government is making best efforts to keep the fiscal deficit at the lowest level by improving the financial position of the public utilities of Delhi so that their dependence on financial support from the Government is reduced.

RECEIPT OF LOAN AND ITS PRE-PAYMENT

12. Sir, the availability of Small Savings Loan to Delhi is fortunately good. We have, through prudent fiscal measures, been able to reduce the interest liability of the Government. During 2001-02 to 2003-04, we managed to pre-pay costly Small Savings Loan of Rs.2612 crore bearing interest rate upto 14.5% thereby, substantially reduced our debt servicing burden.
13. Sir, during the year 2004-05, we had kept a provision of Rs.2773 crore for prepayment of small savings loan. However, the Government of India did not allow us to make the proposed prepayment of Small Savings Loan during the current year. Rather, an amount of Rs.569 crore out of the total prepayment of Small Savings Loan of Rs.2100 crore made during 2003-04, was returned. The Government of India's stand in this regard is that the Delhi Government has already prepaid high cost Small Savings loan to the extent allowed under the Debt Swap Scheme and any further prepayment would adversely affect the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) which is functioning according to fixed norms for ensuring assured rate of return to investors.

14. Sir, we, therefore, immediately intimated the Government of India to restrict the current year's release of Small Savings Loan upto Rs.3732 crore against the budgetary target of Rs.4500 crore in keeping with our fiscal policy of reducing the burden of debt servicing. However, since we had already received Small Savings Loan in excess, we took the alternative step of refunding the outstanding Block Loan. Accordingly, we have made prepayment of the total outstanding Block Loan of Rs.2200 crore during the current year which will remove the outstanding Block Loan liability against the Delhi Government up to the current year. With this step, we will save a net interest liability of around Rs.43 crore in the next year.
15. Presently the outstanding Small Savings Loan against the Delhi Government is Rs.15861 crore bearing interest in the range of 13.5% to 9.5%. Since there is no possibility for prepayment of loan during the next year, we have reduced our intake of Small Savings Loan to Rs.2245 crore, i.e. to the extent required for funding the Annual Plan 2005-06.

FLOW OF FUNDS TO THE LOCAL BODIES

16. Sir, presently devolution of assigned taxes and non-plan grant to Local Bodies is governed by the recommendations of the 2nd Delhi Finance Commission (DFC). We have made devolution of taxes and non-plan grants to local bodies as per enhanced rates recommended by the 2nd Delhi Finance Commission. The term of the 2nd Delhi Finance Commission recommendations is valid upto March 2006. The Delhi Government has already set up the 3rd Delhi Finance Commission.

REVISED ESTIMATE FOR 2004-05

17. Mr. Speaker Sir, the size of the Annual Plan for 2004-05 was approved by the Planning Commission at Rs.5000 crore with Delhi's own resources of Rs.4536 crore including Small Savings Loan and balance through Central Assistance of Rs.464 crore. We have reviewed the requirement of plan fund during the current year and have revised the plan size from Rs.5000 crore to Rs.4532.28 crore keeping in view the lower requirement of plan funds under the scheme of Power Sector Reform, non implementation of Integrated Rail-cum-Bus Transport [IRBT] project due to non signing of MoU by the participating state governments etc. The total revised estimate for plan and non-plan expenditure for 2004-05 is Rs.13770 crore against the budget estimate of Rs.12780 crore.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 2004-05

18. Sir, in order to give effect the revised estimate, Supplementary Demands for Grants of Rs.1666.30 crore will be required for the current financial year 2004-05. I, therefore, seek the approval of this August House for these Supplementary Demands for Grants.

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 2005-06

19. Sir, the Planning Commission has approved Delhi's Annual Plan for 2005-06 at Rs.5100 crore with Delhi's Own Resources of Rs.4913 crore including Small Savings Loan and the balance through Central Grant of Rs.187 crore. However, this plan outlay for 2005-06, includes only Rs.138 crore for Power Sector Reforms as against current year's revised outlay of Rs.480 crore. Excluding Power Sector Reforms Programme, there is a 22% growth in the plan outlay for Annual Plan 2005-06 of Delhi as compared to the current year's revised outlay.
20. Sir, the Delhi Government's total budget estimate for 2005-06 is Rs.11500 crore which includes Rs.5100 crore as plan outlay, Rs.6328 crore for non-plan expenditure and Rs.72 crore for Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). The proposed budgetary expenditure of Rs.11500 crore will be met through the estimated own revenue receipts of Rs.8468 crore, share in Central Taxes of Rs.325 crore, Small Savings Loan of Rs.2245 crore, Central Grant of Rs.187 crore and other receipts of Rs.275 crore.
21. Now, I will touch upon the important programmes / policies proposed to be implemented during 2005-06 under major sectors of development.

TRANSPORT

22. The Annual Plan 2005-06 will prove to be the year of landmark achievements in the field of improvement in the public transport system in Delhi. The completion of the first phase of Delhi Metro by March, 2006 and commencement of Phase-II will make the multi-modal public transport system in Delhi a ground reality.

23. With the opening of the second and third corridors by June, 2005 and December, 2005, Delhi Metro will be used by more than 20 lakh commuters daily. It will provide great relief to the areas of traffic congestion like Patel Nagar, Moti Nagar, Raja Garden, Subhash Nagar, Tilak Nagar, Janak Puri, Uttam Nagar, Walled City area, Connaught Place and Central Secretariat. Taking into account the performance level of DMRC, our Government has decided to release the equity share for 2005-06 amounting to Rs.107 crore in the current year itself so as to maintain the tempo of works by DMRC.
24. Sir, the original proposal for the construction of Eastern & Western Peripheral Expressways could not reach the implementation stage due to various reasons. Now, the Government of India has decided to implement this project through the National Highway Authority of India by changing its alignment. Our Government supports this proposal as it will divert all Inter-State Traffic passing through Delhi Territory and thereby help in reducing congestion and improving the air quality. Delhi's share for this project has been worked out as Rs.422 crore for both expressways. We will release the first installment of Rs.147 crore in the current year to the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India for expeditious implementation of the project.
25. The Government of Delhi has already approved the second phase of Delhi Metro and requested the Government of India for approval at the earliest. I propose a provision of Rs. 362.57 Crore in 2005-06 for the Phase II of Delhi Metro.
26. Sir, the year 2004-05 may be categorized as the year of flyovers in Delhi as we have completed construction of 12 Fly overs / ROB during this year and work on construction of three more Fly overs at Punjabi Bagh Club, Moti Nagar and Pankha Road is in progress.
27. Sir, the work on construction of a new bridge over Yamuna River connecting Shanti Van to Geeta Colony has been started. Construction work of Master Plan road over disused canal from Geeta Colony to Karkardooma has also been started. The work for widening of Ring Road from 06 lanes to 08 lanes has commenced. Some of the important stretches that are being taken up are AIIMS to Dhaula Kuan, Dhaula Kuan to Raja Garden, Raja Garden to Punjabi Bagh etc. Also, repair and maintenance of 81 Km of Ring Road and Outer Ring Road are being outsourced. Work on widening of Marginal Bund Road from 04 lanes to 08 lanes has also been taken up. A large number of other roads are also being widened and improved such as Road No. 36 from Jail Road crossing to Mayapuri Crossing, Old Delhi-Gurgaon road, Aruna Asaf Ali Road and Road No. 58 in Trans Yamuna Area.

28. Sir, a large number of flyovers have been constructed on the Ring Road to improve the flow of the increasing volume of traffic on this major road of the city. However, we were facing a major bottleneck in maintaining the traffic flow on Ring Road at Naraina. We have succeeded in removing this long-standing bottleneck and have now started the widening of Ring Road at Naraina.
29. Sir, the construction work of a new bridge on river Yamuna near Wazirabad Bridge will start in 2005-06. To improve the flow of traffic near Mool Chand Crossing, work on the construction of an under-pass at this site has already been taken up. We are also planning to construct one more under-pass on Vikas Marg near ITO Chungi Crossing. Construction of 05 new flyovers will be started in 2005-06 at Mukarba Chowk, Azadpur Intersection, Naraina, Nangloi-NH-10 Crossing and Outer Ring Road at Mangolpuri Crossing.
30. Sir, along with widening and improvement of roads and construction of flyovers, ROB, Bridges, we are concerned about pedestrians and the road safety systems. We have decided to construct foot over bridges with the provision of ramp and escalators on Ring Road at ISBT Kashmere Gate, Maharani Bagh crossing, Nanakpura, Venkateswara College and Dhoola Kuan.
31. Construction of subways will be started at Nigam Bodh Ghat, Azadpur Crossing, Basai Darapur, Nangloi and Shashtri Park.
32. Sir, Transport Deptt. has successfully implemented the programme for issuing of Smart Cards for registration of new vehicles with effect from September, 2004. The system for issuing smart card for driving licences has been finalized and the selected agency will start the work next year.
33. Sir, we have decided to improve the quality of road transport in Delhi so as to reduce the use of personal vehicles and to increase the number of commuters availing improved and better public transport system in Delhi. Work on construction of the first pilot corridor for a high capacity bus system from Ambedkar Nagar to Mool Chand is being taken up and work on this corridor upto Delhi Gate will be started in 2005-06.

34. Sir, DTC has initiated a number of steps like total operational efficiency, cost consciousness, new management practices and customer orientation for improving its operational performance. Towards this aim, the DTC has partly outsourced its drivers, rescheduled bus routes to increase route profitability index and optimized other load factors. As a part of its technology initiative, DTC has planned the development of its own infrastructure for testing and inspection of CNG Engines now that the warranty period of most of the CNG buses is over. Every bus will be checked regularly at depot levels to detect and rectify mechanical and other defects including leakages of CNG etc., which will not only improve efficiency but also control emissions. Further, 150 CNG Engines are being procured as a stand by arrangement for the buses so as to ensure maximum utilization of the fleet by increasing off-shedding or on-road deployment. The new steps towards improvement in the functional efficiency of DTC have resulted in over 90% utilization of the capacity.
35. Sir, modern and fully built CNG propelled 200 non-AC and 25 AC Semi-low-floor / low-floor buses will be added in the DTC fleet. This addition will not only improve the profitability of DTC but also its capacity to provide better public transport system to the people in Delhi.
36. Performance parameters have been bench marked by the management for all the Depots and they are now expected to function as individual profit centres. Commercial activities like (a) parking of vehicles in DTC depots during day time; (b) Renting of DTC Depot space to other Government Departments and (c) Commercial exploitation of DTC terminals are being contemplated to minimize the operational losses of DTC.
37. A feasibility study on the introduction of Mono Rail System in Delhi will be ready by 2005-06. We propose to introduce the Mono Rail System in areas where Metro Rail is not planned. A feasibility study is being conducted for construction of elevated roads, wherever required. For the Transport, being the first priority sector, I propose an Outlay of Rs.1364.92 crore for 2005-06 as compared to Revised Outlay of Rs.1118.70 Crore in the current year.

WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION

38. Sir, after Transport, the second priority sector in our development process is water supply and sanitation. A number of studies have been conducted to bring about reforms and implement innovative programmes to improve the water supply and sanitation services in Delhi. These reforms are meant to improve the internal efficiency and delivery mechanism of DJB and are not at all intended for privatization of DJB.
39. The Government of Delhi has already released an amount of Rs.140 Crore to Haryana Government for construction of 102 kms long pucca parallel channel from Munak to Haiderpur. Our Government is pursuing the matter with Haryana Government to complete the construction of this parallel channel by May, 2006, as per the scheduled target, so that 80 MGD additional raw water could be made available to Delhi.
40. Sir, we have constructed the Sonia Vihar water treatment plant along with raw water carrier system by laying a conduit from Muradnagar to Sonia Vihar. Raw water for this plant is to be released by Tehri Hydro Development Corp. through the Upper Ganga Canal upto Muradnagar. The delay in completion of the Tehri reservoir has delayed the release of raw water for this plant. Our Government is pursuing the matter with the Uttaranchal and UP Govts. as well as THDC and the Central Government to complete the reservoir and to release 300 cusecs of raw water to Delhi. We have received 80 cusecs of water for testing and flushing of the new plant carried out over a period of 2 months.
41. One of the major programmes to improve water supply in Delhi is to prevent seepage, leakage and theft of drinking water. For this purpose bulk meters are being installed at all water treatment plants and distribution mains so as to assess the correct amount of water supply by different plants as well as to the different areas through distribution mains. We have also decided to purchase better and modern equipment for leak detection. Old water pipelines of 1061 kms have been replaced by DJB since 1997-98 and 120 kms of old lines will be replaced during 2005-06. All these measures will bring down the unaccounted water from the present level of about 40% to a significantly lower level.

42. Sir, we are equally concerned about growing water requirements of the rapidly increasing population of Delhi. We are taking up the Renuka Project matter with the Government of Himachal Pradesh. Our Government is also pursuing the matter for an early finalization of the Lakhwar-Vyasi and Kishao Projects with the Uttaranchal and UP Govts.
43. Under the Plan Scheme for providing sewerage facility in regularized-unauthorized colonies, DJB took up 14 colonies in the current year and 20 more such colonies will be provided sewerage system in 2005-06.
44. Programmes for maximum use of treated waste water have been drawn up to prevent use of ground water for horticulture and other irrigation purposes. Rain water harvesting, storage of flood water in flood basin areas will improve the ground water level in Delhi.
45. For water supply and sanitation sector, an outlay of Rs.731.75 Crore is proposed for 2005-06.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

46. Sir, our Government is committed to ameliorate the living conditions of the urban poor residing in unauthorized colonies in Delhi. Keeping in view the requirement of more roads / drains in these colonies, we have enhanced the outlay under the relevant scheme from Rs.40 crore in B.E. to Rs.70 crore in RE 2004-05. Our Government is very much concerned about the regularization of these colonies. We have invited applications from the Resident's Associations of these colonies upto 31.1.2005. The UD Deptt. has received 1432 applications from these colonies. Now these applications are being verified by the concerned Deputy Commissioners. Our Government has also directed MCD to provide conservancy and sanitation services in unauthorized colonies for which additional funds will be released to MCD in 2005-06.

47. Our Government is equally concerned about the living conditions of the urban poor residing in JJ Clusters. We have achieved a major break through in this direction by way of initiating the process of formation of Multi Purpose Cooperative Societies for slum dwellers by amending the Delhi Cooperative Act in the last session of the Assembly. The Cooperative Department, National Cooperative Housing Finance Federation and a number of NGOs of the slum dwellers have initiated a programme of education and training for the slum dwellers for formation of Multi Purpose Cooperative Societies. I am sure with the formation of cooperative societies of the slum dwellers, our Government will succeed in making available affordable well-planned dwelling units to them. We are committed to provide adequate funds for construction of flatted dwelling units for slum dwellers as and when such cooperative societies are formed. We have requested Government of India to allow in-situ construction of dwelling units wherever possible and intend to frame a policy paper in this regard next year.
48. The mechanization of conservancy and sanitation services along with development of new sanitary land-fill sites is another thrust area in our programme to make Delhi a city of international standards. We have studied a number of options and technologies available in various cities of the world to ascertain the best system of disposal of solid waste. We have requested DDA/Government of India to earmark adequate land in different parts of Delhi for sanitary landfill sites in MPD 2021. Private sector participation is being promoted in this area. Publicity, awareness and people's participation is being promoted with the help of RWAs/NGOs under the Bhagidhari programme to improve cleanliness in the city.
49. Sir, our Government has decided on a new measure for targeted urban renewal to upgrade the water supply and sewerage infrastructure. Hon'ble Members would be able to recommend works upto a maximum of Rs.50 lakh to DJB in the water supply and sewerage areas for which funds to the tune of Rs.35 crore will be earmarked from within the outlay allocated to DJB for next year. This measure, I am sure, will strengthen our efforts to improve the level of water supply & sewerage services in all localities. Sir, may I add here that this has been made possible due to our buoyant revenues. I wish to congratulate the Hon'ble Members as this decision of the Government will enable them to indicate their priorities for taking up development works relating to water supply and sewerage in their areas next year.

50. Sir, the Government of India announced the setting up of a National Urban Renewal Mission in the Union Budget this year. This Mission will have an initial outlay of approx. Rs.5500 crore, out of which Rs.1560 crore will be given as grant to finance specific infrastructure projects in the 7 mega cities of India, including Delhi. Some of our capital intensive projects, which have social and environmental benefits like IRBT, Mono Rail, Elevated Roads, HCBS/ETB, Solid Waste Management, Parking infrastructure etc. would be eligible to get funds under this programme. Our Government intends to approach the Government of India for assistance under the National Urban Renewal Mission with detailed project reports in the above mentioned areas so that some of these projects are taken up, preferably on a self-financing basis, without recourse to internal budgetary support.
51. The Trans Yamuna Area Development Board has approved a number of projects/schemes for development of this area and asked for additional funds. We have enhanced the outlay for TYADB schemes from Rs.65.60 crore in BE to Rs.74.40 crore in RE 2004-05. The Proposed Outlay for 2005-06 is Rs.77 crore. The DTTDC has started boating and other facilities at Sanjay Lake and will also provide such facilities at Shahdara lake. The second Socio-Cultural Complex will be set up at CBD Shahdara by DTTDC on BoT basis. A Delhi Haat is proposed to be developed at Geeta Colony.

ENERGY

52. Mr. Speaker Sir, our Power Sector Reforms Programme is being considered as a role model in the country. The impact of unbundling of DVB is visible now. The BSES- Yamuna Power Limited has reduced the Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses by 2.91% against the target of 2.50% set for the first two years of privatization. The BSES- Rajdhani Power Ltd. has reduced such losses by 3.04% against the target of 2.10% for the same period. North Delhi Power Limited achieved AT&C loss reduction of 3.24% against the target of 2.75% for the first two years. These three Distribution Companies have a target of loss reduction of 4%, 3.3% and 4.5% respectively for 2004-05. Further, the enforcement activities have also been strengthened to curb theft or pilferage of electricity. Also, there has been no default in payment of power purchase since privatization.

53. Delhi Transco Ltd (DTL) has managed to meet the maximum demand of 3490 MW on 15th July, 2004 as compared to the peak demand of 3289 MW in the previous year. The requirement during the coming summer months is expected to be about 3600 MW and necessary arrangements to meet this level of power supply are being made.
54. Sir, in order to augment power generation in Delhi and to reduce our dependence on the Northern Regional Grid, our Government is considering the proposal for establishment of a 330 MW gas based Power Plant i.e. Pragati- Phase-II.
55. Sir, IP Thermal Station has almost outlived its life. We are planning to replace this Thermal Plant by a Gas based Plant in a phased manner by replacing one unit each year. With this approach, we will continue to maintain our generation level on the one hand and will be able to sort out the problem of ash disposal and air pollution linked to the present thermal plant, on the other hand.
56. Sir, Land is available with the Government at Bawana for setting up of a 1000 MW Gas Turbine Combined Cycle Power Project. NTPC, as Consultants, have prepared the feasibility report and have also carried out the Environmental Impact Assessment Studies. Our Government has decided to opt for development of the project through private sector participation. For this purpose, Consultants were given consultancy assignment in two phases. In the first phase, the Consultants were required to prepare a Perspective Plan of the various options for the development of the Project through private participation, keeping in view the Regulatory and Statutory requirements. The Consultants have finalized their report for Phase-I and have provided various options which are under examination in the Government.
57. Transco has completed 220/33KV Grid Station at Masjid Moth and work on 220/33 KV Station at Geeta Colony and Pappan Kalan are nearing completion. Further 220 KV sub-stations at Rohini Phase IV and V, Pappan Kala III, Lodhi Road and Dhaula Kuan Ridge will be commissioned in next year. 6X100 MVA Transformers will be installed at Rohini, Pappankalan, Naraina, Shalimar Bagh and Vasant Kunj.

HEALTH

58. Sir, our Government is planning to provide the best possible health care infrastructure to the citizens of Delhi and this is clearly visible in the form of ongoing massive construction of buildings for new and existing hospitals in all parts of Delhi. It is also evident from the fact that 11.5% of total revised outlay for the current year and 12% of the outlay for 2005-06 are allocated for the Medical & Public Health Sector.
59. Sir, more than 500 new beds are going to be added in our hospitals during 2004-05 as compared to 317 beds in 2003-04. About 1700 new beds will be added in our hospitals during 2005-06. Indoor services have been started in Chacha Nehru Children Hospital, Geeta Colony and the hospital shall be fully functional with 216 beds during 2005-06. Indoor Services in colony hospitals at Moti Nagar and Patel Nagar will be started shortly. 150 bedded maternity and child block in Sanjay Gandhi Hospital is in an advanced stage of completion and will be made functional next year. Land for the construction of a 200 bedded hospital at Kokiwala Bagh, Ashok Vihar has been taken over from DDA.
60. The MAM College is going to start invitro fertilization and reproductive biology unit in the Department of Obstretic & Gyane. It will be the first such unit among all Government hospitals in Delhi. G.B. Pant hospital has added 10 ICU beds in the gastroenterology department and has commissioned a liver ICU in the GI surgery department.
61. An Oncology Centre at GTB Hospital, has been started with OPD & Chemotherapy facilities. Comprehensive diagnostic and treatment of cancer will be started by this Centre with Linear Accelerator and other latest equipments in 2005-06.
62. Under revised National T.B. Control Programme (RNTCP) , it is proposed to set up Chest Clinics at Shahbad-Daulatpur and Nazafgarh for patients of these areas. The MCD has decided to set up a naturopathy hospital in Rohini for which land has also been allotted by the DDA.
63. The Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences at Vasant Kunj is being set by the Government at a cost of Rs.123 crore and its OPD is likely to start functioning next year. The Institute of Human Behavior & Allied Sciences is being remodelled at a cost of Rs.57 crore. The work will be completed next year with the increase in its bed capacity from 220 to 500 beds.

64. Sir, keeping in view the growth of population, I propose to increase the allocation for health sector from Rs.523.00 crore in 2004-05 to Rs.606.00 crore in 2005-06, with a growth of 16%.

EDUCATION

65. Computerization of the entire work of Education Department has brought about remarkable improvement in the functioning of the Deptt. Education Deptt. has been rewarded by Deptt. of I.T. and Deptt. of Administrative Reforms, Government of India, for this innovative job.
66. Sir, a number of steps have been taken up to improve the quality of education in Delhi Government schools. These measures have made their contribution in improving our schools results in secondary and senior secondary CBSE examinations. In 1997-98, the secondary school pass percentage of our schools was 32%, which has increased to 51% in 2003-04. Taking into account the pass percentage of compartment exams, the figure has reached 68.12%. At senior secondary level, the pass percentage of our schools students in 1997-98 was only 63.4%. By 2003-04 we have brought it to the level of 78% and if we add compartment pass students, it has reached 87.8%.
67. The Dte. of Education started 11 new schools and upgraded 16 existing schools in the current year. Twenty-two more schools were converted into Sarvodaya Vidyalayas by adding primary sections during the current year.
68. Six new school buildings, 548 SPS class rooms and 268 porta cabins will be added in the current year to provide suitable accommodation to the students in Delhi Government schools.
69. Sir, I am pleased to announce that Computer Education, as an elective subject at Senior Secondary Level, will now be available in all the 971 Government and aided schools as necessary infrastructure is being provided for this purpose.
70. Sir, I am happy to inform that our Government has brought 1.11 lakh out of school children in the age group of 6-14 years, into the fold of educational system under "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan". This has been achieved with the help of 202 NGOs running 3345 Learning Centres in NCT of Delhi. These children studying in Learning Centres are being taught the syllabus that is followed in Government Schools. These under privileged children are being empowered by providing them education and life-skills.

71. The MCD has started 26 new primary schools in the current year and 30 more new primary schools will be started in 2005-06. MCD has completed construction of 827 classrooms and 961 Porta Cabins in the current year and 1200 classrooms will be constructed next year.
72. After construction of new complexes for Delhi College of Engineering at Bawana and NSIT at Dwarka, we propose to make these two Engineering Colleges of Delhi Government, as centres of excellence in the field of engineering education in the country. Delhi College of Engineering is setting up a centre of excellence in the area of optical fibre and communication, jointly funded by Government of India and Delhi Government. This centre will be a major R&D Centre catering to the National Technology Mission Project in Optical Communication.
73. The Delhi college of Engineering is also engaged in designing and development of Bio-Diesel Reactors and Internal Combustion Engines so as to promote the use of bio-diesel by automobiles in the country.
74. A new course in bio-technology has been started with 20 students each in Delhi College of Engineering and NSIT both. We propose to increase the intake capacity of both these Engineering Colleges along with the introduction of new courses at Graduation, Post Graduation and Ph.D levels from the next academic session in 2005-06.
75. The construction of a new engineering college at Geeta Colony, for which a sum of Rs.20.48 crore has been sanctioned, will be started in 2005-06.

ENVIRONMENT

76. Sir, we propose to beautify and develop the embankments of some of the major drains to improve the environment in the city and also to provide space to the citizens for walking, jogging, recreation etc. The programme will be initiated in 2005-06 on pilot basis on two major drains and after assessment of these pilot projects it will be extended to other major drains.

77. As per Forest Survey of India Report – 2001, Delhi has 151 Sq. Km as Forest / Tree cover which is 10.2% of the total geographical area. It includes 111.33 Sq. Km as forest cover and 40 Sq. km as tree cover and it gives me great satisfaction to inform the Hon'ble members that forest cover has increased by 23 sq. km. between 1999 and 2001.
78. The Delhi Pollution Control Committee will set up its own monitoring stations in Delhi for better monitoring of air, noise and water pollution. Adequate financial assistance will be provided to DPCC for strengthening and modernization of its laboratory.

WELFARE PROGRAMMES

79. Sir, our Government is committed for upliftment and welfare of the weaker sections of the society, senior citizens, women, destitutes, disabled and children. We enhanced the Old Age Pension to Rs.350 p.m. in the current year. The number of senior citizens to be benefited under this scheme has also increased from 1.25 lakh to 1.50 lakh.
80. The construction of an Integrated Complex for senior citizens at Tilak Vihar is going to be completed in this financial year and the Complex will be made operational in 2005-06. A new Home for senior citizens has also been constructed at Lampur. We propose to make this new Home for senior citizens operational through an NGO during 2005-06.
81. The new Working Women's Hostel constructed at Vishwas Nagar has started functioning with the involvement of a NGO. Possession of land for construction of new Working Women's Hostels at Vasant Village and Tuglakabad has been taken over and construction of these two hostels will start in the next financial year.

82. Sir, our Government is concerned about street children and women in distress who need immediate care, guidance, shelter and protection. We propose to implement two separate programmes for street children and women in distress with the involvement of NGOs/VOs. For street children we propose to set up centres in different parts of Delhi where food, education, recreation and shelter will be provided to the children. One such centre in each district will be made operational in the next year. Selection of NGOs for the purpose of running these centres and other detailed modalities will be finalized by the Social Welfare Deptt in association with the Education Department. Central Assistance being provided by Government of India for the Street Children Welfare Programme will also be utilized for the purpose.
83. Sir, we propose to set up Short Stay Homes for Women in distress with the help of NGOs/VOs. In this direction expression of interest has been invited from the NGOs/VOs/Institutions willing to participate in this programme. On assessment of the response of NGOs/VOs for managing these Short Stay Homes, detailed modalities including the funding pattern will be worked out by the Social Welfare Deptt. under the Bhagidari programme. We will avail central assistance from Government of India for this programme also.
84. The DSFDC has introduced a Fast Track System for quick disposal of applications under the composite loan scheme for projects costing upto Rs.50,000 for targeted beneficiaries. Now loan applications under this system are being decided within five days. About 2800 beneficiaries will be covered under this scheme in the current year and a target of 3500 is proposed for 2005-06.
85. Mr. Speaker Sir, I am happy to inform this August House that a Welfare Fund under the Delhi Building and other Construction Works (Regulation of employment and conditions of service) Act 1996, has been created. This will benefit about 5 lakh construction workers in organized / unorganized sector in Delhi. The fund will be utilized for payment of pension to the workers after attaining the age of 60 years, advance for purchase or construction of houses, loan for purchase of tools, financial assistance to the dependents in case of death, financial assistance for marriage, maternity benefits and family pension to the surviving spouse.

AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

86. Sir, I announced in my last budget speech in July 2004, the setting up of a farmer's market at Andheria Modh. This Market has been made functional with the inauguration by the Chief Minister on 22nd Feb., 2005. Development Deptt. is making efforts to get allotment of land at Loni Road and Madanpur Khadar from DDA for setting up of two more Kisan Hatts / Markets at these places.
87. Sir, the development of Trans Yamuna Area has speeded up with the setting up of the Trans Yamuna Area Development Board (TYADB). The Hon'ble Members of this House had suggested that for Integrated development of rural areas of Delhi, a Delhi Rural Development Board should be set up on the lines of TYADB. Our Government has constituted a Rural Development Board for Delhi and it has started functioning. This Board has approved a number of Projects/Schemes in the current year. I propose an allocation of Rs.64 Crore for the schemes/Projects to be recommended by Delhi Rural Development Board in 2005-06.

INDUSTRY

88. Mr. Speaker Sir, industrial development is a pre-condition for economic development. An Information Technology Park is being set up by DMRC at Shastri Park at a cost of about Rs.174 crore. Our Government has provided an interest free loan of Rs.20 crore to DMRC for this project. Two blocks of 30,000 sq. mt. each have been constructed during the current year and will be operationalised soon.
89. Sir, I am happy to inform this August House that implementation of two new schemes namely "Self employment scheme for unemployed youths" and "Rajiv Gandhi Swavalamban Rozgar Yojna" have been started in the current year. The Government has decided to increase the scope of the scheme for self-employment for educated unemployed youth so as to also cover the college dropouts in addition to the school dropouts.

90. Sir, under the Rajiv Gandhi Swavalamban Rozgar Yojana, self-employment opportunities are provided to the un-employed youths, artisans, trained professionals and entrepreneurs by promotion of permissible industries, profession and businesses in the NCT of Delhi. This scheme is being implemented through the Delhi Khadi & Village Industries Board. Under this scheme, financial assistance in the shape of term loan upto Rs.2 lakh is provided for the setting up of new units as well as expansion of existing units. The scheme was started with a provision of Rs.125 lakh in 2004-05 and I propose an allocation of Rs.125 lakh in 2005-06.
91. The New Industrial Estate at Bawana has almost been fully developed with the provision of necessary infrastructure. 18360 plots / flats have been allotted to the industrial units. 175 hecets of land for development of a new industrial area at Bhorgad has been acquired. A new industrial estate is also being planned for gems and jewellery sector.

HOUSING

92. Sir, Our government is concerned about the shortage of residential accommodation for our employees resulting in low levels of satisfaction. We have started construction of staff quarters for our employees at Dwarka and Vasant Kunj and are planning to purchase land in different parts of the city for construction of more houses for our employees.

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

93. Sir, our Government has initiated a number of steps on the front of disaster management, a subject which could not be given due attention as yet. The Divisional Commissioner's office has been declared as the Nodal Department for disaster management in Delhi. Three disaster Management centres have been set up at Laxmi Nagar, Nehru Place and Rohini.
94. Efforts are being made to enrol more volunteers for civil defence, whose number at present is about 34,000 in Delhi. We have organized civil defence exercises-cum-demonstrations so as to assess the availability of quick response teams during any disaster or emergency as well as to educate and promote participation of the people in such exercises particularly NCC cadets, teachers and other pro-active citizens.

95. The Delhi Fire Service is being upgraded through purchase of modern equipment, filling up of vacant posts, training, construction of new fire stations with all amenities, etc. We propose to add 30 more Fire Stations during the Tenth Five Year Plan. Land for 26 new sites have already been acquired. Construction work on 18 new Fire Stations is in progress, out of which 2 Fire Stations are likely to be completed during this year.
96. Construction of District Court, Rohini will be completed by March, 2005 and 60 Courts will start functioning in this new District Court Complex during 2005-06. Construction of the District Court at Dwarka is also in progress. Construction of a new District Court Complex at Saket is going to be started shortly.
97. Government of NCT of Delhi has decided to set up 20 Fast Track Courts for expediting the trial of long pending sessions cases such as murder trial, rape cases etc. Government of NCT of Delhi has also decided to establish four Permanent Lok Adalats for hearing of cases related to public utility services such as Transport Service for the carriage of passenger and goods by air, road or water, postal, telegraph and telephone service, supply of power, light and water to the public by any establishment, system of public conservancy or sanitation service in hospitals and dispensaries, insurance service, etc. This will help the citizens of Delhi get timely justice and would also reduce the cost of litigation.
98. Sir, till now the Delhi State Election Commission could not utilize Electronic Voting Machines in conducting the elections for Municipal Corporation of Delhi as the Election Commission of India did not agree to make available their Electronic Voting Machines. Our Government has therefore decided to provide Rs.8 crore to the State Election Commission of Delhi in 2005-06 for purchase of adequate number of Electronic Voting Machines to facilitate the election process of MCD.

99. Sir, MCD is operating Citizens Service Bureau to provide different kinds of services at one location. Presently, 12 such centres are functional and providing services like issue of Birth & Death Certificate, payment of property tax, booking of parks etc. The Government is considering to offer the Citizens Services being provided by various departments of Delhi Government under this project. The services offered by the major public dealing departments such as Dy.Commissioner's Office, Food & Supplies, Transport etc. could be covered under this programme, whereby different forms and other literature such as Citizens Charters, details regarding the services offered by various departments of Delhi Government would be available at the Citizens Service Bureaus. This step is expected to facilitate public convenience by providing a single window service for issue of various kinds of certificates like issue of SC/OBC certificates, Marriage Registration Certificates, Domicile Certificates, Income Certificate and Certified copies of various departments etc.
100. Sir, an amount of Rs.72 crore is allocated to the plan schemes of various departments and local bodies for promotion of E-governance and Computerisation. Information Technology can inject greater transparency, discipline in terms of deadlines, systemic monitoring and security of data. It also makes the citizen-state interface much easier and simpler. Our Government is committed to promote e-governance in view of its manifold advantages in improving productivity, service quality and promoting transparency and accountability.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

101. Sir, Delhi has been successful in its bid to host, the Commonwealth Games in 2010. The Indian Olympic Association and the Ministry of Sports and Youth Welfare will decide and select the venues for the different events. The Games Village is proposed to be set up near Akshardham Mandir by the DDA. We have prepared our preliminary plans for upgrading the civic infrastructure for the proposed games. However, actual schemes/works will be decided after final selection of the venues for different events. The infrastructure to be upgraded by our Departments / Agencies includes roads, fly-over/foot over bridges/subways, arrangements for adequate number of modern and luxury buses, water supply and sewerage, electricity, solid waste disposal, improvement of tourists sites, health care infrastructure, the second phase of Delhi Metro etc.

102. We have kept a provision of Rs.200 crore in the Annual Plan 2005-06 to initiate the preliminary works on selected projects.
103. Sir, ours is a Government of the people, by the people and for the people. All our programmes and schemes have an element of the active involvement and participation of citizens, in both, reflecting the needs and aspirations of the people in designing the schemes and, scrutiny and monitoring of their implementation. The concept of Bhagidari showcases our philosophy of governance, which is our belief that Government must be responsive and participative. In keeping with our philosophy, we have adopted an innovative approach to governance by involving all the stakeholders i.e. Resident Welfare Associations, Rural Groups, Market & Traders Associations, Industrial Associations and NGOs, etc., as the new collective actors and partners in implementing our schemes. This effort of ours in attempting to solve problems together by involving people in various activities of governance has indeed led to a feeling of the collective ownership of the problems and achievements of the city and designing of effective solutions leading to a better acceptability of our programmes and higher satisfaction levels with their implementation.
104. Now, I shall come to the Tax Proposals in Part-B of my speech.