

February - 03

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ As per the Union Finance minister statement, the average processing time for income tax returns has been reduced from 93 to 16 days in 2023.

NATIONAL

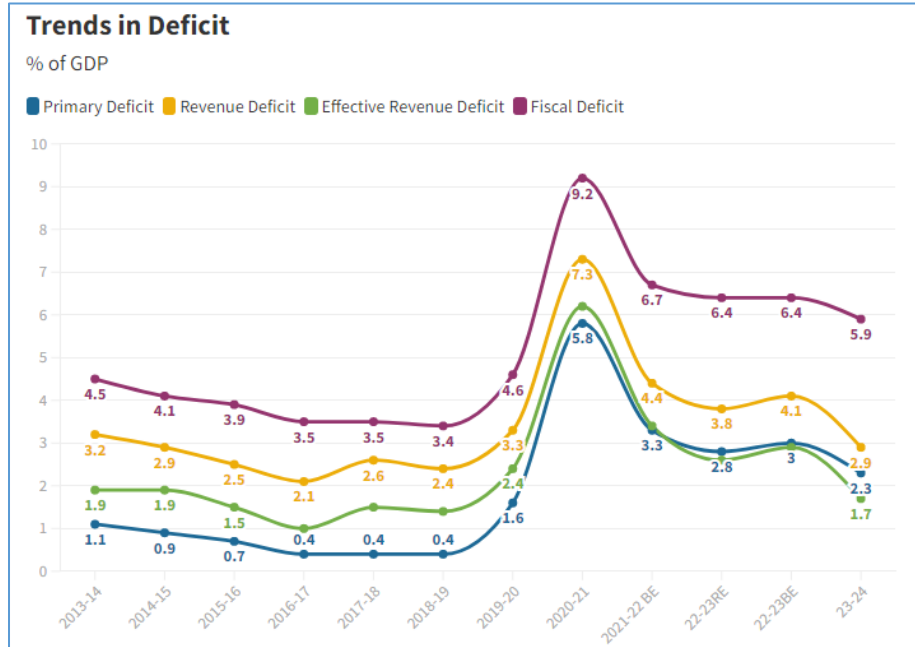
Budget 2023 7 priorities



- ❖ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman listed seven key priorities of the Union Budget 2023.
- ❖ They complement each other and act as the Saptarishi guiding the government through the Amrit Kaal.
- ❖ Amrit Kaal is the term coined by the government to mark the 25-year period till 2047, when India will celebrate a century of freedom.
- ❖ It is the government's roadmap for the next 25 years.
- ❖ The seven priorities are
 - Inclusive development
 - Reaching the last mile
 - Infrastructure and investment
 - Unleashing the potential
 - Green growth

- Youth power
- Financial sector

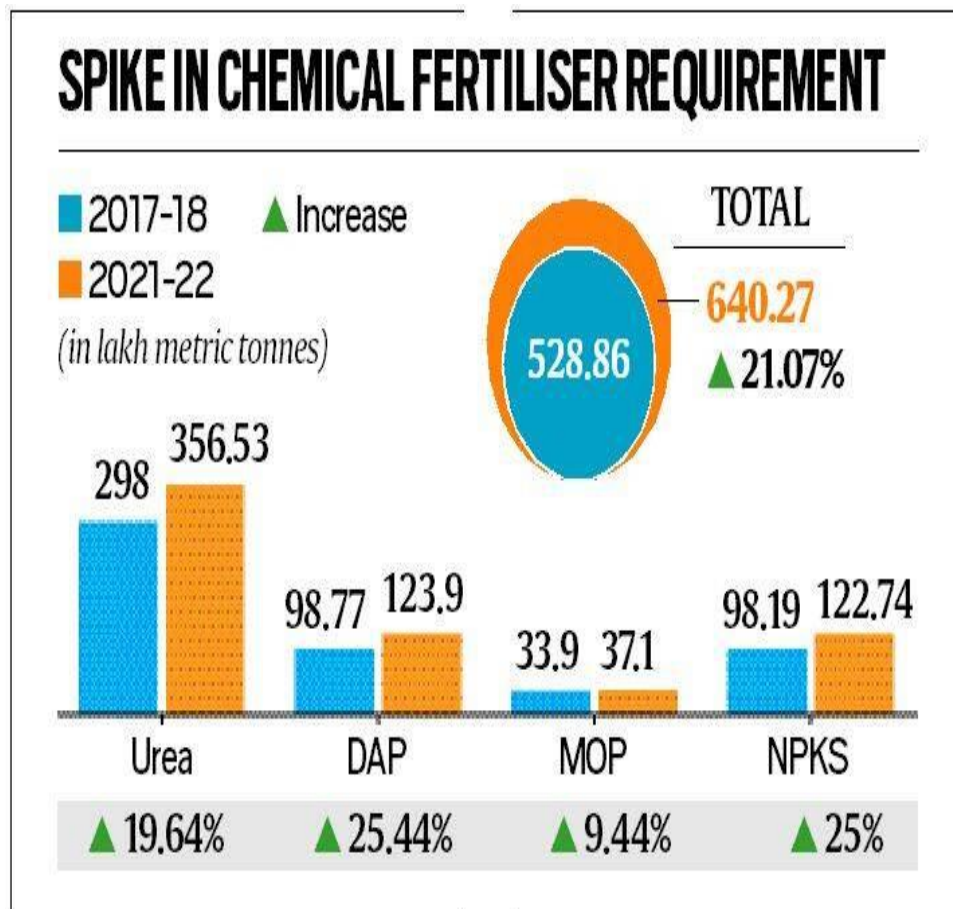
Union Budget 2023-24 Highlights



- ❖ The finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2023-24.
- ❖ The rebate limit for paying income taxes is increased to Rs 7 lakh/annum.
- ❖ The income slabs under the new personal income tax regime have been revised from six to five.
- ❖ The tax exemption limit has been increased to Rs 3 lakh.
- ❖ The budget increased the capital outlay for railways to its highest ever at ₹2.40 lakh crore.
- ❖ The fiscal deficit is estimated to be 5.9% of the GDP in FY 2023-24.
- ❖ Net borrowings to finance the fiscal deficit is estimated to be Rs 11.8 lakh crore.
- ❖ The capital investment outlay increased for the third year in a row by 33% to ₹10 lakh crore.
- ❖ This accounts for 3.3% of the GDP.
- ❖ Agriculture credit target would be raised to ₹20 lakh crore with a focus on animal husbandry and fisheries.
- ❖ Setting up an Agriculture Accelerator Fund to encourage Agri-startups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas.

- ❖ PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman (PM VIKAS): The first-of-its-kind package assistance endeavours to improve the quality of, scale and reach of the products made by traditional artisans and crafts people.
- ❖ The budget provided ₹35,000 crore for priority capital investments towards achieving energy transition and net-zero objectives as well as energy security.
- ❖ A Financial assistance will be given for sustainable micro irrigation in drought-prone regions of Karnataka.
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission will be launched, and more teachers will be recruited for 740 Eklavya Model Residential schools.

PM-PRANAM Scheme



- ❖ The Indian Government launched the PM-PRANAM Scheme.
- ❖ It stands for PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother Earth.
- ❖ This scheme was launched under the GOBAR Dhan scheme.

- ❖ Under the scheme, the Government of India is planning to promote alternatives to fertilizers.
- ❖ Also, it aims to promote the balanced use of chemicals.
- ❖ The main objective of the scheme is to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers.

Mission to eliminate Sickle Cell Anaemia

- ❖ Finance Minister announced her government's plan to launch a mission to eliminate sickle cell anaemia by 2047.
- ❖ A mission to eliminate sickle cell anaemia by 2047 will be launched.
- ❖ It will entail awareness creation, universal screening of seven crore people in the age group of 0-40 years in affected tribal areas.
- ❖ The primary function of RBC is to carry oxygen to different parts of the body.
- ❖ In a person with sickle cell anaemia, the oxygen-carrying capacity of RBCs is affected.
- ❖ Sickle cells are those cells that form a C – shape, just like the shape of a sickle.
- ❖ They deform themselves.

The infographic features logos for PIB, 75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, and G20 India 2023 at the top. The main title is 'AFFORDABLE HEALTH FOR ALL' in teal. Below it, a section titled 'INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT' lists five initiatives, each with a teal plus icon and a progress bar:

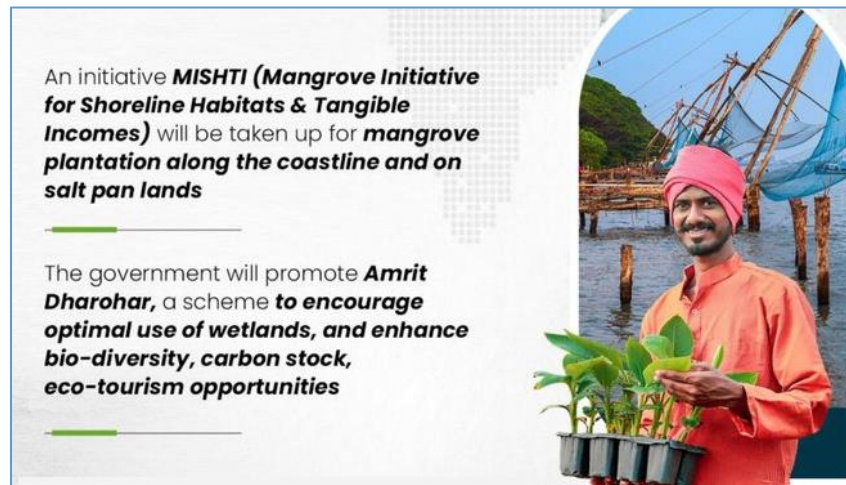
- Enhanced Health Expenditure: 2.1% of GDP in FY23
- Sickle Cell Anaemia elimination Mission to be launched
- 157 New Nursing Colleges to be established
- Joint Public and Private Medical Research to be encouraged via select ICMR labs
- New Programme to promote research in Pharmaceuticals to be launched

The background of the infographic shows a hand in a white lab coat holding a pipette over a laboratory bench with various glassware.

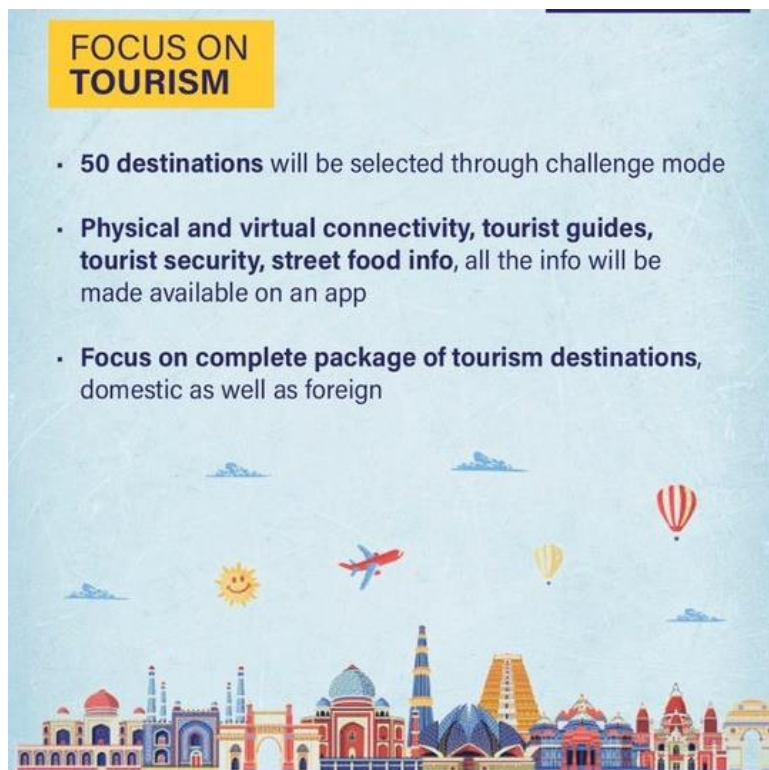
Amrit Dharohar Scheme

- ❖ To increase the optimal use of wetlands in the cities and to improve their biodiversity the government launched the Amrit Dharohar Scheme.

- ❖ The scheme aims to achieve sustainable ecosystem development with the help of local communities.
- ❖ It falls under 'Green Growth', one of the seven priorities of the budget.
- ❖ The scheme is to be implemented in the next three years
- ❖ The scheme will increase eco-tourism, and carbon stock, and also will help the local communities in their income generations.



Complete package of tourism 2023



- ❖ At least 50 destinations will be selected and developed as a complete package of tourism.
- ❖ These destinations will be selected through challenge mode using an integrated and innovative approach.
- ❖ The focus of development of tourism would be on domestic as well as foreign tourists.
- ❖ Initiatives will be taken to set up tourism at border villages.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0

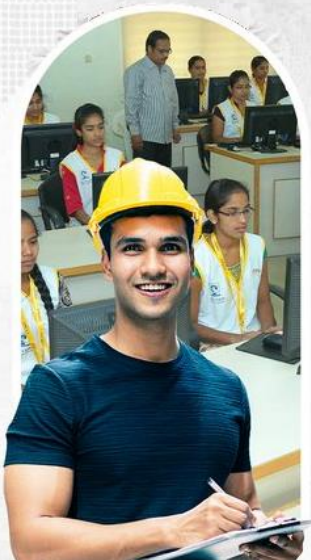
- ❖ Union Finance Minister announced the launch of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 to skill lakhs of youth within the next three years.
- ❖ The scheme will emphasize On-job training, industry partnership, and alignment of courses with the needs of the industry.
- ❖ This scheme will also cover new-age courses for Industry 4.0 like coding, AI, robotics, mechatronics, IOT, 3D printing, drones, and soft skills.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 will be launched to skill lakhs of youth within the next 3 years

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To skill youth for international opportunities, **30 Skill India International Centres** will be set up across different States.



STATES

New capital of Andhra Pradesh

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh chief minister Jagan Mohan Reddy announced that the state capital will be shifted to Visakhapatnam.
- ❖ The previous government in 2015 declared Amaravati as the state capital and acquired lands to build the new capital city.

- ❖ In 2019, Reddy first proposed the idea of “decentralised development” and advocated for the establishment of three capitals in the state and repealed later.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

India-UK Achievers Honor

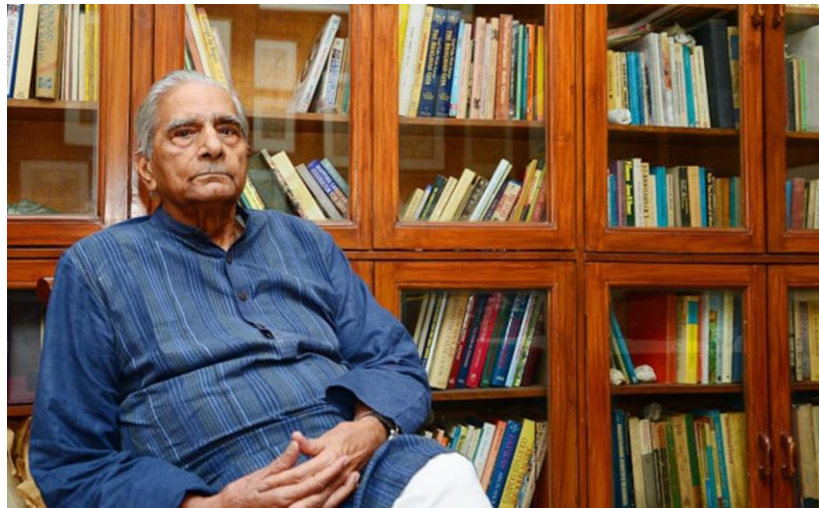


- ❖ Former prime minister Dr Manmohan Singh was recently conferred a Lifetime Achievement Honour.

- ❖ This is awarded by the India-UK Achievers Honours in London for his contribution to economic and political life.
- ❖ To mark 75 years of India's independence, the first-ever India UK Achievers Honours covered 75 high achievers and some key Outstanding Achievers.

Former Law Minister Shanti Bhushan

- ❖ Former Union law minister and eminent jurist Shanti Bhushan passed away recently.
- ❖ He represented politician Raj Narain in the historic case that led to the annulment of the then prime minister Indira Gandhi's election in 1975.
- ❖ In the historic Raj Narain vs Indira Nehru Gandhi case, the Allahabad High Court in June 1975 had disqualified Gandhi for a period of six years from contesting elections.
- ❖ Bhushan served as the law minister from 1977 to 1979 in the Morarji Desai cabinet.
- ❖ As the law minister, he introduced Forty-fourth Amendment of the Constitution in 1978.



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