



West Bengal Budget 2026-27 | West Bengal | 07 Feb 2026

Why in News?

The **West Bengal government** presented its **interim Budget 2026-27** in the State Assembly, outlining a **Rs 4.06 lakh crore expenditure plan** that emphasizes **social welfare schemes, economic support for women and youth, enhanced revenue targets, and expenditure growth** amid preparations for upcoming assembly elections.

Key Points:

- **Budget Outlook:** The interim budget for **2026-27** was tabled at **Rs 4.06 lakh crore**, with total estimated expenditure pegged at **Rs 3.96 lakh crore**, reflecting a **14.2 % rise** over revised estimates for 2025-26.
 - **Total Revenue Receipt:** 2,87,791 Crore
 - **Total Capital Receipt:** 1,08,288 Crore
 - **Total Revenue Expenditure:** 3,09,551 Crore
 - **Total Capital Expenditure:** 86,533 Crore
- **Budget Expenditure:**
 - **General Services:** 94,389 Crore
 - **Social Services:** 1,80,862 Crore
 - **Economic Services:** 73773 Crore
- **Budget Allocation in Important Sectors:**
 - **Agriculture and Allied Activities:** 24,312.97 Crore
 - **Rural Development:** 15,919.76 Crore
 - **Irrigation and Flood Control:** 5,858.95 Crore
 - **Energy:** 5,372.50 Crore
 - **Industry and Minerals:** 2,842.96 Crore
 - **Transport:** 14,388.23 Crore
 - **Science Technology and Environment:** 155.94 Crore
 - **Education, Sports, Art and Culture:** 51,530.62 Crore
 - **Health and Family Welfare:** 23,119.21 Crore
 - **Water Supply, Sanitation, Housing and Urban Development:** 45,544.00 Crore
 - **Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes:** 6,915.37 Crore
 - **Social Welfare and Nutrition:** 51,815.03 Crore
- **Social Welfare Priorities:** Nearly **46 % of the total expenditure** (around **Rs 1.80 lakh crore**) has been earmarked for **social welfare schemes**, showing the government's focus on inclusive development.
- **Lakshmi Bhandar Scheme Expansion:** The monthly grant under the **Lakshmi Bhandar** cash support programme for women was increased by **Rs 500**, boosting financial assistance to women beneficiaries from February 2026.
- **Dearness Allowance (DA) Hike:** The budget proposes a **4 % increase in dearness allowance** for West Bengal government employees to help offset inflationary pressures.
- **Support for Unemployed Youth:** A new scheme, '**Banglar Yuva Sathi**', was announced to provide **Rs 1,500 monthly allowance** to eligible unemployed youth (aged 21-40) until they secure jobs or for up to five years.
- **Tax Revenue Growth:** The budget projects own tax revenue to increase by about **6.20 %**, with **State GST and excise duties** constituting major contributors to total tax receipts.

- **Welfare for Gig & Frontline Workers:** Budget proposals include bringing **gig workers** under social security cover and enhancing allowances for **Anganwadi and ASHA workers**, alongside other welfare measures.

India's First Indigenous Green Urea Plant in Andhra Pradesh | National Current Affairs | 07 Feb 2026

Why in News?

India's first large-scale indigenous green urea plant will be developed and operationalized at the **Pudimadaka Green Hydrogen Hub** in Andhra Pradesh.

Key Points:

- **Strategic MoU:** NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL), a subsidiary of NTPC Ltd., and **Assago Industries Pvt. Ltd.** have signed a MoU.
 - Under the agreement, NGEL will supply **green ammonia, renewable electricity, CO₂, and other utilities** to Assago.
- **Objective:** To produce **green urea** using **green hydrogen and renewable energy**, reducing reliance on fossil fuel-based ammonia.
 - The initiative marks a significant step towards building a **domestic green urea value chain**, reducing dependence on imported fertilizers.
 - Aims to **create jobs**, strengthen the **green energy sector**, and contribute to Andhra Pradesh's industrial development.
- **Environmental Impact:** Expected to **significantly cut carbon emissions** compared to conventional urea plants.
 - Supports India's **Net Zero 2070 goal** and the **Green Hydrogen Mission** under the National Hydrogen Policy.
- **Innovation:** First-of-its-kind **indigenous green urea technology** in India, promoting self-reliance in fertilizer production.

Read More: [Net Zero 2070 goal](#), [Green Hydrogen Mission](#), [NTPC](#), [Green ammonia](#)

PLASTINDIA 2026 BEGINS IN NEW DELHI | National Current Affairs | 07 Feb 2026

Why in News?

PLASTINDIA 2026, one of the **world's largest plastics exhibitions**, commenced in **February 2026** at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**.

Key Points:

- **Event:** It is the **12th edition** of the **triennial** mega event of the plastics industry, **PLASTINDIA**

2026.

- The event is structured around **five strategic pillars — Trade, Technology, Talent, Tradition, and Tourism**, emphasising industry growth, innovation, skill development, and cultural integration.
- **Organisers:** Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC), Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, in collaboration with Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- **Theme :** PLASTINDIA 2026 is held under the theme “**Bharat Next**”.
 - Aligning with the **Prime Minister’s vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat**, aimed at strengthening the domestic plastics industry and manufacturing ecosystem.
- **Sustainability Focus:** For the first time, It is being organised as a **Zero Waste Exhibition**, ensuring segregation, recycling, and reuse of all solid waste generated at the event.

Read More: [Atmanirbhar Bharat, Viksit Bharat, MSME](#)

Kerala CM Launched Invasive Species Detection App | National Current Affairs | 07 Feb 2026

Why in News?

Kerala has officially launched **NeophyteID**, an AI-powered mobile application designed to detect and track invasive plant species across the state.

Key Points:

- **Launch & Developers:** Officially launched on 2nd **February, 2026**, by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, the app was developed by the **Malabar Botanical Garden and Institute for Plant Sciences (MBGIPS)**.
- **AI Technology:** Utilizing the **YOLOv11** machine learning model, the tool provides real-time identification and **geospatial tracking** for nearly **98 invasive species** in Kerala.
- **Functionality & Access:** Users can photograph plants for instant, data-driven identification in both **English and Malayalam**.
- **Ecological Impact:** NeophyteID aims to prevent the destruction of native plants during eradication efforts.
- **Data-Driven Conservation:** The use of AI and **geospatial tracking** provides researchers with **data-rich insights** into invasive species distribution patterns — critical for planning removal and restoration strategies.