# 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly Election in West Bengal: 2021 Manifesto of the Left Front

## The Backdrop of the Election

The date for the West Bengal State Assembly elections has been announced. We all are aware that in the last one year or so, the struggle of human civilization against the epidemic is going on. Daily life including various fights and struggles are going on, following all kinds of necessary precautions. In this situation, from March 27 to April 29 elections will be held in eight phases in the state of West Bengal. For the vast population of the state this election is the battle to restore democracy. Battle to end mis-governance and anarchy in the state. For the last ten years the Trinamool Congress party and the its government has unprecedentedly established dictatorial terrorism in the state. Democratic voices have been throttled autocratically. On the one hand, nepotism, corruption, bigotry, syndicate rule have come to reign and on the other hand, attacks have come down on workers, peasants, students, youth and women. Minorities, Scheduled Castes and Indigenous Peoples are similarly affected. In the forthcoming assembly election, the people have to use all their strength for bringing an end to this nefarious *Trinamuli* regime.

- At the centre, Narendra Modi-led RSS-BJP government's agricultural laws, Labor law • reform are all in the interest of the corporate. This government is extremely eager to implement neo-liberal policies. The lives of ordinary people, including workers and peasants, have become miserable. Over 200,000 farmers have committed suicide during this period. Terrible unemployment sweeps the whole country. The purchasing power of the people is abysmal. Poverty is growing. The wealth of big capital is rising at an unimaginable rate. About 15 crore people have lost jobs during the period of pandemic. Poverty, inequality, hunger have all increased. But, during the same period, the assets of the country's largest corporate groups have increased by about Rs. 13 lakh crore. Prices of all consumer goods, including petrol and diesel, are rising sharply. Inequality is increasing in the whole country. Corporate power is being strengthened by government subsidies. Disinvestment and privatization of the public sector continues. Public sector banks have weakened in the drive to safeguard corporate interests. Number of public sector banks has come down due to mergers. Two banks- whose headquarters were in Kolkata have closed down due to merger. People from all walks of life, including workers and farmers, are affected. Democracy and democratic rights are severely curtailed. The right to education has been hit in the name of national education policy. Any criticism against the The BJP and the central government are being synonymous to anti-nationalism. Many people, including intellectuals, have been imprisoned. Democratic movements are being curbed using various monstrous laws including UAPA and NIA. Attacks have been brought upon by administration-police and miscreants for suppressing the spontaneous protests of the farmers against the terrible agricultural law.
- The essence of our constitution is under attack today. BJP government has attacked the secular and pluralistic fabric of the country. Religion has been used as a yardstick for determining citizenship. The rights of the minorities are gradually declining.

- At all levels of Indian society today the poison of communalism is spreading. In all fields including education-art-literature-history a communal approach is being encouraged. Attempt is being made to change the essence of India. Dalits, tribals and other backward sections are also facing harassment and attacks.
- The state's *Trinamool* government is also using communal cards to its advantage. The politics of understanding between Trinamool and BJP is going on in the state. It wants to establish binary politics in this state.
- West Bengal's economy is in a grave crisis. Expenditure has increased uncontrollably compared to income. The state is entangled in a debt trap. There is serious crisis in agriculture. In 2014 and 2017, the Trinamool Congress-led state government introduced anti-people farm laws in the state. Farmer suicides have also occurred during TMC rule in this state.
- Investment and new industries have not increased in the state. The state of employment is miserable. There is corruption in government job examinations. The education and health are in dire straits. Extreme anarchy persists in the field of education, School dropouts have increased.
- The stagnation in the administration is astoudning. Lumpen goondaism, extortion and reckless corruption is the adornment of the present state government. The situation of law and order is very poor. Women's security is horribly compromised. The brutal attacks of the police on the struggle of the democratic movement are continuing. Maidul Islam Midya had to die a martyr's death.
- In order to end this situation, the Trinamool Congress is to be defeated and the BJP also must be resisted in the forthcoming Assembly elections.
- The alternative of left, democratic and secular forces should win. Ensure the victory of *Sanjukta Morcha*, formed on the basis of the unity of the Left and its allies, the Congress and the Indian Secular Front win. Come forward to perform this historic duty in the interest of the whole country and West Bengal.

## **Restoration of Democracy**

Our goal is to restore democracy and the rule of law. Everyone's freedom of opinion • will be protected. The police and the administration will function respecting the tradition of multi-party democracy. All political prisoners will be released. All Political false cases will be withdrawn. Arrangements will be made to ensure return back to home of those evicted from work or residence. Elections at all levels in the state will be fair free. The full democratic rights of the opposition political parties will be protected. The police administration has to function with neutrality. Fearless democratic environment will be protected strongly suppressing anti-social elements. Women's Commission, Lokayukta, State Election Commission, Human Rights Commission and Press Council, Right to Information Commission will work with full authority and rights. The office of the Human Rights Commission in all districts will be made functional with full dignity. Lokpal offices will be set up in all districts. The laws introduced earlier by the BJP government for repressive purposes will not be enforced in the state. Criticism of the state government will not be punished. Maldesigned discriminatory laws like Lav Jihad, forbidding of cow slaughter will not be made effective in West Bengal.

#### Secularism

• The state government will strictly follow the policy of secularism. Equal rights will be ensured in observing all religions. The government will not side with any religion or interfere in the practice of religion. It will take a neutral position on all religions. We will take a firm stand against communalism and extremism. The security of all religious minorities, including Muslims and linguistic minorities, will be ensured. The tradition of harmony in the state will be firmly established.

### Industry

• The main goal of the government is to increase employment. Employment generation will get priority in various sectors like industry, agriculture, cooperatives etc. The main thrust in employment generation through small and medium industry will remain. Efforts will be made to establish industrial enterprises through Cooperative enterprises and panchayat-municipalities. Specific and effective policies will also be formulated to build large scale industries on the basis of holistic and multifaceted policies. In this context the success of Left Front Government will be kept in consideration. Possibilities of knowledge based industries like Information Technology and Agriculture based industries will be established. Improvement of modern transport and market facilities will be made. Land acquisition for industry in extreme cases by building consensus with all stake holders.

### Labour

• The work of the labor department will be expedited. Effective intervention will be made in the case of disputes. Efforts will be made for proper implementation and expansion of protection schemes for unorganized workers. The minimum wage of the workers will be ensured at twenty-one thousand rupees per month. Closed factory workers will be given an allowance of Rs 2,500 per month and they will be provided with cheap rations. Special attention will be given to solve the problems of the workers including opening of Jute mills, tea gardens and other closed industries. Steps will be taken to ensure the wages and social security of public transport workers. The minimum wage for Tea garden workers will be fixed. Trade union rights of working people will be protected. Special efforts to protect the rights of project workers and employees. A separate ministry will be set up for migrant workers. The State Government will enlist the migrant workers and will be on their side while they are working in another state.

#### Agriculture

• Through the Agriculture Act, the central government has ruined agriculture, failed the farmers and has arranged to protect corporate interests. Earlier, the state government like the Centre, also has enacted the APSC Act amending the law to hand over agriculture to private corporate interests. Many of those who got land through land reform have been evicted. Their land Rights must be re-established. Farming must be made profitable. Government initiatives will be taken to bring about diversity in agriculture. Minimum support price will be ensured. Crops like Potato will be brought

under MSP. Minikit, fertilizer, irrigation water will be provided by the government. Incomplete tasks of land reform (one person-one revenue entitlement record) and incomplete work of land allotment and barga record will be completed by overcoming the laxity and legal complexities of land law. In order to increase productivity and production) cultivation of rice by 'SRI' method will be encouraged.

- Irrigation area will be further increased. Initiatives will be taken towards flood prevention and completing the unfinished irrigation projects. The law will be strictly enforced to prevent unscientific exploitation of groundwater. Special initiatives will be taken for conservation and use of surface water. Diversity will be encouraged in crop production. Necessary steps will be taken to attain self-sufficiency in jute and potato production. Profitable prices for the crops produced will be ensured. For the improvement of agricultural intensification and production methods, arrangements will be made for agricultural loans in addition to providing the necessary inputs to agriculture at low cost. Necessary reforms will be made in the marketing laws in parallel with encouraging horticulture (vegetables, fruits and flowers). Application of organic fertilizers will be encouraged. Initiatives will be taken to market seeds, fertilizers, irrigation and crops through cooperative system. To this end, the disbanded cooperatives will be revived. Animal husbandry and other supportive activities will be emphasized. Women For rejuvenating animal husbandry women and competent people will be trained.
- Emphasis will be placed on the collection of forest resources by reviving cooperative 'LAMPS' in tribal areas. Steps will be taken to complete the forest land allotment program for the tribal people. Forest protection committees will be revived to protect the forest.
- Initiatives will be taken to meet the demand for meat, eggs and milk by encouraging hybridization while maintaining the biodiversity of the animal world. Initiatives will be taken to reach treatments to protect livestock.
- The previous success of the state in aquaculture has to be brought back. Government reservoirs, canals, ponds and rivers etc. will again be leased out contractually to fish cooperatives at low cost. Subsidies will be provided for coastal fish farming. Vested, partially vested and reformed privately owned cooperatives with government funds will be encouraged to take up cooperative farming.
- Women's self-help groups will be encouraged to take up cluster farming and cooperative farming. This will strengthen the process of empowerment of women. The use of paddy land for other purposes will be discouraged to ensure food security.

# **Employment generation**

• A vast number of youth remain unemployed in the state. The main goal of the government will be to create employment in services including industry, agriculture and others sectors. All government vacancies Will be filled up. Primary, secondary, higher secondary teacher recruitment examinations will be regularly held. Transparent procedures will be guaranteed, including publishing the list of empanelled candidates. Along with the public sector, emphasis will be laid on transparent recruitment in the private sector too.

• Efforts will be made to create new areas of employment. 100 days' employment program will be extended from rural to urban areas. Work and wages will be increased to 150 days in place of 100 days. Government investment and initiatives in self-employment projects will be increased. A special cell of the state government will be set up to address the GST related issues of small traders. Self-help groups will be turned into production-based employment generating enterprises through active government interventions and management. Commercial licenses for two-wheeled app cabs and deliveries will be issued to take full advantage of the potential of the new field of employment.

### Education

At least 20 percent of the state budget will be allocated for education. Special importance will be given to eradicate illiteracy. Education up to eighth grade will be made free and compulsory for the government. One-time financial aid will be provided to those qualified in Secondary or equivalent examinations based on their family income so that they can continue their education up to the next stage. The government will have control over the fees of private educational institutions. Anti-social raj will be brought to an end in educational institutions. Number of schools and teachers will be increased. At all levels of education, from school to university, democratic management will be restored. The governing bodies, including the Senate and the Syndicate, will be strengthened. The autonomy of educational institutions will be protected. The recruitment policy will be transparent. Privatization, commercialization and communalization in education will be stopped. Towards this, the National Education Policy '20 will not be implemented in the state. Special initiatives will be taken to reduce school dropouts. Excellence in higher education will be gradually promoted. Admission Procedure will be made transparent. Appropriate mechanisms will be established to stop harassment during admission. Social control over private educational institutions will be ensured. Appropriate training will be given to secondary and primary teachers for imparting better quality of education. It is very important to fill the vacancies in all levels of educational institutions. Those who have long passed the qualifying examination but are not getting a placement cannot be made to wait in getting appointment as per the rules. According to the constitution, the recruitment to posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Indigenous Peoples cannot be kept suspended. Madrasa education will be further integrated, modernized and expanded preserving its tradition. Government grants will be given to the approved madrasas. A positive view will be taken about children's learning centers, secondary learning centers, para teachers and project employees. The infrastructure will be further expanded for vocational education, technical and job-oriented education. ITIs will be set up in every block, and nursing schools will be set up in all districts. Appropriate curricula will be introduced for the creation of useful human resources. Elections of student unions will be held in a regular and democratic manner.

#### Health

• The government is fully responsible for public health. Free government treatment will be provided. Emphasis will be placed on preventive measures, not on a riddle called *Swasthyasathi*. Special emphasis will be laid on reducing infant mortality and maternal

mortality. Special emphasis will be given on raising public health awareness. From the primary to state level, health care structure will be freed from defects. Mass movement will be organized to make health care as Fundamental right. Efforts will be made to regulate price of medicine as much as possible. Harassment of government doctors in their workplace

• Will be stopped. There will be social control over private investment in the health sector. Epidemics and disease prevention will be given priority. Mental health will also be given importance. Serious weakness in the state health infrastructure has been exposed in dealing with the Covid situation. Insecurity of health workers, doctors and nurses is a fact. Particular attention will be paid in resolving this situation. In the field of health, the role of various social organizations will be encouraged. Appropriate protection will be provided to all kinds the Health staff.

# Library

• Libraries in the state will be reactivated. Libraries infrastructure will be upgraded with a view to meet the demand of the public including students. All vacancies in government libraries will be filled up on an urgent basis.

# Cooperative

• The co-operative system will be established on a stronger democratic foundation. Cooperative system will be expanded in the field of economy including agriculture and industry. Cooperatives will assist in disbursing Loans (including home loan) in easy instalments and in the sale of daily necessities. The co-operative system has to play a special role in creating employment.

# Panchayat

- The three-tier panchayat system will be revived. The democratic procedure in the panchayat is to be brought back.
- Participation of the rural people, especially the poor will be ensured in the work of the panchayat. The village parliament will be made regular. It will be made compulsory to submit the work and expenditure account of the panchayat to each and every villager. Special initiatives will be taken for revival of the *Gram Sabha*. Panchayat will have to be turned into a village government overcoming the dependence on bureaucracy. The panchayat will be for all villagers and not under the hegemony of a single political party. The initiative of the panchayat will be increased in every sphere of development including communication, health, education, employment, agriculture and roads in rural areas. We have to eradicate nepotism and corruption. Deprivation from political reasons will be eradicated. Emphasis will be laid on improving the rural infrastructure keeping in pace with the changing time.

# **Minority development**

• Appropriate expansion of the program on education and skill development of the minority Muslim community for their socio-economic development is a necessity. Special emphasis will have to be on economic empowerment of this segment of people. Protection of rights and securities of this section will receive special attention. The

security, rights and development of the minorities and other minority people will be given due importance.

# **Backward class**

• Special constitutional rights of the Scheduled Castes, Tribal Peoples and OBCs will be protected. Reservation policy will be strictly followed. In order to achieve socioeconomic development, education and training will be expanded accordingly. Special emphasis will be laid on economic empowerment of the people of this section. Book grant and maintenance allowance will be regularly provided to the students of the scheduled caste and tribal communities. Hostel opportunities for tribal students will be expanded. Appropriate rights will be established for people with physical disabilities. Camps will be organized for measuring their disability and providing certification. The amount and number of allowances will be increased. Arrangements will be made for the education and training of disabled children.

# Women, Children and Senior Citizen

• Initiatives will be taken to protect the security of women irrespective of age. Strict action will be taken against violence against women and children. Measures will be taken to end gender inequality in various social sectors including work and wages. The quality of ICDS programs for the welfare of women and children will be further improved. Special attention will be paid to child development and children's rights issues. Initiatives will be taken to make women's self-help groups more vibrant and action-oriented in order to impart appropriate training. The number of hostels for working women will be increased. Women's economic freedom is our goal. The government will try to crack down on child and women traffickers. Attention will be paid to the protection of homeless women who are victims of domestic and social oppression. The government will take steps to stop domestic violence. Assistance will be provided for the helpless elderly people. The amount of allowance and the number of recipients of assistance for the aged persons will also be increased.

# North Bengal Development

• The development of North Bengal including the hills will receive special importance. The development of infrastructure and industry along with economic development are very important. Protecting their culture along with development will receive special importance.

## Legal System

• To ensure justice for the poor 'Legal Aid' will be strengthened to ensure justice for the poor. The government will continue to use the mother tongue in the courts, especially in the lower courts.

## **Urban development**

• Emphasis will be placed on planned initiatives in urbanization. Efforts will be made to increase the financial and administrative capacity of the municipalities. Government initiatives for housing will be increased for the poor, the lower class and the middle class. Emphasis will be placed on speedy implementation of the proposed work

schedule for the construction of the bridges and roads to improve communication system as well as new planning and initiatives. Overall improvement of public transport system will be emphasised. A permanent commission will be constituted to fix the fare of public transport.

# **Slum development**

• Due to the economic situation of the country and the state, poverty is increasing and so are the number of slums. The slum dwellers in urban areas will not be evicted without arranging alternative accommodation. Those who have been living in slums for twenty (20) years, a 99-year lease will be given for one rupee to guarantee their rights. Legal lease will be given on the land of the central government after obtaining approval. Services need to be improved in slum areas. Joint initiatives will be taken with the government and voluntary organizations to expand health and education opportunities in all slum areas.

# Food

• Special emphasis will be placed on food security. Attempts will be made to make the ration system universal. Initiatives will be taken to provide 35 kg of rice or wheat to each family at the rate of Rs. 2 per kg for the poor. Pulses, sugar, edible oil and essential commodities like oil, kerosene and oil will be supplied regularly from the market at low prices. Death by starvation will be stopped. Pure drinking water will reach everyone.

# Culture

• A well-coordinated policy of culture will be announced to prevent cultural perversions or subculture. The world of culture will be freed from the subjugation to the government. Pluralism will be encouraged in all fields like Literature, Music, Painting, Drama, Movies, folklore etc. Innovation and creativity will be encouraged. Government is basically to provide cultural infrastructure and will be responsible for organizing stage construction, fairs, exhibitions etc. Special importance will be given to the revival of folk culture. The government will extend support to poor folk artists.

## **Sports**

• Participation in sports to be increased manifold. The government will focus on building sports infrastructure in Schools, clubs and others in the state, district, subdivision, block and municipal areas. The government will move forward on the basis of a sound sports policy by involving different concerned agencies.

## Environment

• Every effort will be made to protect the environment and biodiversity. Care must be taken to protect water bodies and wetlands. Along with protecting the forest land, we have to pay attention to its extension. Protection of Ecology will be given priority. Strict measures will be taken to control vehicular pollution. Initiative will be taken to increase public awareness to reduce plastic bags harmful for environment and health. Special emphasis will be given on the use of solar energy and rainwater harvesting in multi-storied buildings in the urban areas. Social forestry will be specially encouraged. Effective measures will be taken against water and air pollution, noise and visual

pollution. Special measures will be taken to control pollution in urban areas. Masses will be engaged in the movement to protect the environment.

#### Science and Technology

• Emphasis will be placed on the spread of scientific practices. Necessary steps will be taken for enhancement of Scientific and technological research. Initiatives will be taken for development of agriculture and irrigation in rural areas and innovation of self-reliant technologies to prevent floods and river erosion. Scientific temper at all levels of society, especially among the younger generation will be developed.

### Electricity

• Planned initiatives will be taken to increase power generation. Along with thermal electricity, solar power, hydropower, wind power and many other unconventional sources of power generation will be accelerated. The expansion of electricity services should be done especially in rural, remote and backward areas. Electricity prices for the poor will be subsidised. Up to 200 units of electricity will be provided at subsidised rate. Electricity will be provided at a relatively low cost for agricultural work in rural areas. Initiatives will be taken to stop abnormal electricity bills.

## Tourism

• A well-coordinated plan will be adopted to attract tourists to the tourist destinations in the state. Special attention will be given to infrastructural development in the tourist destinations keeping in view of the lower- and middle-class people. Opportunities for economic development and employment will be created through the tourism industry.

## **State Administration**

• The state administration needs to be made responsible and sensitive. Unwanted political interference within the administration will be stopped. Quality of government service system must be improved. Necessary policy will be adopted to come out of the serious economic anarchy caused by the present state government. In the case of government jobs, all appointments will be made through the Public Service Commission. The trade union rights of the employees will be protected. In this case also the appointment in college and school education will be through specific commissions. No permanent post will be left vacant. The functioning of the project staff will have to be systematised. Temporary staff will be made permanent in a planned manner. Attempts will be made to make the temporary staff in education permanent. Efforts will be made to resolve the outstanding arrears. Corruption will be eradicated at all levels of administration. Punishment of proven criminals working in the government should be expedited. All types of arrogance and misbehaviour with the people among government employees will be stopped.

### Planning

• The planning board will be made more effective. This will increase the representation of different levels of society. Experts in different fields need to be involved. The

importance of decentralized planning will remain. Coordination between various departments will be ensured. Planning for economic development of backward sections with coordination among them to be encouraged. Initiatives will be stepped up for progress in backward areas like North Bengal, *Jangalmahal*, Sundarbans. Independent functioning of the District Planning Committees and the Calcutta and Metropolitan Planning Committees will be ensured. In the hilly areas of Darjeeling, self-government will be given due status as well as the highest respect to autonomy.

## **Chit Fund**

• Illegal cheat funds in this state must be stopped with all the power of law and administration. Officials of the Chit Fund and their associates who looted money illegally will be punished as quickly as possible. Every effort will be made to return the money deposited by the people to them.

### **Centre-State Relation**

- The struggle against anti-people policies and corruption of the Center will continue. The state government will remain vocal in protesting against the deprivation of constitutional rights of the states. The state will fight for the just demands of the people by involving them. Of the total revenue collected by the Centre, 50 percent will have to be given to the state. No excuses for GST due to the state will be tolerated. There will be struggle to increase debt-to-deposit ratio of state-owned banks. State-owned enterprises located in the state will not be allowed to close or privatize. To prevent erosion of the Ganges and Padma, to prevent erosion of the coastal areas of the Sundarbans and to protect the environment, to increase the navigability of the Calcutta-Haldia port, and for investment in the hilly areas of Darjeeling, the state government will maintain its initiative for central capital investment assistance.
- Citizenship Amendment Act and NRC will not be introduced in the state. Emphasis will be placed in the matter of rehabilitation of the citizens who came after 1971. Demand will be made again for help from the Center in resolving the refugee problem in the state. Additional assistance from the Center will also be sought for the development of slums and the marginalized people.

### **Our Appeal**

- To liberate West Bengal from anarchy and misrule and re-establish democracy in the state, Trinamool Congress must be defeated. The ultimate enemy of the people, the communal and the divisive BJP must be resisted and defeated with all might. The fascist RSS, driving force behind the BJP, is spreading violence and intolerance across the country. The BJP and Trinamool Congress are utterly destroying the social and cultural heritage of the state. Both the Trinamool and the BJP must be defeated in order to protect the heritage of Bengal. Interest of the people of the state will not be served if the Trinamool and the BJP are not defeated.
- The politics of long-standing understanding between the Trinamool and the BJP is rather old. It is for this reason that there is no actual investigation by the CBI, the ED. The BJP government does not have a problem passing anti-people bills in Rajya Sabha

with the help of *Trinamul Congress*. The Trinamool has repeatedly joined hands with the communal and anti-people BJP. It can shake hands again at any time. The events have proven that the Trinamool Congress resorted to communal politics in its need.

• Defeating the Trinamool Congress and the BJP for strengthening democracy, secularism and people's struggle for survival is our main duty in the forthcoming assembly elections in West Bengal. To this end, we want to move forward by uniting all democratic and secular forces. So, the Left Front and its allies, the National Congress and the Indian Secular Front through a unity forged through mutual understanding and dialogue are presenting a viable alternative for the interests of the people in the state. An alternative government will be formed by defeating the Trinamool Congress and the BJP through widest unity and active participation of the people.

## Left Democratic and Secular Front

- 1. The democracy will be restored and the right of all dissidents to express their views will be protected. All political prisoners will be released immediately. The policy of secularism will be strictly followed. There shall be no competitive communalism. Peace, harmony and stability shall prevail.
- 2. There will be recruitment of teachers in government and semi-government educational institutions and filling up of all vacancies in other institutions within a year. All appointments will be as per rules, on the basis of merit.
- 3. Emphasis will be placed on self-reliance of unemployed youth. Self-employment projects will be re-strengthened.
- 4. There will be large scale employment in three main areas of employment agriculture, industry and services.
- 5. Revival of very small scale and medium industries. Easy loan arrangements.
- 6. Reduction of the cost of cultivation, increasing the price of crops produced by farmers. Expansion of Minikit, fertilizer and irrigation water to make agriculture profitable. Revival of cooperatives for buying and selling agricultural products. Not only one-time loan waiver, but also guarantee of one and a half times the price of the crop. Crops will be procured from small, marginal and medium farmers which will required by the government.
- Repeal of APMC Act of the State. Because these acts like the ones made by the centre

Has pushed farmers into danger. The three agricultural laws made by the Central Government will not be implemented in the state.

- 8. Rehabilitation of the evicted poor peasants who got land through land reform.
- 9. REGA will not be for hundred days. It will be for 150 days. It will also be extended to urban areas.
- 10. Democracy in the three-tier panchayat system will be restored and the direct participation of the rural people, especially the poor, in the panchayat system will be ensured.
- 11. The minimum wage will not be 400 per day it will be Rs.700 per day and Rs. 21,000 per month. Separate department for expatriate or migrant workers. Special protection scheme for them. 2,500 per month allowance and cheap rations for workers of closed factories, tea gardens and other closed enterprises. Social security

for all types of unorganized workers to be ensured and extended. Fixed salary structure and social security of temporary workers working in government projects will be ensured.

- 12. Importance on food security and providing universal ration Supply of rice or flour at Rs. 2/- per Kg. for poor up to monthly 35 kg per family Supply of daily necessities from the market at low prices Pure drinking water for all.
- 13. Importance of Small and Medium Enterprises Initiative to build large scale industries Thrust will be on Information technology, biotechnology, and agrobased industries Small and cottage industries, manufacturing industries including steel, automobiles, petrochemicals, electrical, cement, leather and textiles.
- 14. In the public health sector, everything will be free. The government has full responsibility for public health. Priority will be given to the prevention of epidemics and diseases. Control the price of medicines as much as possible.
- 15. Increasing power generation Subsidizing the price of electricity for the poor. Government subsidy on electricity bills up to 200 units.
- 16. At least 20% of budget allocation for education Eradication of illiteracy -
- Democracy in academic institution government in education, Privatization, commercialization and communalization of education will be stopped. There will be transparency in admission process - Appropriate training for teachers- Filling up vacancies in educational institutions by maintaining transparency (Pre-primary, Upper Primary, SLTMT, Work education and Physical education) —Madrasa Education to be streamlined, improved and expanded. Emphasis on Vocational, career oriented education – emphasis on research at the university level - Positive outlook towards all temporary teachers: Regular democratic elections of student unions.
- 17. Every effort will be made to spread healthy culture. Creativity and innovation will be encouraged.
- 18. The government will pay special attention to sports. Along with sports health exercises will be emphasised.
- 19. Equal pay for equal work. Women are not to be persecuted. Special support centers will be set up at block level in rural Bengal, wards or Boroughs in cities to prevent domestic violence. Appropriate arrangements will be made for the third gender (LGBTQIA +).
- 20. RPD Act-16 for persons with physical disabilities and Mental Health Protection Act-18 will be implemented in the interest of persons with physical and mental disabilities. People with disabilities will be brought under education and vocational training will be given. Certificates to be provided to all within one year. The monthly allowance will be two thousand rupees per month in place of present one thousand rupees.
- 21. Revival of the State Finance Commission for the distribution of wealth. Establishment of bank with the initiative of the state government. Decentralization of resources. Special initiative for rehabilitation of sick enterprises.
- 22. Expansion of cooperatives. On-line marketing of cooperative products. Self-help Groups will be encouraged.
- 23. To make the Planning Board more functional. Besides encouraging use of Bengali language in all areas of administration the status of Hindi, Nepali, Urdu and Santali

will be preserved with equal importance. The language, culture and social development of Rajbangshi-Kuruk-Kurmi will get priority. Socio-economic development of North Bengal and *Jangalmahal* and the western region of the State will be a priority. Development of the slums will be a priority too.

- 24. Prevent the daring activities of illegal chit funds Prompt Punishment with the help of chit fund operators and their collaborators. Returning the money deposited by the people.
- 25. The struggle against corruption and anti-people policy of the central government will continue. The State Government shall be vigilant against the appropriation of the constitutional rights of the States Discrminatory ideals of citizenship like CAAs, NRCs and NPA shall not be implemented in the state. 50 per cent of the revenue collected by the Center must be given to the State. The centre should immediately reimburse the due to the State Government on account of GST collected. Demand of assistance from the center to check river erosion, improve port navigability, Efforts to obtain subsidies from the centre for the infusion of capital investment in the hilly areas of Darjeeling and for the rehabilitation of refugees.