Assam Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma presented the state budget for the financial year 2020-21 on 6th March, 2020 at the state Legislative Assam assembly. The Finance Minister informed that despite sluggish growth across the globe and slowdown of the Indian Economy, the state of Assam achieved an impressive average annual growth rate in respect to GSDP at current prices during the period 2016-17 to 2019-20 (BE) at 12.38%. Even at constant prices, Assam has grown much faster than the national average which is a notable achievement.

**RECEIPTS**

- Revenue Receipt = Rs 91930 crore
- Capital Receipt = Rs 13395 crore
- Total Receipt = Rs 105246 crore

**EXPENDITURE**

- Revenue Expenditure = Rs 82777 crore
- Capital Expenditure = Rs 20985 crore
- Total Expenditure = 103762 crore
**SURPLUS**

Receipts – Expenditure = 105246 crore - 103762 crore = Rs 1484 crore

**General Area v/s Sixth Schedule Area**

- Expenditure on General Areas = 97487 Crore
- Expenditure on Sixth Schedule Area = 6275 Crore
MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

CULTURE & LANGUAGE

Promotion of Assamese Language

- Make the teaching of Assamese as a compulsory subject in all English & other medium schools up to Class X.
- Education Department to bring necessary bill in current session
- Proposed law not applicable for Barak Valley, Bodo inhabited areas and two hill districts administered by the sixth scheduled councils.
- Bring a law so that studying Assamese/ any regional languages in school a mandatory condition for securing a government job.

Initiative for Batadrava Than

- Develop Batadrava Than in Nagaon district as a centre of art, culture, research and spirituality
- Total cost of the project is Rs. 188 crores,
- Rs. 50 Crores is allocated in first phase.

Special Grant for Sivasagar – An Iconic Site of Assam

- Develop Sivasagar as an ‘iconic’ sites. In collaboration with Government of India
Bhasha Gaurav Asoni

- Provide Budgetary allocation of Rs.50 Crore in 2020-21.

Centre of Excellence for Digital Enablement of Assamese Language

- Creation of a world class **open source Operating System in Assamese**.

Celebrating different Traditional/Cultural Festival of Tribal Communities

- Strengthening tribal cultures, traditions and beliefs
- Rs. 50 Crores is earmarked for this purpose

**Banking & Finance**

Incentives for Rural Banks

- Open up bank branches and ATMs in the unbanked areas.
- An amount of Rs. 50 Crore is earmarked for Gap funding for banks to set up necessary infrastructure in the budget for the year 2020-21
Resolution of issues plaguing the Micro-Finance Institutions

- Government proposes to frame detailed guidelines for the operations of the MFIs in the state, to safeguard the interest of people.
- Government propose to constitute a Microenterpreneurs Support Fund with a corpus of Rs. 500 Crores.

Education

Educational Institutions Initiatives

- Start five polytechnics at Morigaon, Udalguri, Tinsukia, Hailakandi and Chirang
- Seven new Government Colleges, Borkhola in Cachar, Deaithor in Karbi Anglong, Kakopather in Tinsukia, Katlicherra in Hailakandi, Lahorighat in Morigaon, Samaguri in Nagaon and Majer Alga in South Salmara.
- New University Sati Sadhoni Rayjik Vishwavidyalaya in Golaghat District.
- Two new Medical Colleges in Sonari and Biswanath Chariali
- One new Ayurvedic College at Dudhnoi, Goalpara
- One new Law College will be established in Kaliabor
- To institute a Bani Kanta Kakoti Chair at Guwahati University.
- Grants of Rs. 10 crore as corpus to Mahapurush Srimanta Shankardeva Viswabidyalaya.
**Infra Structure**

**Chuburi Poka Rasta Asoni**

- Provide Rs. 20 Lakhs per Kilometer gap funding to P&RD department for construction of all-weather sustainable roads in hamlets.
- Government propose to provide Rs. 20 lakhs per kilometre, as gap funding in Budget 2020-21
- Construct 200 Km of roads on a pilot basis
- Rs.40 Crore earmarked for year 2020-21.

**City Infrastructure Development Fund**

- Schemes under CIDF to be continued.
- Overall Commitment of Rs.2300 Crore for 18 Cities across the State.
- Necessary Fund Provision for carrying out required activity

**Uttoron**

- Rs. 300 Crores earmarked for execution of *Signature Projects of Infrastructure development.*
Assam Adarsha Gram Yojan

- Create ‘villages of excellence’ in each of the assembly constituencies.
- Entry point activities to kickstart in right earnest

Announcement regarding making annual patta land transferable

- Initiated steps to bring legal changes to make annual patta land transferable.

Indigenous Muslim Development Corporation

- Create a Development Corporation for Indigenous Muslims of Assam.
- Socio-economic census of these communities on a war footing.

PPP Partnership for Healthcare in Silchar

- Engage quality private health institutions in Barak Valley with specialty branches like Cardiology, Neurology etc, under Public Private Partnership mode, to cater to the medical necessities of patients belonging to Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi districts.
- An amount of Rs. 10 Crore is earmarked in the budget for the year 2020-21.
### Partnerships with reputed private hospitals to provide NICU and PICU services

- Empanel all Private Health Institutions who have the necessary quality standards for Paediatric and Newborn Intensive Care Unit setup,
- To provide quality care to infants and Newborns of BPL as well as low income APL families.
- Private partner to be reimbursed for expenditure made.

### Sanitary Napkin Scheme

- **Free sanitary napkins** to girls in Classes 6 to 12 in government and government-aided schools.
- An amount of Rs. 25 crores is earmarked for this initiative.

### Fighting Drug Menace

- Establish of **five de-addiction centres** through partnerships with reputed NGOs.
- Government to launch awareness drives in schools, colleges, Youth Clubs and amongst street children.

### Shram-Gaurav Asoni

- Improve the health and quality of life of the construction workers with the following salient features:
  - IT enabled registration of workers and mass registration drives.
  - Waiver of registration fees for workers.
• Insurance cover under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana.

• Provide Rs. 3000 to each registered worker (<40 years) and Rs. 5000 to those who are above 40 years on DBT mode for annual medical check-up.

• Provide one time grants of Rs. 5000 per registered workers on DBT mode for purchasing tools.

Mega Awareness Drive against Social Evils

 Assam Science Technology and Environment Council (ASTEC) to launch a mega awareness drive against all social evils in line with progressive, scientific thinking

 An amount of Rs. 10 crores is earmarked for this novel initiative.

TEA SECTOR

Tea Mission

 Provide Orthodox production subsidy of Rs. 7 per kg, to cover 50% of price gap against International Prices

 Provide subsidy on Orthodox machinery to manufacturing units of Orthodox tea commencing operations after 1.4.2020.

 Launch a ‘Tea Mission’ to ensure Assam’s pre-dominance in Global Tea Industry & for long-term financial sustainability of Tea Industry in Assam.
Employees Welfare Measures

- Increase ex-gratia amount of Home Guard personnel by another Rs. 2 lakhs, to be funded by the state.
- Rs. 2.5 lakhs as ex-gratia payment to next kin in case of unfortunate death of Muster Roll, Casual, Fixed Pay, Asha & Anganwadi workers.
- Establish crèche with day care facilities at Assam Secretariat, Directorates and Deputy Commissioners’ offices.
- Develop houses for employees on a Tri-partite agreement basis (Government-Employee—Builders).
- Renovate the Secretariat Training School to make it comparable to the best in the country.
- Promotional examinations for all grades of ministerial staff of Assam to be made online.
- Bajali Sub-division to be upgraded to a full-fledged administrative district.

Ration Increase for Police

- Increase monthly ration support to Rs. 2000 to benefit 50,000 police personnel.

Announcement on Teachers Transfer

- Government will bring in a policy to ensure management and transfer of teachers of Elementary and Secondary Schools.
- A legislation will be brought in the Assembly for this purpose.
Proactive filling of all sanctioned post in all departments

- Finance Department to proactively to proposals regarding filling up of vacancies within 7 working days.

Incentive schemes for frontline workers of Kaziranga, Manas and Orang National Park

- Provide incentives to frontline staff of Kaziranga, Manas and Orang National Park the same scale as National Tiger Conservation Authority.

Additional Honorarium to Mid-Day Meal Workers

- Rs. 500 per month as an additional honorarium to Mid Day Meal worker
- This will cost Rs. 36 Crore to the State Exchequer.

Positions in Civil Services for International Sporting Champions of Assam

- Sports persons who win medals in Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games to be designated as Grade-I officers.
- Ms. Hima Das to be the first recipient to be offered Deputy Superintendent of Police.
Grassroot Olympics for all ages

- Sports-tournaments to be held at Panchayat, Block, District and State levels for all age groups from 10 to 60 years, in Olympic disciplines.

Grants for Registered Youth Clubs

- Provide Grants amounting to Rs. 75,000/- per club, to 2500 Youth clubs in the State.

One-time Financial Assistance to 1000 leading Sport personnel, Artists and Mobile Theatre personalities:

- One-time cash incentive of Rs. 50,000 each to 1000 Sport personnel, 1000 Artists and 1000 Mobile theatre personalities.

Establishment Grant for Gaon Burahs

- One-time Establishment Grant of Rs. 10,000/- per Gaon Burah.
- To undertake refurbishment, upgradation and modernization of office-space.
Revamping Anganwadi Centre

- Electricity to all Anganwadi Centre alongwith Gas Connection.
- Convert existing Anganwadi Centre in Tea Gardens to Creches for young infants.

Tribal Development

Bodo Accord and provision for the community

Government proposes the following measures in Bodoland Territorial Region

- Convert Kokrajhar Music & Fine Arts College into a government college.
- Establishment of Bodo Kachari Welfare Council for focussed development of Bodo villages outside BTAD
- Earmarked a sum of Rs. 250 Crore per annum for three years to match equivalent sum to be provided by the Government of India
- Establish a Directorate of Tribal and Bodo languages.
- Undertake rehabilitation of Bodo ex-militants.

Exclusion of Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council (RHAC) from Assam State Capital Region Development Authority (ASCRDA)

- Exclude Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council (RHAC) areas from the purview of the ASCRDA Act, 2017.
- Guwahati Development Department (GDD) to bring necessary amendments to the legislation.
Recognition and award of grants to tribal communities

- Create an **Autonomous Council for Koch Rajbongshi** community, in the name of ‘**Kamatapur Autonomous Council**’.
- 2 new **Autonomous Councils for Moran and Mattak** communities
- Provide a fund of **Rs. 500 Crore as Special package** for Moran, Mattak, Chutia and Ahom communities.
- Department wise Budget spendings -

- Administrative Reforms and Training Department 73.9 crore
- Agriculture Department 1515.9 crore
- Animal Husbandry & Veterinary 408.6 crore
- Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat 139.1 crore
- Border Protection and Development Department 71.2 crore
- Co-operation Department 130.1 crore
- Cultural Affairs Department 157.5 crore
- Education (Elementary) Department 8795 crore
- Education (Higher) Department 2512.3 crore
- Education (Secondary) Department 5081.3 crore
- Education (Technical) Department 392.7 crore
- Election Department 279.9 crore
- Environment & Forest Department 907.3 crore
- Excise Department 73.4 crore
- Finance Department 17363.4 crore
- Fishery Department 97.1 crore
- Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department 1227.7 crore
- General Administration Department 720 crore
- Governor Secretariat 10.7 crore
Guwahati Development Department 783.3 crore
Handloom, Textile & Sericulture Department 289.4 crore
Health and Family Welfare Department 6127.9 crore
Hill Areas Department 2155.2 crore
Home Department 5233.1 crore
Industries and Commerce Department 219.3 crore
Information & Public Relation Department 93.9 crore
Information & Technology Department 49.4 crore
Irrigation Department 1592.1 crore
Judicial Department 556.8 crore
Labour & Welfare Department 95.8 crore
Legislative Department 17.2 crore
Mines & Minerals Department 23.9 crore
Panchayat & Rural Development Department 5508 crore
Pension & Public Grievances Department 8510.3 crore
Personnel Department 21.6 crore
Political Department 713.2 crore
Power (Electricity) Department 2498.1 crore
Printing & Stationery Department 35.3 crore
Public Health Engineering Department 2681.1 crore
Public Works (Buildings & NH) Department 848 crore
Public Works (Roads) Department 8901.7 crore
Revenue and Disaster Management Department 2757 crore
Science & Technology Department 65.9 crore
Secretariat Administration Department 322.4 crore
Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship Department 158.6 crore
Social Welfare Department 2151.3 crore
Soil Conservation Department 185.7 crore
Sports & Youth Welfare Department 174.4 crore
Tea Tribes Department 99.9 crore
Tourism Department 128.3 crore
Transformation & Development Department 2595.6 crore
Transport Department 540.1 crore
Urban Development Department 1755 crore
Water Resources (Flood Control) 948.8 crore
Welfare of Minorities Development Department 209.4 crore
Welfare of Plain Tribes & Backward Classes Department 4748.4 crore