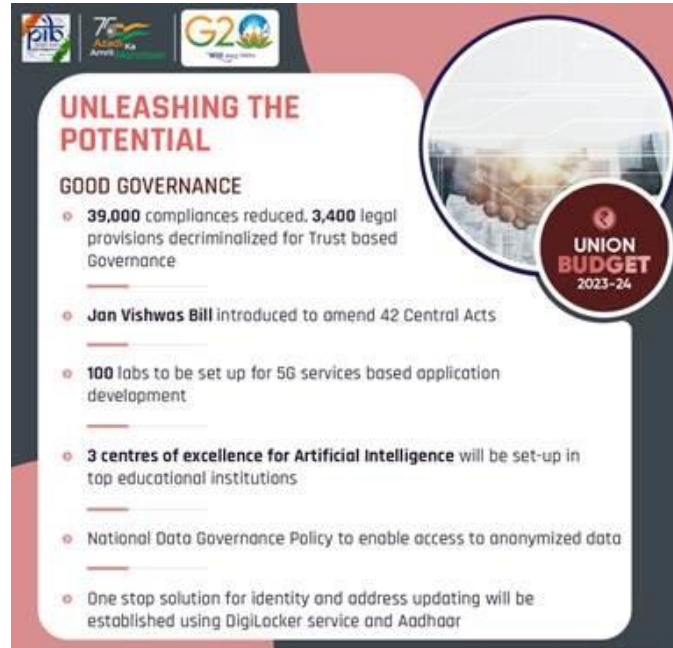


February - 04

NATIONAL

National Data Governance Policy



- ❖ Government of India is to launch National Governance Policy.
- ❖ The policy will create an Indian Data Management Office.
- ❖ The main aim of the policy is to make the data secure and make it available to startups in the country.
- ❖ The National Data Governance Policy is the first step to towards Digital Government.
- ❖ With the policy, the Government can increase its decision-making authority.
- ❖ Data privacy standards can be increased.
- ❖ Data protection standards shall be improved.

Atma nirbhar Horticulture Clean Plant Programme

- ❖ An Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Program will be launched to boost availability of disease-free, quality planting material for high value horticultural crops.
- ❖ A clean plant means the plant has been tested for several things before planting.
- ❖ First, the plants are checked for pathogens.
- ❖ Second, actively growing ones are identified.

- ❖ Then tissue samples are collected from these actively growing plants.
- ❖ These tissues are fused with other plants to increase their productivity as well.



AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES

UNION BUDGET 2023-24

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

- More Credit to Agriculture Sector: 186 lakh cr in FY22
- Agriculture Accelerator Fund to encourage Start-Ups in rural areas
- Atmanirbhar Bharat Horticulture Clean Plant Program to boost production of high value horticultural crops
- ₹20 lakh cr credit for Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries sector
- Additional storage capacity for farm produce
- Support to making India a Global Hub For Millets: 'Shree Anna'

MISHTI Scheme for Mangrove plantations



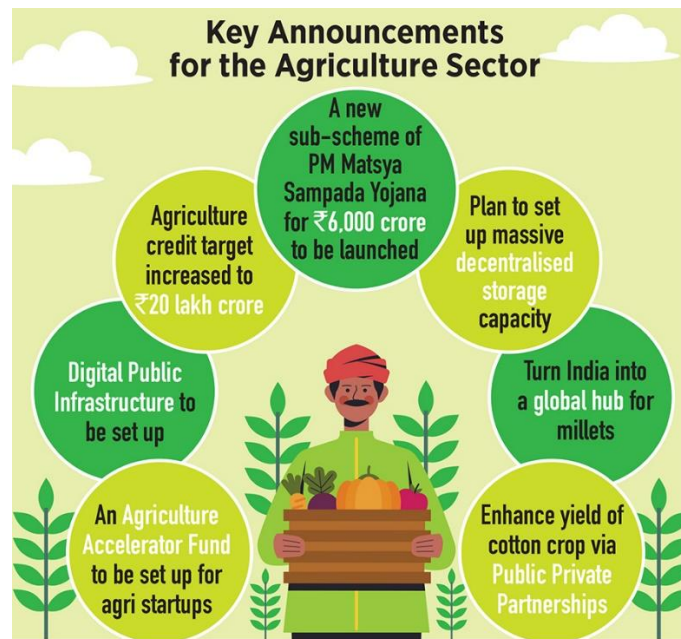
Union Budget 2023-24

Protecting Our Wetlands and Mangroves

An initiative **MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes)** will be taken up for **mangrove plantation along the coastline and on salt pan lands**

- ❖ Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes', MISHTI, will be taken up for mangrove plantation along the coastline and on salt pan lands.
- ❖ The main aim of the scheme is to take up mangrove plantations along the coastline.
- ❖ The main objective of the MISTHI Scheme is to “preserve Mangrove forests”.
- ❖ MISHTI is to be implemented by converging Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority Fund, MGNREGS, and other sources.

Agriculture Accelerator Fund



- ❖ An Agriculture Accelerator Fund will be set up to encourage agri-startups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas.
- ❖ The fund will aim at bringing innovative and affordable solutions for challenges faced by farmers.
- ❖ It will also bring in modern technologies to transform agricultural practices, and increase productivity and profitability.
- ❖ Digital public infrastructure for agriculture will be built as an open-source, open-standard and interoperable platform for public good.

PAN as common identifier

- ❖ Permanent Account Number (PAN) will be used for common identifier for all digital systems of specified government agencies.

- ❖ The move would help in further promoting ease of doing business in the country.
- ❖ PAN is a 10-digit alphanumeric number allotted by the income tax department to a person, firm or entity.



Income Tax Slab Revamp

- ❖ During the Union Budget announced that people earning up to Rs 7 lakhs need not pay taxes.
- ❖ Tax surcharges of the taxpayers in the highest tax bracket were reduced from 37% to 25%.
- ❖ The bottom line, the new income tax slab benefits taxpayers in the highest and lowest tax brackets.

Income Tax Slabs: At A Glance					
New tax Regime [Revised*]		New tax Regime [Previous]		Old tax Regime	
Income	Tax Rate %	Income	Tax Rate %	Income	Tax Rate %
0-3 Lakh	NIL	0-2.5 Lakh	NIL	0-2.5 Lakh	NIL
3-6 Lakh	5%	2.5-5 Lakh	5%	2.5-5 Lakh	5%
6-9 Lakh	10%	5-7.5 Lakh	10%	5-10 Lakh	20%
9-12 Lakh	15%	7.5-10 Lakh	15%	Above 10 Lakh	30%
12-15 Lakh	20%	10-12.5 Lakh	20%		
Above 15 Lakh	30%	12.5-5 Lakh	25%		
		Above 15 Lakh	30%		

Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman

- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman is announced during the Budget presentation.
- ❖ It will enable the country's artisans to improve the quality, scale, and reach of their products, integrating them with the Micro, Small and Medium-scale Enterprises (MSME) value chain.

- ❖ It aims to unlock the potential of thousands of artists and craftspeople around the nation, through the provision of skills training, technology, and the opening of credit lines to them.

Union Budget 2023- 24



What's In It For Me?
Scheduled Tribes

PM Vishwakarma KAushal Samman (PM VIKAS)- Providing **traditional artisans and craftspeople** a comprehensive package of financial and market assistance

Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission- Improve socio-economic conditions of the particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs) through **saturation of basic facilities**

Mission to eliminate Sickle Cell Anaemia by 2047 through awareness creation and counselling in tribal areas

In 740 Eklavya Model Residential Schools, Centre will **recruit 38,800 teachers** and support staff serving 3.5 lakh tribal students



Mahila Samman Bachat Patra

BUDGET
2023
#AmritKaalBudget

For commemorating **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**, a one-time small savings scheme '**Mahila Samman Bachat Patra**' will be made available up to March 2025.

This will offer a deposit facility of **up to Rs. 2 Lakhs at a fixed interest rate of 7.5%** with a partial withdrawal option

- ❖ Mahila Samman Savings Certificate is a new small savings scheme introduced in the Budget presentation.
- ❖ The scheme is exclusively for women and girls and offers a deposit facility of up to INR 2 lakhs with an interest rate of 7.5%.
- ❖ The Mahila Samman Savings Certificate offers a 7.5% interest rate, compared to 7% offered by the National Savings Certificate scheme.
- ❖ It offers partial withdrawal options, making it a flexible investment option.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Generic version of breast cancer drug

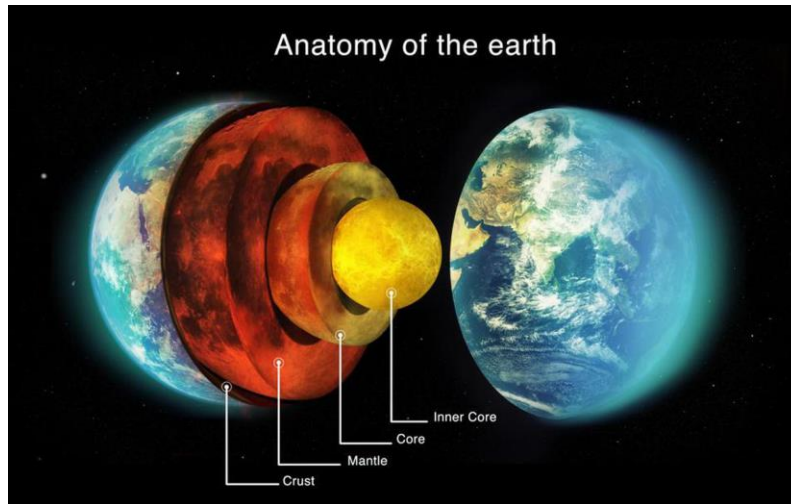


- ❖ MSN Group has launched a generic version of breast cancer drug Palbociclib in tablet form under the brand name Palborest.
- ❖ There are a few other firms that have also launched Palbociclib in capsule dosage form.
- ❖ It is more affordable and bioequivalent to innovator tablet.

Earth's core spinning

- ❖ Earth's inner core has stopped spinning faster than the planet's surface.
- ❖ Earth's iron core is suspended in the molten liquid outer core and spins independently.
- ❖ The latest research suggests that the inner core, relative to the Earth's surface, swings back and forth like a swing.

- ❖ From 2009 onwards, a negative trend has been noticed with the inner core rotating slower than the surface.



Green comet after 50,000 years



- ❖ A recently discovered green comet will soon zip by Earth for the first time in 50,000 years.
- ❖ It was last visible in the night sky during the Stone Age.
- ❖ It will make its closest approach to Earth since the age of the Neanderthals.

- ❖ The comet named C/2022 E3 (ZTF) will come within 26 million miles (42 million kilometres) of Earth.
- ❖ The comet has been brightening the night sky since January and will pass between the orbits of Mars and Earth.
- ❖ It will travel at a speed of 128,500 mph (207,000 km/h).

ENVIRONMENT

Soliga ecarinata

- ❖ The scientific community has named a new genus of wasp after Soliga — who are the indigenous community of Biligiri Rangan Hills, Karnataka.
- ❖ This is the recognition of their conservation of forests and biodiversity.
- ❖ Additional specimens of the same species were collected from the secondary wet forest habitat of Nagaland.
- ❖ This new wasp belongs to the subfamily Metopiinae of Darwin wasps' family Ichneumonidae.
- ❖ The subfamily Metopiinae has 862 species in 27 genera.
- ❖ This is the second genus of this subfamily reported from India and the first from South India.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Interfaith Harmony Week

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) designated the first seven days of February as World Interfaith Harmony Week in 2010.

- ❖ These celebrations focus on creating mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue to promote harmony between people regardless of their faith.



World Wetlands Day - February 02

- ❖ It aims to raise global awareness about the crucial role of wetlands for people and the planet.
- ❖ This day marks the date of the adoption of the convention on wetlands on February 2, 1971, in Ramsar, a city in Iran.
- ❖ The first world wetlands day was celebrated in 2021.
- ❖ The theme of World Wetlands Day 2023 is “It's Time for Wetlands Restoration,”.

