



BUDGET 2026-27

BUDGET SPEECH BY
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CHIEF MINISTER SINDH

2026-27

Government of Sindh

The Budget Speech 2026-27

By

Murad Ali Shah

The Chief Minister Sindh

A Budget of Hope,
Development,
and Public Trust

In the name of Allah (SWT)

Mr. Speaker,

It is an honour for me to stand before this esteemed House to present the Tax Free annual budget of Rs. 3,562.058 billion for the financial year 2026-27 for the province of Sindh. I am also deeply grateful to Allah (SWT) for his blessings on us to represent the people of Sindh who have placed their trust in the Pakistan Peoples Party to work for the development of this province, and bring hope in life of present and future generations.

Global, National and Economic Context,

Citizens' Challenges

Mr. Speaker,

Today, I rise before the House with a profound sense of responsibility and reflection that the budget of any province does not operate in isolation: it is predominantly affected by the prevailing national economic environment, global geopolitical developments, and unforeseen natural calamities. The period from 2020 to 2026 has been marked by unprecedented challenges, including the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, devastating floods in the country, especially in Sindh, disruptions in global supply chains, rising inflation, energy crises led by fuel price escalation, and increasing geopolitical tensions across various regions of the world. These events have exerted considerable pressure on public finances, economic growth, and development priorities of the province.

Sir, before going into details of the CFY's performance and next fiscal year's budget, I would like to apprise this August house the economic challenges our country and particularly the province of Sindh has been facing for the last five years or so.

Mr. Speaker,

It goes without saying that Pakistan continues to grapple with the economic consequences of a series of extraordinary national, regional, and global challenges. Over the past few years, our country has endured unprecedented shocks that have tested the resilience of our economy, institutions, and people. Starting from the Covid pandemic that caused contraction of economic growth down to bear 1 to 2% in 2020. The World Bank's economic monitors highlighted that the pandemic severely stalled domestic activity, causing widespread job losses of around 37% with declining income for 12% of labour, while pushing public debt to more than 85% of GDP and food inflation rose to average 8.6%. Sindh took intensive measures to provide health care facilities to affected people and applied all out disaster management efforts to mitigate the economic impact of unemployment, inflation and food insecurity.

Mr. Speaker,

The disaster continued with the 2022 floods which showed Pakistan's and especially Sindh's high vulnerability to climate change despite contributing less than one percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. The catastrophic floods of 2022 inflicted widespread devastation across Pakistan. In Sindh, it caused extensive damage to infrastructure, agriculture, livelihoods, and public assets, which imposed an additional burden of Rs.100.0 billion, (approx:) on the provincial economy and toppled the entire development portfolio. The disaster not only displaced millions of citizens but also imposed a heavy financial burden on the economy, requiring substantial resources for relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction. International assessments estimated economic losses and damages exceeding US\$30 billion, with Sindh bearing the largest share of the devastation. Moreover, One-third of the country came under water, affecting at least 33 million people, and displacing 8 million people. The loss to the GDP was estimated at US\$15.2 billion, and the total needs of rehabilitation at US\$16.3 billion. The sectors that suffered the most damage were housing at US\$5.6 billion; agriculture, food, livestock, and fisheries at US\$3.7 billion; and transport and communications at US\$3.3 billion. The transport and communications sector had the highest reconstruction and recovery needs at US\$5.0 billion, followed by agriculture, food, livestock, and fisheries at US\$4.0 billion, and housing at US\$2.8 billion. The province of Sindh accounted for approximately 50 percent of recovery and reconstruction needs. Sindh carried the maximum burden in the country for both Covid and floods and faced disproportionate devastation in 2022 with 1,000 people dying and around 8,000 injured, significantly affecting the houses, transport, agriculture, irrigation, and communication infrastructure. The post-flood assessment conducted by the district administration, the World Bank, the UNDP, the EU, and others showed that more than 4.4 million acres of agricultural land were destroyed and irrigation and flood protection systems were damaged. About 436,435 livestock worth USD 117.3 million were lost and nearly 60% of the road network was undermined. Moreover, a total of 2.36 million houses were destroyed affecting 12.36 million people, including 650,272 partially and 1.44 million fully damaged, while 2,548 government buildings lost their shape, representing nearly 83% of the total nationwide figure. Sindh alone suffered a huge loss of USD 5.5 billion in the housing sector alone. Resultantly, Sindh had to revise the development portfolio and redirect available resources to relief and rehabilitation activities. In addition to the above, the government of Sindh negotiated USD 1.69 billion financing from the World Bank for five project and secured financing of USD 200 million from Asian Development Bank to support the people of Sindh in the flood affected areas.

Mr. Speaker,

The year 2025 marked a period of heightened regional tensions that posed significant challenges to Pakistan's security, economy, and development agenda. In the face of military aggression and violations of its sovereignty, the armed forces of Pakistan responded through operation Bunyan-ul-Marsoos, demonstrating its resolve to safeguard national integrity and protect its citizens. The operation reflected the nation's unity, resilience, and commitment to peace with dignity. The escalation imposed additional economic pressures and diverted valuable resources towards security and emergency preparedness. The people of Pakistan stood firmly behind their institutions during this testing period. The economic fallout involved airspace closures over Pakistan and parts of Northern India and brief suspension of the Indus Water Treaty and temporary closure of certain trade and port facilities resulting in supply chain bottlenecks. It caused an additional strain on national budget and defense spending.

Mr. Speaker,

These stresses were compounded by geopolitical tensions, tighter global financial conditions, and rising interest rates in international capital markets. The result was a more uncertain, fragmented, and expensive global economic environment-particularly challenging for import-dependent developing country like Pakistan. Pakistan remains vulnerable to fluctuations in oil prices and external economic shocks, which exert pressure on inflation, foreign exchange reserves, and fiscal management. Pakistan imports nearly 80% of its oil, predominantly from Gulf suppliers. The conflict disrupts shipping routes while fuels skyrocketing energy prices, pushing the monthly import bill up significantly. Surging petroleum and freight costs have severely driven up transportation expenses, electricity generation, and industrial production costs. This translates into direct price hikes for households. More importantly, the blockage comes at a time when government has already felt the impact of Covid, the Russia-Ukraine energy crisis, and US tariffs regime. Pakistan is amongst the most structurally vulnerable to this shock. The petroleum products are a major contributor to total imports in the country, and more than 80pc of the oil needs in the economy are met via imports. Resultantly, the government has been forced to implement massive petroleum price adjustments to manage the macroeconomic shock. The domestic effects have come in two waves. The government increased petrol and diesel prices by a considerable margin. However, to keep the line, the federal and provincial governments spent more than Rs100bn on subsidies.

Pakistan acted proactively to resolve this. These efforts reflect Pakistan's longstanding commitment to dialogue over confrontation and diplomacy over conflict. The progress achieved through these initiatives has enhanced Pakistan's standing in the international community and underscored its role as a force for

peace, stability, and cooperation in the region. The people of Sindh can take pride in the Pakistan Peoples Party's contribution, under the visionary leadership of President Asif Ali Zardari, and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari towards encouraging a peaceful resolution of tensions and fostering an environment conducive to mutual understanding, regional security, and global stability.

Mr. Speaker,

Despite these formidable challenges, the people of Pakistan have demonstrated remarkable courage and perseverance. It is our collective responsibility to strengthen the economic foundations of the country through sound governance, prudent financial management and investments in our people. Sindh takes pride on its farmers who rebuilt their livelihoods, our workers sustained economic activity under difficult circumstances, and our institutions continued to deliver essential public services. During this period, the Government of Sindh undertook stabilization measures, engaged with international financial institutions to support the federal government to secure the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) of USD 7 billion from the IMF, adjusted energy pricing and fiscal policies, and sought to rebuild external confidence by getting investment commitments from Gulf countries, China and other trading partners.

At this critical juncture, Pakistan Peoples Party acknowledges that Pakistan seeks to sustain military preparedness amid continuing tensions with India, a deteriorating security situation along the Afghan border and persistent militant violence at home. Therefore, in the larger national interest Pakistan Peoples Party considered the federal government's proposed allocation for defence services in fiscal year 2026-27. The hike reflects the continuing priority being accorded to defence and security in an increasingly challenging regional environment. The proposed increase is aimed at financing procurement of arms, ammunition, military equipment and related acquisitions.

Mr. Speaker,

These measures are often painful, but they reflect the reality that macroeconomic stability along with strong defense is a pre-requisite for durable growth. Guided by this spirit of resilience, Pakistan Peoples Party's government remains committed to national security requirements, restoring economic stability, strengthening fiscal discipline, accelerating development, and protecting the most vulnerable segments of society.

Mr. Speaker,

For Sindh, the lessons are clear. A province with a large urban economy, major ports, industrial activity, and significant agricultural production is highly exposed to global disruptions. We are developing mechanisms to strengthen provincial economic resilience through a broader and more digitized revenue base, improved tax administration and data integration, investment in energy

efficiency, renewable energy, transport, water, and flood resilience, support for export-oriented industry, logistics, technology, and value-added agriculture, targeted social protection for vulnerable households, and transparent public financial management that safeguards development priorities while maintaining fiscal discipline.

The Pakistan People's Party has continuously strived to fulfill the expectations of the people by drawing inspiration from the vision of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto. The enduring trust and unwavering support of the people for the Party, its leadership, and on our performance from 2008 to 2026, have empowered us to transform our vision into reality by promoting high-quality and inclusive growth through the development of provincial resources. We have achieved thumping victory in recent general elections in Gilgit Baltistan which bears ample testimony that people of Pakistan trust our visionary leadership. Let me apprise this August House that the Pakistan Peoples Party has initiated a project in CFY for establishment of Women Technical & Vocational Education & Training Institute at Batkhela, Malakand at a cost of Rs. 999.5 million. Besides this, in Balochistan, Rs. 2 billion has been allocated for the reconstruction of 4,500 flood-affected houses in the districts of Sohbatpur and Jaffarabad (formerly Nasirabad). Insha Allah, all houses will be completed by May 2027, which reflects a broader national spirit of solidarity and people-centered recovery.

Mr. Speaker,

Since Pakistan People's Party assumed office nearly two decades ago, Sindh's economic outlook has been marked by stability, fiscal discipline, sustained development and growth alongside maintaining a strong public investment portfolio. This is the result of conscious choices we have made, even in times of rising uncertainty and global warfare which have resulted in global economic disruption, while inflationary pressure badly affected every segment of the province. Our Government, led by President Asif Ali Zardari and under the dynamic leadership of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, has decisively and consistently chosen action over confusion, reform over rhetoric and people over populism. The Budget I present today has therefore been framed with a clear recognition of these challenges and with an unwavering determination to transform adversity into opportunity.

Progress on Commitments made in FY 2025-26

Mr. Speaker,

Before outlining the priorities and proposals for the next financial year 2026-27, I would like the Honourable members to have a cursory look at the progress achieved in CFY against the commitments we made in last year's speech.

Housing and Shelter for the People

Mr. Speaker,

A secure home is not merely a roof over one's head. It provides dignity, security and hope for a better future. Our government remained committed to expanding access to housing and improving living conditions for low-income and vulnerable households across Sindh.

Following the devastating floods that affected millions of citizens, Sindh continued to implement one of the largest post-disaster housing reconstruction programmes in the world. Through the Sindh People's Housing for Flood Affectees Programme (SPHFAP), housing reconstruction progressed across flood-affected districts, enabling thousands of families to rebuild their lives with dignity and resilience.

Mr. Speaker,

It is a matter of immense pride and satisfaction for our Government that the Sindh People's Housing Project has emerged as a landmark initiative in providing dignified shelter to the flood-affected and underprivileged families of the province. We are pleased to announce that this transformative project reflects our unwavering commitment to the welfare of our people and stands as a testament to our resolve to rebuild lives, restore hope, and ensure that every deserving family has access to a safe and secure home. The Sindh People's Housing Project is not merely a housing scheme; it is a symbol of resilience, compassion, and the Government's dedication to inclusive development. It has now become a global example of resilience, innovation, and people-centered recovery. This recognition has been brought about by the visionary leadership of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, whose commitment has made this possible. Every year, in this budget speech, I present this initiative before this House to present its deepening impact, its expanding reach, and the tangible transformation it continues to bring to the lives of our people.

This project symbolizes the investors & donors' confidence in the Province's ability to effectively implement large-scale initiatives that deliver tangible benefits to the people, therefore, this project has so far attracted foreign financing of USD 1.675 billion as this is one of the fastest implemented post-disaster housing programs, launched in February 2023. As I stand here today in

2026 over 1.6 million houses have been brought into the construction phase with 1.0 million fully completed with 200,000 only in Khairpur, by utilizing 94 % of the available funds. These funds directly strengthened the district's economy, circulating within local markets and communities, showing the powerful ripple effect of direct transfers to beneficiaries, where investment not only supports housing construction but also generates broader economic activity and livelihoods.

Mr. Speaker,

In addition to above, we had the pleasure of hosting the President of the World Bank, Ajay Banga, in Sindh, where he visited a flood-affected village, Bhawal Jhat, in Larkana. He witnessed this transformation firsthand and appreciated it as one of the largest community-led recovery efforts in the world, where families are rebuilding their own homes, incomes are retained within local communities, and the initiative is generating steady employment while revitalizing local markets. Honourable Speaker, when we initiated the construction of houses under this programme, we were asked about WASH and allied infrastructure in the areas where houses are being constructed. At that time, our foremost priority was housing, because in the face of future rains or any natural disaster, people must first have secure shelter and protection.

Under this project we have simultaneously begun work on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) & Settlement Infrastructure Improvement. In the first phase of the WASH initiative, with USD 214 Million funding, around 1,800 villages and 215,000 households will be provided access to essential Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene facilities, ensuring that more than one million people gain access to clean drinking water, improved sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure. Furthermore, in collaboration with UNIDO through the EU-funded PAIDAR Program, the SPHF is implementing Climate Resilient Settlement Development Plans (CRSDPs) for 227 settlements across five districts Thatta, Badin, Sujawal, Tharparkar, and Larkana covering around 22,970 households. This model will be replicated across 40,000 settlements.

In February 2026, the SPHF organized the Asia-Pacific Shelter and Settlements Forum 2026 in Karachi, being the largest gathering in the forum's history since its inception in 2018. More than 100 international delegates from 77 countries, along with over 1,000 national participants, attended the event, representing a diverse cross-section of the global humanitarian and development community. Delegations also visited project sites in Thatta, Jamshoro, and Hyderabad, where they witnessed the scale, transparency, and transformative impact of the initiative on the lives of flood-affected communities. This convergence of global recognition and on-ground delivery not only strengthens Pakistan's development narrative, but also repositions Sindh as a leader in climate-resilient, people-centric reconstruction setting a benchmark for the region and beyond.

Driving Development Through Public-Private Partnerships

Mr. Speaker,

The Government of Sindh continues to lead the country in leveraging Public-Private Partnerships as an innovative instrument for infrastructure development and public service delivery. Through a robust legal and institutional framework, Sindh has established itself as the national leader in attracting private sector participation for projects of strategic importance.

During FY 2025-26, the provincial PPP portfolio expanded to approximately Rs.625 billion, making it one of the largest sub-national PPP programmes in the region. Projects worth approximately Rs.190 billion are currently under construction, while projects exceeding Rs.365 billion are under procurement, transaction advisory and investment solicitation stages. A major milestone during the year was the operationalization of the Shahrah-e-Bhutto Expressway, one of the largest urban transport infrastructure projects in Sindh.

Significant progress has also been achieved on the Marble City Project, a 300-acre industrial estate being developed to promote industrial growth, investment and employment generation. The project has achieved substantial implementation progress at a cost of USD 20 million so far, and is expected to become a catalyst for industrial development in the province.

During the FY 2025–26, Sindh has continued to strengthen its Public-Private Partnership (PPP) program with an allocation of Rs.50 billion, as a key platform for infrastructure development, private investment, and improved public service delivery. We spent Rs. 30 billion to make major achievements during the CFY:

- ✓ 04 major PPP projects have achieved commercial operations.
- ✓ 19 upgraded girls' schools have become fully operational under the EMO model.
- ✓ 500 electric buses project has been advanced through investor solicitation.
- ✓ 256 electric buses progressed under the Yellow Line BRT project structure.

Mr. Speaker,

Sindh's PPP framework has also received international recognition, with four of our projects have been selected for inclusion in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) PPP Forum Compendium 2026. The primary object of UNECE is to promote economic integration, cooperation, and sustainable development among its member States. Besides, the USD115 million worth of PPP projects relating to Carbon Removal through Forestation have received the 'PPP Deal of the Year (South Asia) Award 2026.' The PPP portfolio has continued to expand into emerging sectors through a large-scale

ecosystem restoration initiative covering 88,022 hectares of land. The Nabisar Vajihar Water Works Project strengthened infrastructure supporting 1,650 MW of power generation capacity in Thar.

Moreover, to further strengthen the investment climate, the Government has introduced key reforms relating to Government-to-Government partnerships, international arbitration, and unsolicited proposals, through amending the Sindh PPP Act 2010 and Sindh Public Procurement Rules, 2010, reinforcing investor confidence and supporting future infrastructure investment across Sindh.

Commissioned PPP-Project in FY 2025-26

Now I would like to dilate upon some of the commissioned PPP projects in CFY.

In Shahrah-e-Bhutto Expressway project the first segment of 15 KM from Qayumabad to Quaidabad was completed and opened for public in June 2025. More than 22,000 vehicles per day utilize this segment, while the full operationalization of 39 km for public usage from May 2026 will provide a controlled-access alternate corridor to Shahrah-e-Faisal, improving connectivity with the Karachi–Hyderabad Motorway (M-9).

The Nabisar Vajihar Water Works Project has achieved its commercial operations in October 2025. The project is designed to supply 45 cusecs of water through a 60.7 KM pipeline to IPPs in Thar Block-I, supporting uninterrupted electricity generation capacity of 1,650 MW and strengthening critical infrastructure for Sindh’s energy sector.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has assisted the Government of Sindh in upgrading 54 primary girls’ schools into elementary/middle schools across 12 districts, providing essential facilities such as new school buildings, solar power, clean water sources, furniture, and filtration systems to create a safe and supportive learning environment.

The M9–N5 Link Road project has achieved Commercial Operations in September 2025 for the entire length, and fully toll operations have commenced. The Project aims to develop the existing road into a four-lane carriageway of approximately 22.343 km in length, connecting M-9 and N-5.

In the Ghotki-Kandhkot Bridge project construction activities on the 12.2 KM bank-to-bank bridge over River Indus are expected to complete by June 2027. Upon completion, the bridge will significantly reduce travel distance between Ghotki and Kandhkot. The following projects concession agreements have been signed in FY 2025-26:

In Carbon Removal through Riverine Forestation Project concession agreements for three (3) packages parcels were executed in March-2026. The project will restore riverine forests over ~35,000 hectares located in Matiari and Jamshoro districts.

In NED Technology Park Project the concession agreement has been signed with Enertech Holdings, a subsidiary of Kuwait Investment Authority, in December-2025 to support technology innovation, entrepreneurship, and IT sector growth. The project will establish a 17-storey technology park and has attracted over US\$150 million in investment.

In Karachi Port to Qayumabad Corridor Project the concession agreement has been executed in May 2026, and the concessionaire subsequently commenced pre-construction activities thereafter. The project aims to streamline port commercial traffic by connecting it with Shahrah-e-Bhutto Expressway.

Mr. Speaker,

It's my pleasure to apprise this Honorable House that our PPP projects have gained International Showcasing and Recognition in FY 2025–26:

The Government of Sindh's Riverine Forestation PPP Project, valued at US\$115 million, has received the PPP Deal of the Year (South Asia) award at the Asset Triple A Sustainable Infrastructure Awards 2026. The Asset Triple A Awards are among Asia's most prestigious infrastructure and project finance awards. The award recognized Sindh's pioneering PPP-based approach to riverine forest restoration.

Four PPP projects from Sindh have been selected for inclusion in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, PPP Forum Compendium 2026, which is a globally recognized platform showcasing international best practice PPP projects aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The selected projects included the Carbon Removal Through Riverine Forestation Project, Shahrah-e-Bhutto Expressway Project, Nabisar Vajihar Water Works Project, Teacher Training Institute and Colleges Project, Education Management Organization (EMO) Project.

Delivering Record Development Performance in FY 2025-26

Mr. Speaker,

Despite fiscal constraints, inflationary pressures and global economic uncertainty, the Government of Sindh's commitment towards inclusive development and public investment is unquestionable. We began this year with a development portfolio of Rs. 575 billion, including provincial ADP of Rs. 520 billion and district development plan worth of Rs.55 billion. We provided Rs. 476.2 billion this year for execution of various development schemes in Sindh. This includes Rs. 436.6 billion under provincial ADP and Rs.39.6 billion for the district development which represents an average 83% of the total allocation. Whereas, 85% of the released amount is expected to be utilized by the end of CFY 2025-26. The estimated expenditure on account of overall development portfolio of Sindh Rs. 700.934 billion in CFY is 15% more than last year's expenditure of Rs.611.681 billion, while expenditure towards provincial ADP Rs. 361.367 billion represents striking 16% increase over previous year's expenditure.

In CFY development funds were directed towards several critical sectors, including: Rs. 4.68 billion to Agriculture sector, Rs. 26.75 billion for Education sector, Rs.17.2 billion for Health sector, Rs.7.3 billion for Home and Policing, Rs. 43.7 billion for Irrigation sector, Rs.69.8 billion for Local Government, Rs. 26.9 billion for various matching allocation for foreign funded schemes, Rs. 6.5 billion for Mega Projects for Karachi City, Rs. 8.1 billion for Planning & Development, Rs.21.2 billion for Public Health Engineering and Rural Development, Rs. 16.7 billion for Thar Coal Infrastructure development, Rs. 24.3 billion and Rs. 71.1 billion for development works under the Works & Services. The Budget estimates FY 2026-27 on account of provincial ADP has been estimated at Rs. 385 billion. Whereas, a provision of Rs. 15 billion has been kept for district ADP for next financial year.

Development through Foreign Project Assistance (FPA) and Federal Grants (PSDP)

Foreign Project Assistance constitutes a vital component of Sindh's development portfolio, complementing provincial resources and enabling the implementation of transformative initiatives across key sectors. The Government of Sindh has been able to accelerate investments in infrastructure, health, education, water and sanitation, agriculture, climate resilience, and social protection. Such partnerships continue to play a pivotal role in addressing developmental challenges, improving the quality of life of our citizens, and advancing the province's long-term socio-economic growth agenda. At present Sindh partner with ADB, IFAD, the World Bank, Japan, Korea and Islamic

Development Bank in Agriculture, Education, Energy, Health, Irrigation, Livestock, Local Government, Social Protection, and Transport sectors. The FPA portfolio stands at Rs.366.74 billion with expenditure of Rs. 259.8 billion has been recorded on foreign assisted projects in CFY 2025-26. The budget estimates for the next FY 2026-27 under FPA component have been pitched at Rs.256.1 billion.

Mr. Speaker,

In an environment characterized by growing development needs and fiscal constraints, federal grants provide an important source of development financing that allows the Government of Sindh to sustain investment in strategic projects while maintaining fiscal prudence. Through effective utilization of these grants, the Province is better positioned to achieve its development objectives. In CFY 2025-26 funds Rs. 76.6 billion were allocated for this purpose, while the budget estimates for next financial year stand at Rs. 64.33 billion. In CFY funds Rs. 34.6 billion have been reportedly spent on following important projects:

- ✓ Improvement of Road from Sanghar to National Highway N-5 at point Rohri through Salehpur 221 kilometers
- ✓ Construction of additional carriageway along Mehran highway from Nawabshah to Ranipur 135 Kilometers
- ✓ Rehabilitation of Roads in SITE Industrial Estate Karachi
- ✓ Greater Karachi Water Supply Scheme
- ✓ Improvement of Road from Rohri Guddu Barrage at Mirpur Mathelo
- ✓ Dualization of Tando Allahyar to Tando Adam Road, and
- ✓ Rebuilding of houses in flood affected areas.

Sector Wise Development Highlights FY 2025-26

Mr. Speaker,

During FY 2025-26, Sindh achieved the highest development expenditure in its history, reflecting our determination to continue investing in infrastructure, public services and human development. This achievement demonstrates that fiscal discipline and development are not competing objectives but complementary priorities.

Now, I would like to provide an overview of the sector wise development achievements for the CFY 2025-26:

Public Health Engineering

In the field of Public Health engineering, in current financial year 2025-26, funds of Rs. 21.2 billion were provided against allocated funds of Rs. 27.12 billion, for various development works. Total 150 schemes were completed, while work on 135 schemes is in progress.

Apart from this, PHE has completed a mega project namely, "Water Supply Scheme (Ultra-Filtration Plant) Ratodero" which is yielding benefit to general public. Whereas work on two mega projects of water supply & drainage scheme for Shahdadkot Town is in progress and will be finalized during 2026-27.

For developing a new drainage system, a mega scheme namely "Up-gradation of Drainage System of Larkano City" has been approved and will be implemented during financial year 2026-27. A survey of groundwater quality, quantity and mapping all over Sindh is being executed through PCRWR, a Federal Government entity, in the field of water supply. This scheme will provide information about availability and quality of groundwater across Sindh.

Works and Services

In CFY 2025-26, funds of Rs. 71.1 billion were provided for various schemes under the Works and Services, out of which Rs. 69.937 billion have been expended this year. Besides, funds of Rs. 7.1 billion have been provided under the FPA component for Sindh Flood Emergency Reconstruction Project for Emergency Flood Assistance.

Development under Local Government

In CFY 2025-26, funds Rs. 69.8 billion were provided to carry out development work for 696 ongoing schemes, out of which Rs. 52.2 billion has been utilized this year. Likewise, funds Rs. 16.77 billion has been provided under the FPA component for execution of development scheme of CLICK on which a cumulative expenditure of Rs.24.5 billion has been incurred so far. The project aims to improve urban management, enhance municipal service delivery, and streamline the business environment across the city of Karachi. It finances micro-level development schemes for local councils, including the rehabilitation of public parks, sports stadiums, and road networks. It supports the establishment of the Sindh Business One Stop Shop (S-BOSS). This digitalizes business registration and licensing to cut redtapism and make investing in the province faster and more transparent. Besides, it carries out comprehensive Urban Immovable Property Tax (UIPT) surveys and establishes GIS-based mapping (like anti-encroachment cells) to help the city generate and manage its own resources better.

It further assists local councils, such as the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC), in adopting modern management practices and digital systems. For that

matter the customized version of SAP has been rolled out in Karachi for self-accounting entities. The KMC is now disbursing salary and pension for its 25 TMCs through the digitized system of payroll management of AG Sindh using the IBANs and CNICs data of all the employees.

Strengthening Irrigation System

In CFY funds of Rs. 43.69 billion were provided for further strengthening of the Irrigation System in Sindh. This year thirty eight schemes remained in progress and are likely to be completed by the end of this year 2026 under Water & Drainage Sector for smooth supply of irrigation water to tail-enders and Thar Coal Power Plants. Besides, fifty five schemes of lining of canals are also in progress under Open Canal & Lining Sub Sectors with a cumulative cost of Rs.59.6 billion whereby 634 miles of canals are to be lined under provincially funded ADP. In case of water conservation through lining of canals 146 schemes costing to Rs.91.4 billion stands completed as of now. We have identified 122 potential sites for construction of various types of small dams in Nagarparkar & Kohistan Regions. So far work on 199 Small Dams, Recharge Dams & Delay Action Dams is under progress in Nagarparkar & Kohistan area under ADP / PSDP. These structures would store / retain Rain water from the hill torrents of Karoonjhar & Khirthar Hills and cultivate about 512,360 acres of land and provide water for drinking purpose to people and livestock.

Besides, three very important development works are being financed through World Bank's assistance. Funds of Rs.22.2 billion have been provided this year to complete these schemes. These include Sindh Water and Agriculture Transformation project, and Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project. These projects have been ongoing to rehabilitate the damaged infrastructure during the floods of 2022. Some of its important works include: i) Reconditioning of Road from Gharo Ketu Bunder Road at 48 Km to Village Allah Dino Shoani, ii) rehabilitation of road from Ghulam Nabi Chutto to Village Hadi Bux Chutto, iii) Reconditioning of road from Moro Mithiani road Manahi road, iv) Reconditioning of road from Hyderabad Sheikh Bhirkio road to Village Yaro Rind road, v) reconditioning of road from Tando Adam Tando Allahyar to Umar Sand road. Moreover, the provincial emergency response capabilities have been enhanced under these projects by developing Rescue 1122 Satellite Station and PDMA Warehouse on Highway and M-9. Apart from this, JazzCash has also created 80,000 new wallets (45% for women) and disbursed Rs. 2 billion to flood affectees. This is part of a Rs.15 billion project for local infrastructure restoration, supported by the World Bank.

Health Care Services

The provision of quality healthcare services is particularly important in addressing the needs of vulnerable and underserved populations, ensuring equitable access to medical care across urban and rural areas of the Province.

Through the expansion of hospitals, primary healthcare facilities, emergency services, disease prevention programs, and modern medical infrastructure, the Government of Sindh continues to strengthen the healthcare delivery system and improve health outcomes for its citizens. In CFY 2025-26, funds of Rs. 336.457 billion for current expenditure and Rs.45.377 billion for development expenditure were provided. Let me present before this August House some of the important developments carried out to improve health care services in Sindh in CFY.

National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD)

The National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) continued to strengthen its position as one of the world's largest publicly funded cardiac care systems. During FY 2025-26, the Government of Sindh supported major expansion initiatives to enhance tertiary cardiac care services. The new **NICVD Outpatient Complex**, developed at a cost of **Rs.1.2 billion**, became operational and is currently serving an average of **46,230 patients per month** while conducting approximately **40,500 diagnostic tests every month**. To further strengthen emergency a **100-bed Emergency Block** with an estimated cost of **Rs.600 million** is established. The Institute has also initiated establishment of a dedicated **Clinical Trial Unit**, with an estimated investment of **Rs.250 million**, which will support advanced cardiovascular research and innovation. These investments are further strengthening NICVD's capacity to provide free, high-quality cardiac care to patients from Sindh and across Pakistan.

Sindh Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (SICVD)

The Sindh Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (SICVD) further strengthened its position as one of Pakistan's largest public-sector cardiac healthcare networks during FY 2025-26. Through its province-wide network of 10 cardiac hospitals and 30 Chest Pain Units, SICVD provided free treatment to more than 3.44 million patients with an expenditure of approximately **Rs.13.3 billion**. The network performed 15,927 emergency angioplasties, 12,757 cardiac catheterization procedures, 1,914 open-heart surgeries, and over 1.49 million non-invasive diagnostic procedures, while maintaining a treatment capacity of **736 beds** across Sindh. The Chest Pain Unit network alone treated **432,999 patients**, including 9,610 emergency STEMI heart attack cases, ensuring timely life-saving interventions across urban and remote districts alike. During the year, the SICVD Shaheed Benazirabad Hospital was relocated and expanded from **15 beds to 65 beds**, substantially enhancing treatment capacity. Neuro-stroke intervention services at Sukkur and Tando Muhammad Khan continued to expand, with procedures increasing to 105 cases in 2026, while infrastructure has been developed to support up to 300 interventions annually. The Government further expanded emergency cardiac services through establishment of new Chest Pain Units at Sanghar and Dadu, while the Shahdadt Kot Chest Pain Unit is nearing completion. In addition, Electrophysiology (EP) Laboratories and specialized

cardiac intervention facilities were established at Sukkur, Hyderabad and Tando Muhammad Khan, enabling delivery of advanced cardiac rhythm management and interventional cardiology services closer to citizens. These investments continue to ensure that world-class cardiac and stroke care remains available free of cost throughout Sindh.

Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT)

The Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT) continued its mission of providing world-class healthcare completely free of cost and remained a national centre of excellence in renal care, transplantation, oncology, hepatology and specialized surgery. Serving patients not only from Sindh but from Punjab, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Islamabad Capital Territory, SIUT continues to be one of Pakistan's most respected healthcare institutions and a symbol of equitable access to healthcare.

During FY 2025-26, the Government of Sindh continued to support expansion of SIUT's healthcare network across the province. The 250-bed SIUT Children's Hospital is now approximately 80% operational and has already provided 53,099 OPD consultations, offering pediatric nephrology, urology and cardiology services through its emergency department, dialysis unit, inpatient wards, ICU, Cath Lab and diagnostic facilities. Funds **Rs.1 billion** for the facility during the year, while full operationalization is expected by August 2026. The SIUT also continued expansion of specialized healthcare services in interior Sindh. At Sukkur, fully operational SIUT Medical Centre provided 57,334 OPD consultations, 33,429 emergency consultations, 53,119 dialysis sessions, 27,956 surgical procedures, 12,359 admissions, 1,869 lithotripsy procedures, 33,060 radiology investigations and over 1.44 million laboratory tests during 2025-26. Construction of the Oncology Centre at Sukkur is underway, while planning for Phase-II expansion has been completed to further enhance specialized treatment services, including kidney transplantation, for patients from northern Sindh and adjoining regions of Balochistan and Punjab. In Larkana, construction of a state-of-the-art SIUT Urology Hospital is scheduled to commence by end 2026, introducing advanced robotic surgery and specialized urological treatment facilities in the region. The existing SIUT Day Care Dialysis Centre at Larkana continued to provide essential services, performing 24,065 dialysis sessions, 1,248 radiology investigations and 135,650 laboratory tests during 2025-26. Furthermore, new dialysis and day-care centres are being established to expand access to life-saving renal care services and reduce the burden on patients travelling long distances for treatment. These investments are strengthening SIUT's role as a nationally recognized institution providing free, high-quality and highly specialized healthcare to patients from every corner of Pakistan, irrespective of their financial means.

Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC)

The Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC) continued to strengthen its position as one of Pakistan's largest tertiary care teaching hospitals and referral centre, serving patients not only from Sindh but from 178 cities across Pakistan and 24 countries worldwide. During FY 2025-26, JPMC provided healthcare services to approximately 2.58 million patients, including **617,436 emergency cases**, while recording **63,554 admissions** and performing **38,487 major surgeries**. The institution also remained at the forefront of cancer care, managing 51,711 oncology patients, **conducting** 31,189 radiotherapy sessions, 16,915 chemotherapy sessions, 6,652 oncology surgeries, **and** 3,831 PET-CT scans, making it one of the largest public oncology programmes in the region. Through the successful Public-Private Partnership between the Government of Sindh and the Patients' Aid Foundation (PAF-JPMC), JPMC's bed capacity has increased from 1,100 beds to 2,208 beds. Significant progress was achieved on the 12-storey, 550-bed Medical Tower, which will house specialized medical services, advanced diagnostics, ICUs, HDUs, endoscopy and ERCP facilities, and dedicated cardiac care units including two state-of-the-art catheterization laboratories. Simultaneously, the 7-storey Officers' Ward comprising 60 fully equipped private rooms is nearing completion. Civil works valued at US\$26 million have been funded by PAF-JPMC, while funds Rs.3.85 billion have been provided for medical equipment and utilities **in 2026**. JPMC also continued to expand specialized treatment facilities. The Bilquis Abdul Sattar Edhi Breast Radiation Bay is expected to become operational during 2026 and will further strengthen one of the world's largest free Cyber Knife and Tomo_Therapy programmes. Upon completion, JPMC's radiation oncology infrastructure will have the capacity to treat up to 400 cancer patients daily. In addition, the modernized Occupational Therapy and Artificial Limb Workshop is nearing completion and will enhance rehabilitation services for stroke survivors, persons with disabilities.

Sindh Institute of Child Health and Neonatology (SICHN)

The Sindh Institute of Child Health and Neonatology (SICHN) continued its rapid expansion during FY 2025-26 and has emerged as one of the largest paediatric healthcare networks in Pakistan. The SICHN network has expanded from **790 beds to more than 1,120 beds**, extending specialized maternal, neonatal and healthcare services across **12 districts of Sindh**. During this year, SICHN provided treatment to **more than 1.2 million patients**, supported by a workforce of **2,381 healthcare professionals and support staff**. Critical care capacity was significantly enhanced through an increase in ventilators from **280 to 480** and incubators from **276 to 421**, making SICHN one of the largest critical care networks in the region. A fully operational **Surgical Unit** was established at Children's Hospital Korangi, while specialized surgery services continued at Sukkur and Azam Basti. In addition, state-of-the-art **Neonatal Intensive Care**

Units (NICU) and Intensive Care Units (PICU) were established at Larkana, bringing advanced child healthcare services closer to the people of upper Sindh.

A major milestone was achieved through completion and operationalization of the **125-bed Mother & Child Hospital Jamshoro**, completed in a record period of two years. During FY 2025-26, the Government of Sindh provided **Rs.449.4 million** as operational Grant-in-Aid, enabling the hospital to provide free healthcare services to **51,252 patients** and conduct **30,571 laboratory tests**. The facility is supported by **374 employees** and is providing comprehensive maternal, neonatal and healthcare services to the region. The Government also approved establishment of the **Children's Hospital Mirpurkhas**, with **Rs.742.5 million** allocated as Grant-in-Aid. Procurement of equipment has been completed and renovation works have achieved over **80% progress**, with the facility expected to become operational during the first quarter of FY 2026-27.

Furthermore, SICHN expanded its outreach through new satellite centres at **Shahdadpur, Kamber Shahdadkot, Mirpur Mathelo and Sujawal**. Procurement of equipment, medicines and recruitment of staff have been completed, while the centres at Shahdadpur, Kamber Shahdadkot and Mirpur Mathelo are ready for operationalization.

Gambat Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS), Gambat

The Gambat Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS) continued to serve as Pakistan's leading public-sector transplant and advanced healthcare institution. During CFY, the Institute treated approximately 2.97 million patients, including 2.89 million OPD consultations and 306,944 indoor patients. The Institute successfully performed 174 liver transplants, 16 kidney transplants, 29 bone marrow transplants, 209 cardiac surgeries, 650 neurosurgical procedures, 1,908 PET-CT and Nuclear Medicine procedures, and 8,667 oncology interventions. Patients from Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Islamabad Capital Territory benefited from these services. Progress also continued on the Liver Tower and Cellular Therapy Centre, which will further strengthen Pakistan's capacity in transplant medicine, regenerative therapies and advanced healthcare services.

Emergency Medical Services

The Government of Sindh continued to strengthen emergency healthcare services through SIEHS-1122. During FY 2025-26, 110 new ambulances have been added, increasing the fleet to 545 ambulances. Emergency coverage was expanded through 45 Highway Ambulances, achieving 100% coverage of major highways across Sindh. To improve access in remote areas, a Boat Ambulance Service was launched with 26 boats, of which 12 boat ambulances are already operational in coastal and riverine regions. Ambulance deployment increased

from 39 to 56 locations across the province. The Government also launched 1123 Tele-Tabeeb, a free 24/7 healthcare helpline providing medical, mental health and family counselling services. SIEHS remains the only emergency response organization in Pakistan and South Asia accredited by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED), USA. Building on the successful Sukkur pilot, the Government has approved expansion of the Sindh Air Ambulance Service across the province. The service will initially operate with one fully equipped aircraft based at Karachi and utilize all five operational airports in Sindh, ensuring rapid emergency medical evacuation and access to critical care for remote communities.

Transforming Lives Through Education and Investing in Human Capital

Mr. Speaker,

Education remains the most powerful instrument for social mobility, economic growth and human development. During FY 2025-26, the Government of Sindh continued its unprecedented investment in education to improve access, quality and learning outcomes across the province massive allocation of Rs. 635.085 billion was kept for carrying out development and non-development activities in Sindh. Accordingly, funds Rs. 290 billion have been spent on recurring activities, while funds Rs. 24 billion were spent on development schemes relating to School, College education, STEVTA and Universities and Boards. Likewise, funds Rs.32.5 billion have been spent on development schemes through the Foreign Project Assistance which include Sindh Early Learning Enhancement through classroom transformation, Sindh School rehabilitation project under flood restoration program, and Sind secondary education improvement project. Under the SELECT project we rebuilt and upgraded 45 primary schools into modern campuses in districts like Mirpurkhas, Thatta, and Tando Muhammad Khan. Of these, 41 were elevated from primary to elementary level, and 4 were upgraded to secondary level. We have also launched the SAMRS (Student Attendance Monitoring & Redressal System), a tech-driven app to track and boost student attendance, improve teacher performance, and monitor learning outcomes in real-time. Likewise, we provided Quality Teaching and Learning Materials to educators and specifically targeted early learning, improving reading and comprehension skills for primary-level students (Grades 1 through 5).

A major achievement during the year was the completion of recruitment processes for 74,929 teachers, including Primary School Teachers, Junior Elementary School Teachers, Subject Specialists and Headmasters, significantly strengthening the public education system. Recruitment processes are also underway for additional teachers, including 2,315 Secondary School Teachers, 790 Subject Specialists, 1,188 Early Childhood Teachers and 1,237 Junior Science Teachers, to address remaining staffing gaps.

The Government continued to invest heavily in educational infrastructure and learning environments. During the year, 1,312 new school buildings were completed, while large-scale restoration of flood-affected educational institutions continued across the province.

Early Childhood Education remained a priority area. The Government expanded Early Childhood Care and Education facilities through establishment and strengthening of 1,336 ECCE classrooms, benefiting more than 40,000 children aged 3 to 5 years. During the year, 752 teachers were trained in ECCE methodologies, while 584 newly recruited ECCE teachers were inducted to further improve foundational learning outcomes. Sindh also pioneered ECCE and Foundational Learning Policies, implementation of which The Government also accelerated digital reforms in the education sector. The Student Attendance Monitoring System was launched through a mobile and web-based platform, initially covering 600 schools in 12 districts being expanded province-wide. This system is enabling real-time monitoring of attendance and helping identify students at risk of dropping out. A landmark reform has been implemented through decentralization of school finances. During the year, 34,104 school cost centres were operationalized with an allocation of approximately Rs.18 billion, empowering Headmasters and Principals with greater financial autonomy through the School Specific Budget initiative and improving responsiveness to local school needs.

The Government also strengthened public-private partnerships in education. Through the Sindh Education Foundation, approximately one million children are now receiving education through a network of over 3,000 schools and centres. Under the Adopt-a-School Programme, 202 schools across 17 districts have been adopted, improving governance, infrastructure and educational outcomes.

To promote educational inclusion, the Government rigorously implemented the statutory 10% Free-Ship Policy in private schools. Today, 122,670 students are benefiting from full or partial fee concessions. **This** year we started Award of Scholarship to the Deserving Students of Sindh in Foreign Universities with a budget of Rs.500 million.

Strengthening Law and Order and Public Safety

Mr. Speaker,

Maintaining peace, protecting citizens and strengthening the rule of law remained among the highest priorities of Government during FY 2025-26. Through targeted operations, technology-driven policing and institutional reforms, Sindh has witnessed significant improvements in public safety and law enforcement outcomes.

In CFY funds Rs.7.3 billion were provided for development works to strengthen the law and order and policing network of the Province. It helped in effective policing and intelligence-led operations which resulted in a substantial reduction in crime. In Karachi, vehicular theft and snatching declined by 67%, while violent street robberies decreased by 54%, with the overall crime detection rate improving to 81%.

The Government continued its decisive action against criminal networks operating in the Katcha areas. During FY 2025-26, Rs.872 million was utilized on anti-dacoit operations in Shikarpur, Kashmore and Ghotki. These operations resulted in 141 encounters, 48 dacoits killed, 140 arrested, and 475 surrendering under the Government's surrender policy, while approximately 115,000 acres of Katcha area were cleared from criminal control. Significant progress was also achieved in counter-terrorism. The CTD Fusion Centre has been fully operationalized with an investment of Rs.772 million, while Phase-II is underway. The Centre processed 952 digital evidences, analysed 164 CCTV and video evidences, strengthened intelligence-led investigations and contributed to the neutralization of 210 terrorists and arrest of high-value suspects. As a result of these efforts, Sindh has remained largely free from major terrorist incidents since late 2024 to date.

The Government also introduced major technology-driven traffic management reforms. The AI-based Faceless E-Ticketing System generated over 1.07 million e-tickets and collected Rs.840.7 million in fines. These reforms contributed to a 32% reduction in traffic accidents, 31% reduction in fatalities, and 39% reduction in injuries, compared with the previous year. The Safe City surveillance network exceeded its target with 1,325 smart cameras installed, including facial recognition and automatic number plate recognition systems.

To strengthen policing capacity, 1,487 Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) have been appointed, while recruitment of 2,000 Investigation Officers has been approved for further strengthening investigative capacity. Simultaneously, modernization of police infrastructure continues, with upgradation works underway on 40 model police stations across the province. These reforms reflect our commitment to building a safer, smarter and more responsive law enforcement system capable of meeting the evolving security challenges of Sindh.

Empowering Persons with Disabilities

Mr. Speaker,

The Government of Sindh remains committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided equal opportunities, quality education, rehabilitation services and dignified livelihoods. It is our priority that these citizens become equal and effective participants in growth and development of province, and never feel left out at any stage of life. During FY 2025-26, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPD) significantly expanded its outreach and service delivery network across the province.

The Department currently operates 67 Government Rehabilitation Schools, 10 functional Centres for Autism Rehabilitation and Training Services (C-ARTS) and works with 140 partner organizations across Sindh. During the year, Rs.2.8 billion in Grant-in-Aid was provided to partner institutions supporting persons with disabilities. More than 1,000 teachers from 300 schools were trained under the Inclusive Education Programme, while a target of training 5,000 teachers has been set for the coming year.

Significant progress was achieved in expanding specialized rehabilitation facilities. The C-ARTS centres at Shaheed Benazirabad, Sukkur and Larkana continued to provide educational, vocational and rehabilitation services, while facilities at Tando Muhammad Khan and the Residential C-ARTS Facility at Korangi have been completed and are ready for operationalization. The Sukkur Mega Complex is nearing operationalization, while additional facilities at Mirpurkhas, Karachi Central and DHA Karachi are under development.

To strengthen rehabilitation services, the Department expanded specialized centres across Sindh. The Sindh Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (SIPM&R) Larkana has achieved approximately 90% completion, while a new SIPM&R facility at Sukkur is under development. Rehabilitation centres are also being expanded across Karachi, Badin, Tando Muhammad Khan, Shahdadpur, Jacobabad, Moro, Daur and Mithi to improve access to essential services closer to communities.

The Department also launched several innovative initiatives during the year. 42 Digital Classrooms were established for deaf students, Pakistan's largest vocational training centre for persons with disabilities was established at Korangi, and assistive devices worth approximately Rs.800 million were distributed to beneficiaries across Sindh. The MILAP App, developed in collaboration with Sindh Police, was launched to support vulnerable children and has already helped reunite lost children with their families.

Modernized Transportation Facilities

Mr. Speaker,

We have continued to transform public transport services across Sindh through expansion of the People's Bus Service, introduction of green mobility solutions and deployment of modern transport technologies. During FY 2025-26, the People's Bus Service network expanded to 290 operational buses across Sindh. New routes were launched in Khairpur, Shikarpur, Tando Allahyar and Hyderabad, benefiting approximately 125,000 passengers daily. The system has already served more than 41 million passengers, making the most significant public transport initiatives in the province.

The Pink Bus Service, Pakistan's first women-exclusive public transport service, continued to expand and now operates 28 buses on 5 routes in Karachi. In addition, dedicated Pink Buses on the Green Line corridor are serving around 1,500 women passengers daily, providing safe, affordable and dignified mobility for women. The Government also accelerated its transition towards environmentally sustainable transport. During the year, 34 electric mini-buses became operational, while 5 double-decker buses were introduced on Karachi's road network. The next phase includes induction of 100 additional electric buses, expected to serve over 50,000 passengers daily. Furthermore, under the People's Green Transport Programme, procurement of the first 500 electric buses under a larger 1,000 EV Bus Programme is underway through the Public-Private Partnership framework.

To improve passenger convenience, the Automated Fare Collection System has been successfully implemented on Green Line, Orange Line and People's Bus Service routes, laying the foundation for a unified Intelligent Transport System across Sindh. A provision of funds Rs.1.8 billion has been kept for next year 2025-26 for Procurement of Dollar Parity under “Sindh Intra District Peoples Bus Service Project”. Funds Rs.1.68 billion has been provided this year and kept for next year as well for Fuel Cost Indexation for Sindh Intra District Peoples Bus Service project and funds amounting to Rs.175.00 million for Utilities for Sindh Intra District Peoples Bus Service project as grant-in-Aid in next financial year 2026-25.

Funds amounting to Rs.825 million has been kept for 50-Electrict Buses (rent to own) under “Sindh Intra District Peoples Bus Service Project” along with Rs.1.65 billion for “Supply, Construction, and Operating & Maintenance of 100-Electrict Buses”. Moreover, funds Rs.64.622 million has been provided this year for “Operational Expenses” as required to finalize the Procurement and Operation of Public Transport Buses on a Government-to-Government (G2G) basis through National Energy & Transport Corporation (NETC).

Supporting Farmers and Strengthening Food Security

Mr. Speaker,

Agriculture remains the backbone of Sindh's economy, supporting nearly 70 percent of the rural workforce and contributing significantly to Pakistan's food security. Sindh produces approximately 35-40 percent of the country's rice, 30-35 percent of cotton, 25-30 percent of sugarcane and 12-15 percent of wheat output, making the prosperity of our farmers critical to both provincial and national economic growth. This year funds Rs.4.7 billion were provided for development expenditure under ADP, while Rs. 10.3 billion were provided under the FPA component for SWAT project.

Recognizing the challenges faced by farmers due to rising input costs, climate variability and market pressures, Our Government launched the historic Sindh Wheat Growers Support Programme 2025, one of the largest direct farmer support initiatives in the province's history. Through this programme, 306,709 Benazir Hari Cards were issued and direct financial assistance was provided through the banking system, promoting both transparency and financial inclusion. More than 300,000 farmers were brought into the formal financial system through the Benazir Hari Card platform. Under the programme, subsidized agricultural inputs were provided to farmers. A total of 332,742 growers benefited from DAP subsidy while 314,369 growers received subsidized Urea support. The programme was formally launched with participation of approximately 8,000 farmers and was implemented through extensive field verification conducted jointly by Agriculture and Revenue officials to ensure that benefits reached genuine cultivators. These interventions produced tangible results.

Through the Sindh Water and Agriculture Transformation (SWAT) Project, crop assessment using GIS and remote sensing was undertaken in 23 districts, 60 Climate Business Field Schools were established, and 750 farmers were targeted for climate-smart agriculture training. In addition, digital farm advisory applications and an Agriculture Marketing Information System covering 27 wholesale markets in 22 districts were launched to improve market access and information for growers.

Strategic Food Reserves

Maintaining adequate wheat reserves is of strategic importance for Sindh, not only to ensure food security but also to protect farmers' incomes, stabilize market prices, and strengthen the Government's capacity to respond to emergencies. Wheat remains the staple food crop of the province and contributes significantly to the livelihoods of rural households. In view of rising input costs, climate-related risks, and market uncertainties, maintaining a prudent level of wheat reserves has become an essential component of provincial economic and

social policy. Over the past few years, farmers have faced substantial increases in the cost of production. The cost of key agricultural inputs has increased by more than 50–100 percent in some categories since 2021, significantly raising the per-acre cost of wheat cultivation. Besides, farmers were also provided financial assistance to bear the burden of rising fuel prices in wake of Middle East crisis. Besides this, for the upcoming crop year, we have fixed a wheat procurement target of 1.0 MMT at a support price of Rs. 8,750 per 100 kg bag. Whereas, the government will provide an estimated subsidy of Rs.20 billion in the NFY 2026-27. Let me apprise you that this strategic relief measure has been taken despite the IMF's precondition under the National Fiscal Pact to phase out government's footprints from commodity market operations.

Livestock Development and Rural Prosperity

Mr. Speaker,

Livestock is a vital pillar of Sindh's rural economy, providing livelihoods, food security and income support to millions of households. During FY 2025-26, we undertook extensive measures to improve animal health, strengthen disease control and support livestock-dependent communities across the province. During the year, we ensured vaccination of more than 40.3 million animals against various diseases and launched Sindh's first-ever Union Council-wise Carpet Vaccination Campaign, under which 8.27 million animals were vaccinated. A total of 324 Union Councils were fully covered against Black Quarter, Anthrax and Contagious Caprine Pleuro-Pneumonia, significantly strengthening animal health and protecting rural livelihoods. In addition, veterinary services provided treatment to 3.25 million animals across Sindh. This year funds Rs.1.89 billion were provided to carryout development activities. Moreover, funds Rs.4.2 billion were provided under FPA component under the Sindh Livestock & Aquaculture Development project. The project remained in progress in CFY with the objective to promote climate-smart and competitive small and medium producers in the livestock and aquaculture sectors in Sindh. There are four components to the project, the first component being strengthening the enabling environment for sectoral growth. The second component is the promotion of climate-smart production, value addition, and inclusive access to markets. The third component is the project management, monitoring, and learning. Finally, the fourth component is the contingent emergency response.

Mr. Speaker,

To improve outreach and farmer awareness, technical teams visited 107,926 villages and conducted 85,792 farmer meetings and awareness sessions, helping livestock breeders adopt better animal husbandry and disease prevention practices. The Government also strengthened veterinary research and vaccine production capacity. During the year, the Central Veterinary Diagnostic

Laboratory processed 81,428 specimens, identified 19,300 disease-positive cases, and conducted extensive diagnostic and research activities.

Supporting Fishermen and Coastal Communities

Mr. Speaker,

The Government of Sindh remained committed to protecting the livelihoods of fishermen and strengthening the blue economy, which supports thousands of families living along our coastline and inland water bodies. Recognizing the challenges faced by fishing communities, including safety risks at sea, rising operational costs and climate-related vulnerabilities, targeted interventions were undertaken during FY 2025-26.

To safeguard the livelihoods of fishermen and strengthen maritime safety, the Government initiated the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) project at a cost of Rs.1.2 billion, jointly funded by the Federal Government (Rs.600 million), Government of Sindh (Rs.300 million) and Government of Balochistan (**Rs.300 million**). The project will equip approximately 10,000 fishing vessels with real-time tracking devices. The project is under implementation and is expected to be completed by June 2027, providing a modern safety and monitoring framework for Pakistan's fishing communities.

Strengthening Disaster Preparedness, Emergency Response and Public Safety

Mr. Speaker,

Protecting lives during emergencies, disasters and public health crises remains a fundamental responsibility of government. Through an integrated framework comprising Rescue 1122 Sindh, the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) and the Mobile Diagnostic & Emergency Health Services (MD&EHS), the Government of Sindh continued to strengthen disaster preparedness, emergency response and outreach healthcare services across the province. During FY 2025-26, the Rehabilitation Department implemented programmes with a combined allocation of Rs.4.72 billion, further enhancing the province's resilience and response capacity. Rescue 1122 significantly expanded its operational footprint during the year, extending services to 19 districts and establishing a network of 15 highway emergency response stations. More than 1,700 personnel were trained, including 739 rescuers, while 221 new rescuers completed training during the year. Between July 2025 and May 2026, Rescue 1122 responded to over 320,798 emergencies, including 317,760 medical emergencies, 1,711 fire incidents and hundreds of rescue operations, providing critical assistance to citizens across Sindh. The Provincial Disaster Management Authority continued to strengthen disaster preparedness and risk reduction mechanisms through establishment of district-level disaster management units, strengthening of the 24/7 Provincial Emergency Operations Centre, development

of GIS-based hazard mapping systems and introduction of digital relief monitoring mechanisms. New regional facilities at Mirpurkhas, Larkana and

Shaheed Benazirabad will further enhance emergency coordination and response capabilities throughout the province.

At the same time, the Mobile Diagnostic & Emergency Health Services expanded healthcare access to remote and underserved communities. During the year, MD&EHS served more than 488,000 patients across 18 districts, while during flood and rain emergencies alone, medical teams treated 65,289 patients and conducted over 20,000 diagnostic tests in affected areas. These services have become a vital component of Sindh's disaster response architecture, ensuring that healthcare reaches vulnerable populations when they need it most.

Compensation to Gul Plaza Incident Affectees

Mr. Speaker,

The tragic incident at Gul Plaza, Karachi, has caused immense grief and sorrow. We express our heartfelt condolences to the families who have suffered losses and pray for the speedy recovery of those injured. This unfortunate event serves as a stark reminder of the vulnerabilities faced by citizens and businesses in densely populated commercial areas.

The Government of Sindh stands in solidarity with the affected families, shopkeepers, and workers during this difficult time. We are committed to ensuring that all necessary relief and rehabilitation measures are undertaken on an urgent basis. The concerned departments have been directed to assess the extent of damages and prepare a comprehensive plan for compensating the affectees in a fair and transparent manner.

During FY 2025-26, the Government extended a special support package for the rehabilitation and restoration of Gul Plaza, one of Karachi's historic commercial centres. The government has provided Rs.850 million to the families of 85 missing persons through Commissioner Karachi. Besides this, Rs.7.0 billion has been provided as compensation to the Traders / shopkeepers of Gul Plaza based on the assessment by Chamber of Commerce Karachi, through Commissioner Karachi. Another, Rs.600 million at Rs. 500,000/-, has been provided as Financial Assistance to each shopkeeper / family of Gul Plaza, through Commissioner Karachi. And Rs.100 Million has been provided as Standard Rent Compensation for all vacated Building Residents (Lyari), through Commissioner Karachi.

Strengthening Industry and Creating Jobs

Mr. Speaker,

Industry remains a key driver of economic growth, exports and employment in Sindh. As Pakistan's industrial hub, our province hosts thousands of manufacturing units that contribute significantly to national production, trade and revenue generation. The package is aimed at addressing long-standing infrastructure deficiencies and improving the competitiveness of industries operating in the area. Government of Sindh is also providing Grant-in-aid of Rs.400 million to Sindh Small Industries Corporation in order to promote small industries in Sindh for that purpose, funds has been earmarked for next 2026-27. A provision of funds Rs.1.4 billion have been provided for the development and promotion of SMEs & Cottage Industries in both rural and urban areas in CFY.

Strengthening Local Government Service Delivery

Mr. Speaker,

Effective local government institutions are essential for delivering basic municipal services and improving the quality of life of citizens Recognizing the importance of Karachi Metropolitan Corporation as the principal municipal institution serving the country's largest city, the Government provided approximately Rs.13 billion in financial support to strengthen municipal services and infrastructure development. Towards financial empowerment, Sindh has already empowered the Local Councils by transferring the collection and utilization Property Tax to Local Councils in Sindh. More than Rs. 2.0 billion are being collected annually which will be utilized for the uplift of the Councils.

In CFY funds Rs. 156.2 billion have been provided as a grant to Local Councils along with the recurring annual OZT grant to them against the allocation of Rs.165 billion. Besides, Rs. 200 million has been provided to KMC for Cleaning of Storm Waer drains and Nallah in Karachi. Then Rs. 1.5 billion has been provided to KMC for M&R across the entire Karachi. Likewise, Rs. 100 million has been provided to KMC for preparation of 35th of National Games. Rs. 300 million has been provided to KMC for pre-monsoon cleaning of storm water in Karachi Division. In an effort to preserve Karachi's rich architectural heritage and historic identity, we have restored the Empress Market to mark the revival of Karachi's cultural soul. On the other hand, funds of Rs. 206.8 million has been provided to Local Govt. Board for clearing pension liabilities of its employees

and Rs. 700 million has been provided to district council Ghotki for development activities.

Building a Digital Sindh Through PITP-II

Mr. Speaker,

The future belongs to those who can harness the power of technology, innovation and digital skills. Recognizing this reality, my Government launched the People's Information Technology Programme-II (PITP-II) as a flagship initiative to equip our youth with market-driven digital skills and prepare them for the opportunities of the modern economy. Implemented through NED University, Mehran University and Sukkur IBA University, the programme aimed to bridge the digital skills gap and create a new generation of job-ready professionals capable of contributing to Sindh's vision of a Digital Sindh.

I am pleased to inform this House that PITP-II has successfully concluded and exceeded all of its targets. Against a target of 35,000 trainees, the programme successfully trained 36,116 young men and women, surpassing the target by more than 1,100 participants. It will strengthen Sindh's technology ecosystem, expanded economic opportunities for young people. Training was delivered across all divisions of Sindh, including underserved districts such as Tharparkar, ensuring that the benefits of the digital economy reach every corner of the province. The programme offered internationally relevant training in 12 high-demand technology fields, including Artificial Intelligence foundations, Data Science, Cyber Security, Cloud Computing, Mobile App Development, Web Development, Digital Marketing, E-Commerce, Graphic Design and Software Development. The Government invested approximately Rs.1.4 billion in this transformative initiative, including Rs.1.225 billion for training and Rs.175 million for provision of 1,750 Google Chromebooks awarded to the top-performing students. On top of that, funds Rs.1.57 billion has been provided for purchase of Heritage Building namely "Habib Insurance Co." Wood Street, I.I. Chundrigurh Road Karachi for opening of Information Technology Tower.

Fiscal Prudence, Austerity and Budget Philosophy

Mr. Speaker,

Continuity of reforms has been a hallmark of our government to support employment generation, enhancing agricultural productivity, environmental improvement and universal services to people. These measures have helped us make substantial strides in poverty reduction and improvement in the lives of our people. Simultaneously, we have ensured that dividends of growth reach every citizen without discrimination.

Sir, as you are aware, despite facing natural disasters and geo-political challenges, Sindh has managed its limited resources with prudence and responsibility to fulfill its federal and international commitments while continuing to prioritize infrastructural development and the uplift of under-privileged and under-served segments of the province. As a result, the people of Sindh have benefited from improved healthcare facilities, a better educational environment, enhanced infrastructure in transportation, drainage, irrigation, agriculture, water supply, social security measures and merit-based employment opportunities.

Mr. Speaker,

Unfortunately, we again face global political and economic environment in which trade and global finances are restricted and access to resources and supply chain are disrupted, triggered by global supply restrictions and rising oil prices from the Middle East conflict. The higher oil prices have worsened inflation, weaken rupee-dollar parity and strained IMF-linked reforms.

Sir,

Here, I must highlight that our government implemented strict austerity measures, relief programs, and strategic energy regulations to protect the economy, manage consumption and to mitigate the inflationary pressure on general public. Key actions taken by the Sindh Government include:

- ✓ Reducing the fuel consumption allowance for official vehicles by 50% and grounded a large portion of the government fleet to conserve oil reserves;
- ✓ Provided public relief, and the provincial government approved Rs 2,000/- monthly fuel subsidy for motorcyclists and froze public transport fares to protect daily commuters. For this purpose, funds Rs. 4.0 billion has been provided under Peoples Fuel Subsidy Program in CFY to support 786,000 motorcycle owners in two equal instalments. Likewise, Rs. 3.0 billion has been provided under Sindh Growers' Support Program as financial support for strengthening agriculture resilience in Sindh during fuel price escalation. While, Rs. 2.08 billion has been provided on account of fuel cost indexation for operations under Sindh Intra District Peoples Bus Services. Side by side, we are committed to adopt and promote an environmentally friendly lifestyle. We have introduced the concept of green transport by launching electric buses in the first phase. Another hundred buses will be added in next FY to the public transport system.
- ✓ These targeted subsidies are in addition to a subsidy of Rs. 69 billion provided to smoothly undertake commodity operations and extend a support price to encourage farmers towards wheat cultivation and maintaining strategic reserves for the province in CFY, thereby, we have transformed our role from a regulator to facilitator by reducing the footprints from commodity market operations.

- ✓ The government previously mandated early business closures (9 PM) to save energy. However, to facilitate economic growth and commerce, the Sindh Government officially lifted these fixed-closing time restrictions for shops, malls, and restaurants. Besides, localized "smart lockdowns" have been implemented as an emergency contingency plan to limit civilian movement and heavily restrict public gatherings in case of fuel shortages reach critical thresholds.

Mr. Speaker,

Sindh is fully cognizant of its role and responsibilities towards achieving the national targets and meeting international commitments. Sindh is committed to provide its share under the Pakistan's Energy Relief Plan-Contribution to Prime Minister's Austerity Fund, 2026. So far we have provided amount of Rs. 807.245 million as demanded by the Federal Government in respect of the fourth intervention relating to subsidy for intercity public and freight transport and we will continue to support the drive till the country rebounds on economic front. Besides, under the IMF program 2025, Sindh is required to maintain end-year cash balance of Rs.290 billion in CFY. Sindh has implemented new Agriculture Income Tax regime along with other provinces, adopted the Negative List regime for Sales Tax on Services, switched to Capital Valuation of properties in Sindh replacing the Rental valuation, and adopted e-procurement through integrated E-PADs system, digitizing various levies under E-Pay Sindh and other related reforms. In parallel, all government payments G2P including salaries, pension and vendor payment and P2G involving all payments by public have been switched to the RAAST/ Micro Payment Gateway (MPG) mechanism of State Bank of Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker,

This Assembly is approaching the end of current financial year 2025-26. At this critical juncture, I owe gratitude to the provincial cabinet and this August House for the support and guidance extended for taking critical decisions and for effective implementation of austerity measures in face of fuel price escalation worldwide, including energy conservation and reduced working hours, and public policies that facilitated the general public to brave such testing times of political, social, and economic uncertainty.

Mr. Speaker,

Developing a sustainable and resilient resource envelope has remained at the heart of our strategy to finance the projected expenditures of both the current and forthcoming financial years while preserving fiscal discipline and sustaining the pace of development. During the current financial year, the Government undertook wide-ranging reforms aimed at strengthening resource mobilization through improved tax administration, expansion of the revenue base, and

streamlining of collection systems. Special emphasis was laid on digitization initiatives in key revenue-generating sectors, particularly stamp duty and Sindh Sales Tax on Services, to enhance transparency, minimize human intervention, and improve collection efficiency. Modern digital platforms, e-payment systems, automated monitoring mechanisms, and integrated databases have been introduced to enable real-time data sharing and greater inter-departmental coordination. These transformative measures have not only strengthened operational efficiency and accountability but have also laid the foundation for evidence-based fiscal planning and more accurate revenue forecasting. As a result of these concerted efforts, the Government has succeeded in collecting Rs. 532.3 billion in tax revenues in 11 months and is expected to achieve Rs. 625 billion during CFY 2025–26 against Rs. 505.9 billion collected last year, reflecting a year-on-year growth of 6% percent. Non-tax revenues have also registered remarkable improvement, which is projected to reach Rs. 86.5 billion compared to last year’s collection of Rs.40.3 billion, showing an increase of 50 percent. The Sindh Revenue Board has recorded an impressive growth of 22 percent by collecting Rs. 300 billion during the 11 months of current financial year. It is expected to increase to 360 billion by the end of CFY. Therefore, BE 2026-27 for Sindh Sales Tax is Rs. 450 billion, while for Board of Revenue and Excise components next year’s estimates stand at Rs. 234.060 billion.

Similarly, stamp duty collections are estimated to rise to Rs.32 billion, alongside settlement recoveries amounting to Rs. 25 billion under the Infrastructure Cess Amendment Act, 2026. Despite the challenges posed by a stagnant economy, our focused and reform-driven approach has enabled us to project a substantial increase in provincial revenues, expected to reach Rs. 1.2 trillion over the next five years. Accordingly, we have set an ambitious tax revenue target of Rs. 775.060 billion for FY 2026–27, including Rs. 450 billion from Sindh Sales Tax on Services, and Rs. 240.06 billion under Excise and Taxation levies, and the Board of Revenue, Agriculture Income Tax and others. At the same time, budget estimates for non-tax revenues for FY 2026–27 are projected at Rs. 85 billion.

Sir, although Sindh continues to rely significantly on Federal transfers for managing its financial obligations and development commitments. However, Sindh faces an estimated shortfall of 15% in Federal receipts, as our federal receipts stand at Rs. 1.644 trillion as of May 2026 against the BE 2025-26 of Rs. 2.095 trillion. Despite this, our sustained efforts toward broadening the provincial revenue base and improving fiscal management are gradually strengthening the Province’s financial capacity. These enhanced resources will provide the Government with greater fiscal space to ensure equitable delivery of public services across all segments of society. With these reflections, I now present before this August House a brief account of the performance and achievements of the Government of Sindh during the current financial year 2025–26.

Mr. Speaker,

The Budget for FY 2026-27 has been prepared on the principle that fiscal responsibility and development must go hand in hand. Economic uncertainty, inflationary pressures and external risks require governments to exercise caution and discipline. At the same time, reducing investment in people and infrastructure is not an option for a developing province such as Sindh, yet we have to create a balance between relief and global diktats. We understand security spending needs rising, yet public service has to be our 'Top Priority' to achieve this end we have adopted a balanced approach that protects essential public services, supports economic activity and maintains fiscal sustainability.

Salient Features of Budget Estimates 2026-27

Now, I would like to present before this August House, the Budget Estimates for the next financial year 2025-26, along with salient features of the planned expenditure.

Mr. Speaker,

The Budget Outlay for the next financial year 2026-27 is **Rs. 3,562.058 billion**. This represents an increase of 4% in the overall against last year's budget.

Expenditure Side

In case of Current Revenue Expenditure (CRE), the BE 2026-27 has been pitched at Rs. 2.56 trillion with 20% increase over last year's estimates.

The Current Capital Expenditure has been maintained for next year with estimates stand at Rs.281.673 billion. This includes provision of Rs. 101 billion to finance PPP-led project through Viability Gap Fund (VGF), Rs. 50 billion earmarked for each Sindh Pension Fund and General Provident Fund, respectively.

The Budget Estimates 2026-27 for the development expenditure has been proposed to be Rs.720.385 billion, recording a sharp decline of 30% over the last year's development portfolio of Rs.1,018.326 billion. The decrease will be absorbed by all development components. Budget Estimates for next financial year 2026-27 for Provincial ADP has been decreased to Rs.385 billion against last year's budget of Rs. 520 billion. Likewise, next year's budget estimates for district ADP have been proposed to be Rs.15 billion. However, budget estimates for FY 2026-27 for FPA component stands at Rs. 256.055 billion and Rs. 64.33 billion has been proposed for the Federal PSDP for the next year's budget.

Mr. Speaker,

Here I would like to reiterate the Principled Stance of the Province as well as the Pakistan Peoples Party that we remain fully committed to accelerating development and improving public service delivery, the development outlay

proposed for the forthcoming financial year reflects the realities of a challenging economic environment. The nation continues to face significant fiscal pressures arising from subdued economic growth, constrained public revenues, and increased demands on limited financial resources. The prevailing regional security situation has necessitated higher national expenditures on defence and strategic preparedness, thereby reducing the fiscal space available for development spending across all tiers of government. At the same time, volatility in global energy markets and recurrent fuel crises have increased the cost of government operations, infrastructure projects, transportation, and service delivery, placing additional strain on public finances.

Furthermore, the fiscal consolidation measures and expenditure controls required under ongoing arrangements with international financial institutions have imposed limitations on public sector spending. These conditionalities, while aimed at ensuring macroeconomic stability and long-term economic sustainability, have constrained the scope for expanding development expenditures in the short term. In view of these circumstances, the Government has adopted a prudent and responsible fiscal approach by prioritizing ongoing projects, safeguarding essential public services, and focusing available resources on high-impact interventions. Despite a comparatively lower development allocation, efforts will continue to ensure that every rupee spent delivers maximum value, promotes inclusive growth, and contributes to the welfare and prosperity of the people of Sindh.

Mr. Speaker,

Now I would like to present the salient features of Budget Estimates 2026-27.

Budget Estimates 2026-27 in relation to Current Revenue Expenditure (CRE) some of the important sectors are as under:

- ✓ Funds Rs.216.537 billion have been proposed for the Law & Order, Jails and Policing in province;
- ✓ Funds Rs.27.565 billion have been proposed for Law and Parliamentary Affairs;
- ✓ Funds Rs.38.22 billion have been proposed for Agriculture sector;
- ✓ Funds Rs. 11.6 billion have been proposed for Livestock & Fishries sector;
- ✓ Funds Rs.41.1 billion have been proposed for Irrigation sector;
- ✓ Funds Rs. 66.48 billion have been proposed for Energy sector;
- ✓ Funds Rs.18.291 billion have been proposed for Works and Services;

- ✓ Funds Rs.201.39 billion have been proposed for Local Government Services;
- ✓ Funds Rs. 8.18 billion have been proposed for Public Health Engineering activities;
- ✓ Funds Rs. 354.271 billion have been proposed for Health Services;
- ✓ Funds Rs. 10.856 billion have been proposed for Information & Publicity;
- ✓ Funds Rs. 446.958 billion have been proposed for School Education Services including Primary, Middle, Secondary, H: Secondary, Rs. 41.414 billion for Colleges, Rs.9.417 billion for Universities & Boards;
- ✓ Funds Rs. 133.54 billion have been kept for Subsidies for next FY2026-27, and;
- ✓ A provision of funds Rs. 54.25 billion have been proposed for Debt Servicing and Interest Repayment

Highlights of FY 2025-26 and Salient Features FY 2026-27 Development Portfolio

The Provincial Annual Development Programme (ADP) for 2025–26 was initially approved at Rs. 520.00 billion. Due to adjustments in federal funding amid regional conflict, revised estimates have been set at Rs. 433.451 billion. Priority was given to schemes nearing completion, key social sector interventions, and projects focused on rehabilitating flood-damaged infrastructure across the province.

In the current financial year, 1,066 schemes across various departments under ADP 2025–26 have been completed. Of the 473 new schemes introduced, approved projects will continue as ongoing schemes in ADP 2026–27. During FY 2025–26, the total development outlay stood at Rs. 1,018.326 billion, comprising Rs. 520.00 billion for the Provincial ADP, Rs. 55.00 billion for the District ADP, Rs. 366.745 billion from Foreign Project Assistance (FPA), and Rs.

76.582 billion as Federal PSDP grants for Government of Sindh (GoS)-executed schemes.

The development budget was allocated to align with Government priorities and achieve targeted socio-economic outcomes. While 480 new schemes were added to ADP 2025–26, the main focus remained on completing existing projects, especially after the 2022 floods. Resources were directed toward rehabilitating community infrastructure such as roads, education and health facilities, housing,

water supply and sanitation, agriculture, livestock, and irrigation networks damaged by recurring floods.

Revised Estimates for FY 2025–26

This year, ADP implementation was slowed by limited fund utilisation due to resource constraints and operational challenges. With 1,381 schemes fully funded and nearing completion, the total development budget for FY 2025–26 has been revised from Rs. 1,018.326 billion to Rs. 980.442 billion. The revised budget includes:

- Rs. 475.035 billion for the Provincial ADP
- Rs. 44.00 billion for the District ADP
- Rs. 384.825 billion for Foreign Project Assistance (FPA)
- Rs. 76.582 billion against Federal PSDP Grants

Foreign-Funded Projects

During FY 2025–26, two (02) development projects were initiated with assistance from development partners, at a total estimated cost of Rs. 127.98 billion (FPA share: Rs. 113.45 billion; GoS share: Rs. 14.53 billion). Both projects have been formally approved and are currently under implementation. At present, twenty-seven (27) foreign-funded projects with a cumulative value of Rs. 1,942.76 billion (FPA share: Rs. 1,717.37 billion; GoS share: Rs. 225.39 billion) are under active implementation in Sindh. Additionally, four (04) projects amounting to US\$ 715 million are in the pipeline at various stages of approval.

Government Development Priorities for FY 2025–26

The Government's development strategy for FY 2025–26 was anchored around the following priority areas:

- Rehabilitation and upgrading of health facilities, including expansion of tertiary hospitals, trauma centres, and maternal and child health services across Sindh's districts.
- Climate-resilient agriculture and enhanced agricultural productivity through quality inputs, value chain development, and private sector partnerships.
- Rehabilitation of flood-damaged irrigation and drainage infrastructure to restore water conservation and flood protection capacity.
- Provision of clean drinking water and safe sanitation across rural and urban areas.
- Improvement of road connectivity between major cities, towns, and rural communities across the province.

- Green energy initiatives, including the Sindh Solar Energy Project (SSEP) with Rs. 25 billion allocated under the Special Initiative for Renewable Energy, and distribution of solar home systems.
- Mass transit and urban infrastructure development for Karachi, including BRT Red Line and Yellow Line, Safe City Phase-I, Korangi Causeway Bridge, Gujjar Nala Flyover, and the Lyari Transformation Package.
- Poverty reduction, social protection, and low-cost housing through the SUCCESS programme and rural growth centres across 18 districts.

Sectoral Overview of Achievements

The ADP 2025–26 reflects a comprehensive strategy for inclusive growth and sustainable development, focused on strengthening public services, modernising infrastructure, and promoting social equity. Sindh has made notable strides across healthcare, education, urban infrastructure, irrigation, transportation, renewable energy, culture, and law enforcement. The following highlights capture the breadth and depth of this year's development activity:

1. Agriculture Sector

Outcome: Solar-powered tube wells and watercourse lining have been completed; vertical farming and disease-resistant crop technologies have been introduced.

Public Facilitation: Small farmers now have access to subsidised solar pumps and modern agricultural implements, significantly reducing irrigation costs.

Impact: Enhanced crop yields, improved climate resilience, and reduced post-harvest losses in districts such as Tharparkar, Larkana, and Khairpur.

Government's Role: Government subsidies and capacity-building initiatives have empowered smallholder farmers, improved food security, and reduced reliance on grid electricity.

2. Culture, Tourism, Antiquities & Archives Sector

Outcome: Cultural complexes, public libraries, heritage conservation sites, and tourist resorts have been completed in Thatta, Badin, Jamshoro, and Tharparkar.

Public Facilitation: Citizens now have access to modern libraries, museums, and cultural centres; tourists benefit from upgraded rest houses and heritage resorts.

Impact: Boosted domestic tourism, preservation of Sindh's rich cultural heritage, and provision of recreational spaces in previously underserved districts.

Government's Role: Strategic investment in cultural infrastructure has generated employment, promoted local arts, and enhanced community well-being.

3. Education Sector

Outcome: Over 500 schools have been rehabilitated, upgraded to middle or high school levels, and equipped with drinking water facilities, washrooms, and solar power.

Public Facilitation: Students in rural and flood-affected areas now have access to safe, accessible, and better-equipped learning environments.

Impact: Increased enrolment, reduced dropout rates, and improved learning outcomes, particularly for girls and children with disabilities.

Government's Role: Large-scale investment in school infrastructure, special education, and teacher training has helped bridge the urban-rural education gap.

4. Energy Sector

Outcome: The Sindh Solar Energy Project has been completed, along with the solar electrification of hundreds of schools and villages across Badin, Sujawal, and Tharparkar.

Public Facilitation: Remote and off-grid communities now have reliable electricity for homes, schools, and health facilities.

Impact: Reduced dependence on fossil fuels, lowered energy costs for low-income households, and improved study hours for school-going children.

Government's Role: The promotion of renewable energy has strengthened energy security and contributed to climate change mitigation efforts.

5. Environment, Climate Change & Coastal Development

Outcome: Floating jetties, coastal roads, and environmental monitoring stations have been constructed in Thatta, Badin, Sujawal, and Karachi.

Public Facilitation: Coastal communities now have safer, more efficient access to markets, healthcare, and emergency evacuation routes.

Impact: Strengthened climate resilience, reduced isolation of coastal villages, and improved air quality monitoring in urban centres.

Government's Role: Proactive investment in coastal infrastructure and environmental protection has safeguarded livelihoods and ecosystems.

6. Forest & Wildlife Sector

Outcome: Afforestation of non-state forest lands and carbon sequestration projects have been completed in the Hyderabad and Mirpurkhas divisions.

Public Facilitation: Local communities benefit from increased green cover, reduced heat stress, and enhanced biodiversity.

Impact: Expanded carbon sinks, reduced soil erosion, and creation of green employment opportunities in rural areas.

Government's Role: Proactive climate action through tree plantation and ecosystem restoration has contributed to measurable improvements in environmental quality.

7. Health Sector

Outcome: Modular operation theatres, vascular surgery units, burn centres, and upgraded emergency services have been commissioned across major hospitals in Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkur, and Larkana.

Public Facilitation: Patients now have access to specialised surgical care, trauma services, and modern diagnostics without needing to seek private facilities.

Impact: Reduced mortality from medical emergencies, improved maternal and child health outcomes, and strengthened primary healthcare through upgraded Basic Health Units (BHUs) and Rural Health Centres (RHCs).

Government's Role: Substantial public investment in health infrastructure has reduced out-of-pocket expenses for citizens and saved lives.

8.Irrigation

Outcome: Cement concrete lining of canals, installation of solar tube wells, drainage schemes, and flood protection bunds have been completed in Mirpurkhas, Sujawal, Badin, Khairpur, and Naushahro Feroze.

Public Facilitation: Farmers now have a reliable water supply for irrigation, while communities face reduced risks of waterlogging and flooding.

Impact: Increased agricultural productivity, reduced soil salinity, and enhanced protection of lives and property during flood events.

Government's Role: Strategic investment in water management infrastructure has reinforced climate resilience and improved food security.

9.WASH Sector

Outcome: Rural water supply schemes, reverse osmosis (RO) plants, drainage systems, and solar streetlights have been commissioned in Tharparkar, Sukkur, Shaheed Benazirabad, Matiari, and Jamshoro.

Public Facilitation: Rural households now have access to safe drinking water, improved sanitation, and illuminated streets.

Impact: Reduced incidence of diarrhoea and waterborne diseases, improved mobility at night, and enhanced overall quality of life.

Government's Role: Focused rural development investment has helped reduce urban migration and improved basic service delivery in villages.

10.Transport & Mass Transit

Outcome: Traffic signal upgrades in Karachi, Sukkur, and Larkana have been completed; DRTA offices have been established; and bus lay-bays for the People's Bus Service have been constructed.

Public Facilitation: Commuters now experience smoother traffic flow, safer junctions, and better-organised public bus stops.

Impact: Reduced travel times, lower road accident rates, and improved reliability of public transportation.

Government's Role: Modernisation of urban mobility infrastructure has enhanced commuter safety and convenience.

11.Women Development

Outcome: Women Complaint Cells have been established in 15 districts, providing safe and accessible reporting mechanisms for gender-based violence.

Public Facilitation: Women now have confidential and supportive channels to report abuse and seek legal assistance.

Impact: Increased reporting of domestic and gender-based violence, improved access to justice, and enhanced social protection for vulnerable women.

Government's Role: Institutionalised gender-responsive governance has empowered women and advanced gender equality.

SALIENT FEATURES OF PROPOSED ADP 2026–27

SINDH DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

The Sindh Development Portfolio Management System (SDPMS) is a transformative digital platform and dashboard developed by the Planning & Development Board of Sindh. Sindh manages a multi-billion-rupee Annual Development Programme with hundreds of projects across the province. Previously, processes relied on fragmented paperwork, disconnected spreadsheets, and manual approvals, resulting in delays, cost overruns, and inadequate monitoring.

The system digitises all major planning proformas from PC-I to PC-V, automates approval routing for DDWP, PDWP, and ECNEC, and introduces smart cost estimation using integrated CSR-based calculations to control project costs. It will consolidate existing software into a single dashboard. SDPMS also enhances monitoring and accountability. Through the MEC Field Monitoring Portal, inspections are geo-tagged and timestamped, and real-time analytics such as EVA, SPI, and CPI help predict delays and cost overruns before they become critical.

SDPMS is more than a software platform or dashboard. It represents a major governance reform initiative designed to enhance efficiency, transparency, and evidence-based development planning across Sindh.

Strategic Context and Fiscal Approach

The Government of Sindh remains fully cognizant of the province's development needs and is pursuing holistic, multi-sectoral strategies to invest in human capital for balanced and inclusive growth. Budget ceilings for each department in the Budget Strategy Paper 2026–29 (BSP) were calibrated based on past trends and the execution capacity of the respective administrative departments.

As originally envisaged under BSP 2026–29, the total development outlay for FY 2026–27 was projected at **Rs. 1,054.821 billion**, compared with a budget estimate of Rs. 1,018.326 billion in FY 2025–26. This comprised Rs. 603.00

billion for the Provincial ADP, Rs. 55.00 billion for the District ADP, Rs. 384.825 billion from Foreign Project Assistance (FPA), and Rs. 60.068 billion through Federal PSDP grants for GoS-executed schemes.

However, due to emerging geopolitical developments in the Gulf region, increased economic uncertainty, fiscal pressures, and the Government of Sindh's austerity measures, no new schemes will be included in ADP 2026–27, except for unapproved schemes carried forward from ADP 2025–26. Accordingly, the Government of Sindh has adopted a prudent and fiscally sustainable approach in formulating ADP 2026–27. The main objective is to maximize development outcomes, prioritize completion of ongoing projects, and protect essential public services. Focus will be directed toward flagship schemes of strategic importance.

Development Strategy for ADP 2026–27

The following strategic principles have guided the preparation of ADP 2026–27:

- ✓ Promote and develop climate-resilient infrastructure, including buildings, roads, and housing, designed according to green building codes and incorporating rainwater-harvesting systems to enhance sustainability and mitigate the effects of climate change.
- ✓ Consolidate and complete flood-damaged infrastructure, particularly in the Education and Health sectors, based on a rigorous in-house assessment exercise.
- ✓ Improve and rationalize healthcare facilities and management systems, encompassing nutrition security and population welfare services.
- ✓ Enhance agricultural productivity and strengthen value chains, integrating climate-resilient approaches.
- ✓ Upgrade irrigation infrastructure to conserve water resources for agricultural, industrial, and municipal use.
- ✓ Ensure the provision of clean drinking water and effective sewerage and sanitation systems.
- ✓ Strengthen transport connectivity between major cities, towns, and communities across the province.
- ✓ Promote projects that expand carbon sinks and generate carbon credits through sustainable environmental practices in the public sector and through Public-Private Partnerships (PPP).
- ✓ Advance social protection and poverty reduction initiatives consistent with the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS).
- ✓ Support inclusive, gender-sensitive, equitable, and participatory development aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sectoral Allocations for ADP 2026–27

Allocations for major sectors and departments are summarised as follows:

- ✓ Education Sector: Rs. 25,860.679 million (approximately 6.80% of total ADP size)
- ✓ Health Sector: Rs. 17,433.422 million (approximately 4.60% of total ADP size)
- ✓ Local Government including Mega — Water & Sanitation and Roads: Rs. 121,663.861 billion (approximately 26.2% of total ADP size)
- ✓ Public Health Engineering & RD: Rs. 40.86 billion (approximately 10.70% of total ADP size)
- ✓ Agriculture (including Livestock): Rs. 6.30 billion (approximately 1.66% of total ADP size)
- ✓ Irrigation: Rs. 30.94 billion (approximately 8.14% of total ADP size)
- ✓ Transport & Communication: Rs. 39.536 billion (approximately 10.4% of total ADP size)

Education Sector

The ADP 2026–27 for the Education Sector is focused on consolidating ongoing infrastructure development, expanding access for marginalised groups, and improving quality through enhanced facilities and digital tools — all aimed at transforming public service delivery in education across Sindh.

Health Sector

- Major expansion of tertiary care through a 600-bed hospital at Larkana (Phase-I), a Paediatric Cardiac Unit at NICVD Karachi, and a Burns & Plastic Surgery Ward at SMBB Institute of Trauma Karachi. Upgradation of District Headquarters (DHQ) hospitals in Sujawal, Naushahro Feroze, and Kashmore to improve secondary care in underserved districts.
- Citizens, particularly in northern Sindh (Larkana, Sukkur, Khairpur) and remote districts (Tharparkar, Sujawal, Kashmore), will gain access to specialised cardiac, burn, and emergency services previously available only in Karachi, reducing the burden of costly travel and referral delays.

Irrigation, Water & Drainage Sector

- **Modernising Barrages and Canals to Ensure Equitable Water Distribution**

Infrastructure Modernisation for Equitable Supply: Sindh is rehabilitating its ageing barrages (Sukkur, Guddu, Kotri) under the World Bank's SBIP, replacing obsolete gates and mechanical systems to extend their structural life by 50 years. This directly benefits over 600,000 poor farmers, particularly those at tail-end command areas, by reducing chronic water shortages and ensuring reliable, climate-resilient irrigation supply.

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) Sector

- The state of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Sindh remains a critical priority for this government. Despite past investments, over 5.4

million people in our rural and peri-urban areas still lack access to safe drinking water, while open defecation continues to affect nearly 15% of households, disproportionately impacting women and children. Gastrointestinal diseases, including cholera and typhoid, account for over 30% of outpatient visits in districts like Tharparkar, Dadu, and Umerkot. In response, focus is given to climate-resilient water supply schemes, the rehabilitation of non-functional hand pumps, and the construction of gender-segregated sanitation facilities in all public schools and basic health units.

Sports & Youth Affairs

- The focus will be on providing more local playing fields, floodlit stadiums for evening use, digital livelihood opportunities for youth, and dedicated safe spaces for women and persons with special needs. These initiatives aim to promote healthier lifestyles, reduce youth idleness, and create tangible pathways to economic independence.

Transport & Mass Transit

- This sector will focus on faster BRT commutes, safer roads with modern traffic signals, organised bus terminals in mid-sized cities, and cleaner urban environments through EV infrastructure. These measures are expected to reduce travel time, lower transport costs, decrease road accidents, and create a more liveable urban environment across Sindh.
- Enhanced urban mobility through BRT corridor development and procurement of modern bus fleets.

Social Protection

- The Mother and Child Support Programme (MCSP), commonly known as the MAMTA Program, is being implemented under the Strengthening Social Protection Delivery System in Sindh (SSPDS) project. Following the project revision on 19 December 2025, the program has been expanded to include seven additional districts: Shaheed Benazirabad, Jamshoro, Khairpur, Dadu, Naushahro Feroze, Sukkur, and Larkana. With this expansion, the MAMTA Program now covers almost the entire province of Sindh, except Karachi and Hyderabad.

Connectivity & Reduced Travel Time

- Schemes Included: Widening & reconditioning of major roads, including Umerkot to Ratnore road (40 km), Thatta to Jhampir road (40 km), Warah to Mehar via Gaji Khuhawar (29.8 km), and dual-carriageway projects in Larkana, Kamber, and Hyderabad.

Climate-Resilient Infrastructure & Disaster Recovery

- Rehabilitation of rain-damaged roads (Johi to Chhinni, Baid to Mian Naseer Muhammad Kalhor, Nawabshah Saeedabad Road), construction

of new bridges over canals and rivers, and the Sindh Flood Emergency Reconstruction Project (EFAP) with ADB loan support.

Urban Mobility & Quality of Life Improvements

- Dual carriageway at Sujawal City, paver block streets, drainage systems, and tuff paver works in towns like Kandhkot, Shikarpur, Larkana, and Jacobabad; construction of bypasses (Kamber to Shahdadkot, Larkana-Mirokhan to Kamber-Sijawal); and overhead bridges on railway crossings (Tando Adam, Kotri).

Schedules New Expenditure

The Budget Estimates 2026-27 for scheduled new expenditure stands at Rs.12.4 billion, comprising all the major department of province. Whereas, 864 new positions have been created in various departments.

Supporting Universities for a Knowledge-Based Economy

Mr. Speaker,

Investment in higher education remains one of the most effective means of promoting sustainable economic growth, social progress, and human development. In order to equalize the provision of education at a desired level between urban and rural areas, grants to universities play a critical role in expanding access to quality education and developing the skilled workforce required for the twenty-first century.

With Sindh's literacy rate estimated to rise gradually, sustained support to universities is essential to improve educational outcomes and provide affordable, accessible, and quality higher education, foster innovation, and equip the youth with the skills necessary to compete in an increasingly knowledge-based global economy. To achieve this objective, a provision of Rs.45.1 billion has been allocated for grants to public universities in Sindh.

Pro-Poor Initiatives

The Government of Sindh remains firmly committed to promoting inclusive and equitable development through a comprehensive portfolio of pro-poor initiatives aimed at improving the lives of vulnerable and marginalized segments of society. In the face of prevailing economic challenges, these initiatives demonstrate the Government's resolve to protect livelihoods, strengthen social safety nets, and create sustainable economic opportunities for disadvantaged communities across the province.

For FY 2026-27, an allocation of Rs. 13.3 billion has been earmarked under the Pro-Poor Portfolio, compared to Rs. 19.6 billion allocated during FY 2025-26. While the overall allocation reflects the fiscal constraints currently confronting provincial finances, the Government has prioritized continuation of key interventions that directly benefit low-income households, women, persons with disabilities, small farmers, labourers, and micro-entrepreneurs.

The portfolio encompasses a broad spectrum of initiatives including social protection, agricultural support, housing, disability assistance, women empowerment, SME development, skills enhancement, and welfare support. Major interventions include the Sindh Peoples Support Program, Benazir Hari Card, Kitchen Gardening Kits for poor and landless farmers, Benazir Housing initiatives, livestock distribution schemes, support for persons with disabilities through assistive devices, SME financing through Sindh Enterprise Development Fund, women agricultural workers' support, capacity-building programs, and assistance for widows and orphans.

The Government has strategically focused resources on programs with direct socio-economic impact. The Benazir Hari Card Program, which received Rs. 8.0 billion in FY 2025-26 and continues with an allocation of Rs. 3.0 billion in FY 2026-27, remains a landmark initiative for supporting small farmers and protecting agricultural livelihoods. Similarly, the Sindh Peoples Support Program and Benazir Housing initiatives continue to receive allocations of Rs. 2.0 billion each, ensuring sustained assistance to vulnerable households. Support for the SME sector through SEDF has also been maintained at Rs. 2.0 billion, recognizing the role of small businesses in employment generation and local economic development.

Particular emphasis has been placed on human capital development and social inclusion. Allocations for capacity-building initiatives have increased significantly from Rs. 500 million to Rs. 2.0 billion, reflecting the Government's recognition that skills and knowledge are critical drivers of long-term poverty reduction. Likewise, support for widows and orphans has been enhanced from Rs. 200 million to Rs. 700 million, reinforcing social protection mechanisms for the most vulnerable members of society.

These initiatives are expected to yield significant socio-economic benefits. Agricultural support programs will strengthen food security, improve rural incomes, and reduce vulnerability among small and landless farmers. Housing interventions will provide shelter and security to low-income families while generating economic activity in the construction sector. SME and startup support programs will foster entrepreneurship, stimulate private investment, and create employment opportunities, particularly for youth and women. Assistance to persons with disabilities, widows, and orphans will promote social inclusion and improve access to essential services.

In the current provincial economic environment, where many households continue to face the effects of inflation and limited income growth, these pro-poor initiatives serve as an important buffer against economic hardship. By combining social protection with livelihood enhancement and economic empowerment, the Government of Sindh is laying the foundation for a more resilient, inclusive, and prosperous society. The Pro-Poor Portfolio therefore represents not merely an expenditure program but a strategic investment in human development, poverty reduction, and sustainable economic growth across Sindh.

Grant in Aids to Various Institutions

The Grant-in-Aid portfolio of the Government of Sindh for FY 2026-27 reflects the Government's commitment towards social protection, health care, education, local governance, higher education, disaster rehabilitation and public service delivery. The allocations indicate a strong focus on human development and welfare-oriented interventions aimed at improving the quality of life of citizens across the province.

Sector-wise Segregation of Grants

Health Sector

Major institutions and programs include:

- National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD)
- Sindh Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (SICVD)
- Peoples Primary Health Initiative (PPHI)
- Sindh Institute of Urology & Transplantation (SIUT)
- Pir Abdul Qadir Shah Jeelani Institute of Medical Sciences, Gambat
- Sindh Institute of Child Health & Neonatology (SICHN)
- Indus Hospital
- Child Life Foundation
- Trauma Centres and Ambulance Services
- Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)
- Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC)

Allocation

- FY 2025-26: Rs. 117.61 billion
- FY 2026-27: Rs. 144.75 billion
- Increase: Rs. 27.14 billion (23.1%)

Education Sector

School Education

- Free Textbooks
- Registration and Examination Fee Support for Classes IX-XII

- Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) Programs
- Scholarships
- Grants to Deeni Madrassas

Higher Education

- University of Karachi
- University of Sindh
- NED University
- Mehran University
- Sukkur IBA University
- Dow University of Health Sciences
- Jinnah Sindh Medical University
- Shah Abdul Latif University
- Sindh Agriculture University and others

Combined Allocation

- FY 2025-26: Rs. 33.39 billion
- FY 2026-27: Rs. 58.14 billion
- Increase: Rs. 24.75 billion (74%)

Local Government and Municipal Services

- Sindh Solid Waste Management Board
- Karachi Water & Sewerage Corporation (K-IV Power Component)
- Transfers to Local Bodies

Allocation

- FY 2025-26: Rs. 193.18 billion
- FY 2026-27: Rs. 193.61 billion

Although transfers to local bodies decline by Rs. 10 billion, substantial funding has been provided for urban infrastructure and municipal services.

Agriculture and Pro-Poor Initiatives

Benazir Hari Card Programme with allocation for FY 2026-27: Rs. 2.5 billion

Housing and Social Protection

- Benazir Housing Cell
- Housing Units for Poor Families
- Flood-Affected Housing Reconstruction with allocation for FY 2026-27: Rs. 5.22 billion

Disaster Management and Rehabilitation

- Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA)
- Sindh Emergency Rescue Services

Allocation

- FY 2025-26: Rs. 1.98 billion
- FY 2026-27: Rs. 3.05 billion
- Increase: Rs. 1.06 billion

Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)

- Inclusive City for Persons with Disabilities
- Grants to NGOs and Disabled Persons Organizations (DPOs) with allocation for FY 2025-26: Rs. 7.35 billion and for FY 2026-27: Rs. 5.95 billion

Technical and Vocational Education

STEVTA and Benazir Bhutto Shaheed Human Resource Development Board with allocation for FY 2025-26: Rs. 2.71 billion and FY 2026-27: Rs. 3.08 billion

Public Transport

- Electric Bus Project
- Fuel Cost Support for Public Bus Services with allocation for FY 2026-27 Rs. 3.33 billion in both years.

Importance of Grants for the People of Sindh

Strengthening Public Health

The largest share of grants has been allocated to health institutions. Funding for NICVD, SIUT, SICVD, PPHI and SICHN ensures continued provision of free or highly subsidized treatment for cardiac diseases, kidney ailments, cancer treatment, maternal health and child care. These institutions cater primarily to low-income households that cannot afford private healthcare.

Improving Educational Access

The increase in grants for universities, free textbooks, scholarships and examination fee support will reduce financial barriers to education. Such interventions are particularly important in Sindh where literacy and higher education participation rates require sustained improvement.

Supporting Local Governments

Transfers to local bodies and municipal institutions facilitate provision of essential civic services such as sanitation, waste management, water supply, drainage and community infrastructure. These services directly affect public health and urban productivity.

Promoting Social Protection

The Benazir Hari Card and housing schemes provide direct support to farmers, poor households and vulnerable communities. Such initiatives help mitigate the impact of inflation, climate shocks and economic hardship.

Enhancing Disaster Preparedness

Increased funding for PDMA and rescue services strengthens the province's ability to respond to floods, droughts and other emergencies, which have become increasingly frequent due to climate change.

Expanding Employment Opportunities

Support for technical and vocational institutions contributes to skill development, employability and economic inclusion of youth, thereby helping reduce unemployment.

Rationalization of Legislative Anomalies in Revenue Act

Mr. Speaker,

Now I turn to certain measures relating to Sindh Sales Tax on Services. As this August House is aware, we transformed sales tax regime from Positive list of tariff to the Negative list tariff regime by specifying the exemptions in the First Schedule to the Act, 2011. Thus, the services not listed in the said First Schedule became liable to standard rate of tax unless specified as liable to reduced/ fixed rates in Part-II of the Second Schedule of the Act. This transition of tariff regime has not only resulted in broadening of tax base but has also reduced service classification disputes and litigations.

With a view to simplifying the procedure and allowing input tax credit facility, rate of tax in relation to few services has been rationalized. This measure shall also bring an end to the duality of tax rates. For promoting education support services (including educational consultancy for students, testing & evaluation services), the rate of sales tax is proposed to be reduced to 5%. Similarly, the existing relief of reduced rate of 5% sales tax on recruiting agent services for overseas employment of Pakistani workers is proposed to be continued for further two years. To promote development activities in Sindh funded by international donor agencies, certain relief of sales tax is also proposed in this regard.

For promoting documentation and digitalization in the retail sector, the Point of Sale (POS) integration by beauty parlors/salons is proposed to be made mandatory henceforth while such services shall continue to be levied at the reduced tax rate of 8%.

Mr. Speaker.

Insurance sector (specially the life insurance, health insurance, reinsurance and insurance brokers) has remained non-compliant of the levy of Sindh sales tax on one pretext or the other. The insurance companies have also invoked the litigation jurisdiction of the Courts in this regard. For bringing an end to this impasse and to facilitate the penetration of insurance services (specifically health and life insurance) to general public, successful negotiations have been held with the industry representatives and a framework for resolution of the issues has been evolved which foresees all classes of people benefitting from this relief, compliance by the said insurance sector, withdrawal of their litigations and liquidation of the past liabilities. In addition, tax rates on insurance agents and brokers are proposed to be reduced further from 5% to 2% and 3%, respectively. This will not only encourage the insurance efforts by such agents and brokers but shall also provide higher income for them. Substantial relief has also been proposed by increasing tax exemption threshold from insurance coverage of Rs. 0.5 million to coverage of Rs. 3.5 million in respect of individual life insurance.

As regards levy of tax on Agricultural income in Sindh, in pursuance of the National Fiscal Pact, it is proposed that the quantum of penalty for non-filing of tax returns be rationalized and reduced. Moreover, substantial relief is being provided in relation to the rate of super tax on agricultural income by increasing the exemption threshold from Rs. 150 million to Rs. 500 million and also reducing the rate from 10% to 8%, thus, aligning it with the Federal Income Tax rates in this regard.

In order to materialize the above measures, the government has considered to present a Finance Bill to legislative the rationalization proposals under Sindh Sales Act, 2011. Building upon this legacy, the Government is embarking upon the next phase of its development journey.

Keti Bandar Maritime and Economic Corridor

Mr. Speaker,

Throughout history, great economies have grown around ports and trade routes. Keti Bandar offers Sindh a rare opportunity to build a major coastal growth hub. Guided by President Asif Ali Zardari's vision, the Government is assessing it as a future maritime, logistics, industrial and energy centre. An Integrated Economic Viability Assessment will plan port infrastructure, industrial zones, logistics, export industries and transport links, with connections to Dhabeji SEZ, Thar resources and regional trade corridors. The aim is a broader economic ecosystem driving investment, jobs and exports, potentially transforming Sindh's

economy like Port Qasim did for Pakistan. Federal support is expected for this major initiative.

Sindh International Financial Centre (SIFC)

Mr. Speaker,

Karachi has long been the commercial and financial heart of Pakistan. It hosts the country's largest banks, capital markets, financial institutions and corporate headquarters. As Pakistan's gateway to international trade and investment, Karachi possesses all the ingredients necessary to emerge as a leading regional financial centre. Building upon this historic strength, and leveraging Sindh's internationally recognized expertise in developing innovative Public-Private Partnership projects, I am pleased to announce that the Government of Sindh has initiated the process for establishing the Sindh International Financial Centre (SIFC) as a world-class platform for investment, finance, innovation and dispute resolution. The Government envisions SIFC as a modern financial ecosystem that will facilitate domestic and international investment, strengthen investor confidence and support the mobilization of capital for infrastructure, energy, housing, technology, climate resilience and industrial development. During the coming year, the Government will undertake the necessary legal, regulatory and institutional groundwork for the establishment of SIFC in consultation with national and international stakeholders, financial institutions, investors and development partners. Honourable Speaker, The proposed SIFC will seek to position Karachi as a leading regional hub for infrastructure finance, Islamic finance, climate finance, financial technology and international commercial services. The initiative will also explore the establishment of modern commercial courts, international arbitration and mediation facilities, and investor-friendly regulatory frameworks aimed at ensuring speedy dispute resolution, greater certainty in commercial transactions and enhanced investor confidence. Through SIFC, the Government aims to attract global capital, create high-value employment opportunities, strengthen Karachi's competitiveness and reinforce Sindh's role as a gateway for investment and economic growth in Pakistan and the wider region. For the successful establishment of this strategic initiative, the Government will work closely with the Federal Government and relevant national institutions to develop an enabling legal, regulatory and investment framework. This will include streamlined investor onboarding, facilitation of visas and licensing, efficient regulatory approvals, competitive investment incentives and mechanisms to facilitate cross-border capital flows. Three potential sites within Karachi's commercial corridor have already been identified, offering excellent connectivity to the airport, M-9 Motorway and the city's business districts. The most suitable location will be finalized through a comprehensive feasibility assessment. To translate this vision into reality, funds have been earmarked in the Budget for preparation of an internationally bankable feasibility study and implementation framework. Honourable Speaker, The Sindh International Financial Centre is not merely a real estate or infrastructure project. It is a strategic initiative to position Karachi among the emerging financial centres

of the region, attract global investment, deepen financial markets and create new opportunities for future generations. It represents our ambition to connect Sindh with global capital, global innovation and global opportunity.

Sindh Green Data Infrastructure Initiative

Mr. Speaker,

The next economic transformation will be driven by data, AI, cloud computing and digital infrastructure, not just traditional industries. Globally, governments are investing heavily in data centres as demand for computing, storage and digital services rises rapidly. Sindh is well placed due to strong solar potential (5.5–6.5 kWh/m²/day), the Jhimpir Wind Corridor, and proven capacity through projects like Thar Energy. I announce the Sindh Green Data Infrastructure Initiative to develop renewable energy parks and technology zones for data centres. It will integrate clean energy, transmission, connectivity and investment facilitation to attract global tech firms, cloud and AI companies, and data infrastructure developers.

This initiative will also supply surplus clean energy to desalination plants, industrial estates and SEZs such as SITE Karachi, Korangi, Port Qasim, Dhabeji and Nooriabad, reducing costs and improving competitiveness. It will attract investment, create skilled jobs, and support a knowledge-based economy, with required regulatory reforms for green energy use and investment facilitation.

Energy Security, Renewable Transition and Solar Empowerment

Mr. Speaker,

Energy drives economic growth. Pakistan once faced severe shortages, limiting industry and investment. Sindh responded by developing Thar coal through SECMC, turning a dormant resource into a major energy source now supplying affordable electricity and improving energy security. A new railway link is planned to reduce transport costs and boost efficiency.

While coal met urgent needs, Sindh is now shifting to renewables. With strong solar potential and the Jhimpir wind corridor, the province is expanding clean energy. A major programme will provide 275,000 free solar home systems to low-income households. For middle-income families, a subsidized solar financing scheme through SEDF and Sindh Bank will support rooftop solar adoption, reducing costs and promoting clean energy access.

Sindh Farmers' Agricultural Collectives Initiative

Mr. Speaker

Sindh's prosperity depends on its farmers, yet most have small landholdings and limited access to modern tools, finance and markets. The Government will introduce landmark legislation to create farmer-led agricultural collectives, enabling small farmers to benefit from scale without losing land ownership. These collectives will allow shared access to machinery, technology, finance, storage and markets, with the Government acting as facilitator.

Banking institutions and partners will provide financing, making collectives creditworthy for subsidized loans, leasing and insurance. Farmers will choose their own inputs and services in a demand-driven model. This reform will expand access to modern machinery, irrigation, solar pumps and storage, improving productivity, resilience and rural incomes while transforming fragmented farming into organized, modern agriculture in Sindh.

Integrated Waste-to-Value and Circular Economy Programme

Mr. Speaker,

Rapid urbanization is increasing the need for efficient waste management. Sindh has already invested in municipal waste systems and now plans a new Integrated Waste-to-Value Program under PPP mode. It will shift from simple collection to scientific processing, including Refuse Derived Fuel production, recycling and landfill gas capture. This will reduce emissions, improve climate resilience and generate economic value. The initiative will create revenue through carbon credits, RDF sales and recycling, while promoting a circular economy and green jobs. It will turn waste into a resource, making cities cleaner and more sustainable. Together with other reforms, Keti Bandar for trade, SIFC for finance, green data infrastructure, renewable energy, agricultural collectives and waste-to-value systems—Sindh is entering a new phase of inclusive, investment-driven and sustainable economic growth.

Relief Measures

Pay and Allowances

The salary structure of government employees in Sindh, like the rest of Pakistan, is currently under significant pressure due to rising inflation, increasing utility costs, and overall economic slowdown. The Government of Sindh has proposed increase of salary for different Pay Scale categories:

_____ % increase in salary for employees in BS-1 to BS-16

_____ % increase in salary for employees in BS-17 and above.

Minimum Wages for Workers

The government of Sindh has proposed Rs. _____/- as the minimum wages for Workers in Sindh.

Conclusion

Mr. Speaker,

The Budget for FY 2026-27 has been presented at a time when our province, like much of the world, is navigating through a period marked by economic uncertainty, rising inflation, geopolitical tensions, and the persistent impact of fuel price escalation in the global market. These challenges have inevitably placed pressure on our fiscal space and on the lives of our citizens.

Despite these difficult circumstances, the Government of Sindh has made every possible effort to balance financial prudence with public welfare. This budget reflects our resolve to protect the vulnerable, sustain essential public services, and continue investing in development that lays the foundation for long-term stability and growth.

Above all, this budget is guided by three core commitments: hope for a better future, development for inclusive progress, and public trust through transparency and responsibility. We remain firmly committed to improving the quality of life of our people and steering the province towards greater resilience and prosperity.

May Allah Almighty bless our efforts, grant us wisdom in governance, and bring ease, stability, and betterment to the lives of the people of Sindh and Pakistan.

Thank you.

سندھ سدا آباد، پاکستان پائنده آباد



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