

Uttarakhand Budget 2025-26

Why in News?

The Uttarakhand government has unveiled a Rs 1,01,175.33 crore <u>budget</u> for the financial year 2025-26, aiming to strengthen infrastructure while ensuring economic stability.

Key Points

- Budget Presentation and Vision:
 - The State Finance Minister presented the Rs 1,01,175.33 crore budget in the State Assembly, Dehradun.
 - The **budget outlines a comprehensive roadmap** for the state's economic and infrastructural development.
- Sectoral Focus Areas:
 - The government has prioritized agriculture, industry, energy, infrastructure, connectivity, tourism, and <u>Ayush</u>.
 - Additional emphasis has been placed on education, health, infrastructure, and rural development to foster growth.
- Revenue and Receipts Overview:
 - The budget estimates total receipts at Rs 1,01,034.75 crore, including:
 - Revenue receipts: Rs 62,540.54 crore
 - Capital receipts: Rs 38,494.21 crore
 - **Tax revenue** is expected to contribute Rs 39,917.74 crore, while non-tax revenue is estimated at Rs 22,622.80 crore.
- 'GYAN' Model for Inclusive Development:
 - The budget is based on the **'GYAN' model**, focusing on:
 - Gareeb (Poor)
 - Yuva (Youth)
 - Anndata (Farmers)
 - Naari (Women)
- Boost to Industry and Startups:
 - To support industrial growth and entrepreneurship, the budget includes:
 - Rs 50 crore for MSME industries.
 - Rs 35 crore for the Mega Industry Policy.
 - Rs 30 crore for startup promotion.
 - Rs 500 crore under the Mega Project Scheme to drive economic expansion.
- Major Allocations by Sector:
 - Water Resources and Irrigation:
 - Funds are allocated for the Jamrani Dam, Song Dam, Lakhwad Project.
 - Rs 1,500 crore under special capital assistance for states.
 - Rs 1,843 crore for the Jal Jeevan Mission.
 - Rs 100 crore for urban water supply improvements.
 - Roads, Transport, and Infrastructure:
 - 220 km of new roads to be constructed.
 - 1,000 km of roads to be reconstructed and 1,550 km renovated.
 - Rs 1,200 crore for road safety initiatives.
 - 37 new bridges to be built.

- Rs 1,065 crore allocated under the PMGSY scheme.
- Rs 36.88 crore for the Civil Aviation Department.
- Tourism and Cultural Development:
 - Rs 100 crore for **Tehri Lake development.**
 - Rs 25 crore for the Manskhanda Scheme.
 - Rs 20 crore for the Vibrant Village Scheme.
 - Rs 10 crore for **new tourist destinations.**
 - Rs 10 crore for **Char Dham** road network improvements.
- Environment and Sustainable Development:
 - Rs 395 crore allocated for the CAMPA scheme.
 - Rs 60 crore for climate change mitigation.
 - Rs 125 crore for the Spring and River Rejuvenation Authority (SARA).
 - Rs 10 crore for public afforestation projects.
- Social Security and Welfare:
 - Rs 1,811.66 crore allocated for social security schemes.
 - Rs 918.92 crore set aside for various welfare subsidies.
 - Rs 600 crore for the Food Security Scheme.
 - Rs 207.18 crore for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural).
 - Rs 54.12 crore for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).
 - Rs 25 crore for EWS housing grants.
 - Rs 55 crore for cooking gas subsidies for low-income families.
 - Rs 2 crore for the Environmental Friend Insurance scheme.
 - Rs 40 crore to provide free travel on state transport buses.
 - Rs 10 crore for the State Food Grain Scheme.
 - Rs 34.36 crore to subsidize salt for <u>Antyodaya ration card</u> holders.
- Strategic Focus on Development:
 - The budget reflects the state government's commitment to holistic growth and sustainable development.
 - By emphasizing infrastructure, social welfare, environment, and economic expansion, the government aims to improve the quality of life for Uttarakhand residents.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

- PMGSY is a central government scheme launched in 2000 to provide all-weather road connectivity to unconnected rural habitations.
 - The scheme was originally a 100% centrally-sponsored initiative, but starting from the financial year 2015-16, the funding has been shared between the Central and State governments in a 60:40 ratio.
 - Around 800,000 kilometres of rural roads have been built and 180,000 habitations were connected under various phases of the PMGSY scheme.

Vibrant Villages Programme

- It is a Centrally sponsored scheme, announced in the Union Budget 2022-23 (to 2025-26) for development of villages on the northern border, thus improving the quality of life of people living in identified border villages.
- It will cover the border areas of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh.
- It will cover 2,963 villages with 663 of them to be covered in the first phase.
- Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats.
- There will not be overlap with the Border Area Development Programme.

