

We have also implemented various schemes to strengthen the self help groups, social protection schemes for unorganised labours and their families, schemes for folk artists. From Sabujisree to Samabyathi we have firmly stood by our people at every step from birth to death.

Not only this, through many other programmes our Maa Mati Manush Government is marching ahead under the able leadership of Mamata Bandyopadhyay.

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Tax Reforms

2.1 Goods & Services Tax

Honourable Members, you are aware that we had vehemently opposed the Central Government's hurried and unplanned implementation of GST. The country is bearing the brunt of this decision. Tax evasion through fraudulent invoices has reached gigantic proportions. Recently, the Central Government Minister accepted on the floor of the Parliament GST evasion of more than Rs.44,000 Cr. This situation is a cause of serious concern.

2.2 Settlement of Dispute Scheme for VAT, CST and Entry Tax

Honourable Members, I am happy to inform that in December, 2018, the Settlement of Dispute Scheme which I had introduced benefitted more than 30,000 taxpayers. We could collect Rs.1,120 Cr. of the arrear disputed tax.

Still, more than 25,000 such disputed cases are lying pending. I propose to introduce a new and more attractive Settlement scheme for all VAT, Sales Tax, CST etc. and Entry Tax cases which are lying pending upto 31st January, 2020.

The scheme will offer taxpayers to settle their VAT, CST etc. cases by depositing 25% of the disputed tax by 31st March, 2020. For tax payers who are not able to avail this facility, the scheme provides the option of payment of 25% on half of the disputed tax (VAT, CST etc.) before 31st March, 2020. On the balance half of the disputed tax (VAT, CST etc.) they will be required to pay 30% in maximum of 6 monthly instalments from April, 2020.

For Entry Tax, only the admitted tax needs to be paid within 31st March, 2020. For those who are unable to avail this facility, the scheme allows payment of 50% of admitted tax within 31st March and balance 50% with nominal interest in maximum of 6 monthly instalments.

2.3 Settlement of Certificate Cases

Presently, more than 15,000 Certificate Cases/Tax Recovery Cases of the Commercial Taxes are lying pending in the Directorate of Commercial Taxes. For the benefit of the taxpayers, I propose to extend the new Settlement of Dispute Scheme on similar lines for disposal of such Certificate Cases also.

2.4 Settlement of Dispute Cases under Motor Vehicles Act

Waiver of penalty on Outstanding Motor Vehicle Dues

For the benefit of the general public, I propose to introduce a new settlement scheme wherein the taxpayers will get complete waiver of interest and penalty of the outstanding tax, if the payment is made within 31st March, 2020.

Waiver of 50% Compounding Fine on Motor Vehicles Offences

Over and above this, I also propose to waive 50% of the Compounding Fee imposed on all motor vehicles violations under the Motor Vehicles Act, if the payment of the Compounding Fine is made within 31st March, 2020.