

**क्या पढ़ना है और क्या छोड़ना है अभ्यर्थी
को सफलता के लिए ये जानना आना चाहिए**

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Punjab current Affairs 2018

Punjab budget 2018-19:

Punjab finance minister Manpreet Badal presented state budget 2018 in the state Assembly on 24 march 2018.

key Points from the budget speech:

1. **Key focus areas** are agriculture and farmer welfare, industry, health, employees and students.
2. **The total budget size** was Rs 1,29,698 crore; effective size is Rs 1,02,198 crore.
3. Budget proposed raising Rs 1,500 crore through additional resource mobilisation measures.
4. Government will bring a legislation for imposing a "**nominal development tax**" at the rate of **Rs 200 per month**. This will apply to only those Income Tax payees who are engaged in professions, trades, callings and employments. New tax will be called '**Punjab Development Tax**'. Government is hoping to garner Rs 150 crore annually.
5. **State will provide text-books free of cost to students of Class I to Class 12th** studying in government schools during 2018-19. Rs 49 crore has been provided for this.
6. The government will provide **free sanitary napkins to all girl students from Class 6-12th** in all government schools.

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7. All municipal towns/areas would be made **Open Defecation Free by June 30, 2018**, under the Swachh Bharat Mission.
8. Total outstanding debt of the state is Rs 1,95,978 crore, which is **41.04 per cent of GSDP for 2017-18**. The outstanding debt liability is likely to be Rs 2,11,523 crore in 2018-19, **40.82 per cent of GSDP**.
9. The debt servicing (principal plus interest) for 2018-19 is Rs 24,870 crore as against the allowed net borrowing limit of Rs 15,545 crore approved by Government of India for financial year 2018-19.
10. **Fiscal deficit** contained to **4.36 per cent** during 17-18 as compared to 12.18 per cent for 16-17. This has been targeted to be **3.81 per cent** in 2018-19.
11. The state's revenue expenditure rose from Rs 55,296 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 71,183 crore in 2017-18 and during the same period, expenditure on salaries, wages and grant-in-aid has risen from Rs 21,729 crore to Rs 24,938 crore, and on pensions from Rs 8,773 crore to Rs 9,469 crore.
12. The expenditure on **interest payments** rose from Rs 11,642 crore to Rs 15,175 crore.
13. **Revenue deficit** pegged at **2.42 per cent** of GSDP in 2018-19.
14. During 2017-18, the GSDP of the state has increased from Rs 4,33,660 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 4,77,482 crore, and it is projected to increase to Rs 5,18,165 crore in 2018-19.
15. **Per capita income** of the state has also increased from Rs 1,31,112 in 2016-17 to **Rs 1,42,958** in 2017-18 and is 28 per cent higher than national average of Rs 1,11,782, he said.

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16. On farmers' welfare, total outlay for the year 2018-19 has been increased from Rs 10,581 crore (17-18) to Rs 14,734 crore.

17. On debt waiver, an amount of Rs 4250 crore has been proposed for implementation of this scheme during 2018-19. During 2017-18, Rs 370 crore had been disbursed to 71,166 marginal farmers.

18. Free power is being provided by the state government to farmers and subsidised power to SC, BC and Non SC-BPL category and a provision of Rs 8,950 crore is being made in the budget 2018-19.

Other Points :

Total outstanding debt of state as on March 2018 is Rs 1,95,978 crore

* Rs 4,250 cr allocated for farm debt relief for 2018-19

* During 2017-2018, **GSDP of Punjab** has increased from Rs 4,33,660 crore in 2016-27 to 4,77,482 crore in current prices

* Rs 73.34 crore for upgradation of government medical colleges at Patiala and Amritsar.

* Rs 230 crore for upgradation of 75 rural roads and 4 bridges with NABARD assistance.

* **State cancer institute** at **Amritsar** costing Rs 39 crore to come up

* **Tertiary cancer care centre** at **Fazilka** to cope up with Rs 45 crore

* A support of **Rs 25 crore** to cancer and **drug de-addiction treatment infrastructure board (CADA)**

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- * Enhancement of 6 per cent grant as compared to last year for six universities of Punjab
- * Rs 914.57 crore for National Health Mission, this is 18 per cent more than last year
- * Solar system to be installed at all senior secondary schools
- * One time grant of Rs 50 crore for Punjabi University, Patiala
- * Rs 500 crore allocated for **smart cities** of Ludhiana, Amritsar and Jalandhar
- * Installation of RO system in 1,500 schools with Rs 9 crore. Rs 10 crore for **free sanitary napkins in schools.**
- * Every taxpayer in Punjab will now have to pay **20 paise development tax.**
- * Rs 4,015 crore for primary and secondary health care facilities with an increase of 13 per cent over previous year budget.
- * Rs 1,634 crore for 17.35 lakh beneficiaries of social security pension
- * Rs 1,634 crore for 17.35 lakh beneficiaries of social security pensions
- * **Free power to SC and BCs** to cost Rs 8,950 crore.
- * **Outstanding debt of Punjab** to go up to Rs 2,11,523 crore in 2018-19
- * Rs 180 crore for sugarcane growers
- * **Centre for excellence for floriculture** in **Doraha**, Ludhiana

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- * Rs 20 crore allocated in 2018-19 for establishing district bureaus of employment and enterprises in all 22 districts
- * Rs 1,440 crore for subsidized power to industry at Rs 5 per unit
- * Rs 5 crore allocated to connect NRIs and youth with Punjab culture and heritage
- * Free Wi-Fi services in all Government colleges
- * Grant of Rs 42 crore for Panjab University
- * Rs 100 crore provided for preparatory arrangements of 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev in 2019
- * Rs 10 crore provided to develop tourism circuits
- * To set up sports University at Patiala, initial allocation of Rs 10 crore made in the budget
- * Rs 100 crore for crop residue management
- * Rs 6 crore of outlay in 2018-19 for establishing shooting range at Mohali and new trap and skeet shooting range at Mukatsar.
- * Burning of paddy straw has come down to 62% of the paddy down area, says FM
- * Total outstanding debt of Punjab is Rs 1,95,978 crore.
- * Debt servicing for 2018-19 is Rs 24,870 crore as against allowed net borrowing limit of Rs 15,545 crore approved by the Centre.

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- * Rs 8 crore proposed as grant to PU's constituent colleges
- * Total grant to Panjab University enhanced from existing Rs 33 crore to Rs 42.62 crore
- * When this govt took over it was welcomed with the additional liability of Rs 30,584 crore.

2. 24 march ,**Punjab state Kisan Mela** concludes at Ludhiana

3. 24 march :The percentage of reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Other Backward Classes is likely to increase the reservation for admission from 5% to 10% in educational, technical and professional institutions in the state.

4. **24 march : Navraj Sandhu Committee:**

Vice-President and Panjab University chancellor **M Venkaiah Naidu** has approved the composition of an "independent internal committee" to be headed by Navraj Sandhu, additional chief secretary, department of cooperation and vigilance, Haryana government, to probe the sexual harassment complaint against vice-chancellor Prof Arun Kumar Grover.

5. **23 March : E cigarettes issue**

The Punjab and Haryana high court on Thursday issued a notice to the Chandigarh administration, along with Punjab and Haryana, to ban e-cigarettes, which carry nicotine.

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6. 23 March:Udta Punjab:CAG Report

Between 2013 and 2017, 5,099 accused were convicted and 756 were acquitted by the courts. Of the acquittals, 532 (70%) were freed because of deficiencies in testimony statements by police officials in seven police districts that were audited. The audited districts include Jalandhar, Amritsar (rural), Fazilka, Gurdaspur, Bathinda, Hoshiarpur and Mohali.

It adds that Punjab State Narcotic Control Bureau (PSNCB) was established in May 2015 to unearth drug smuggling networks from origin to final destination, "yet the Punjab police never followed/adopted 'controlled delivery' technique to identify the real persons behind the operation and ultimate recipients of the illicit consignment"

7. 22 March : I-League Trophy:

In a tightly fought tournament, Minerva Punjab FC reigned supreme to bring the I-League trophy to the Northern part of India after a prolonged wait of 21 years.

Individual awardees' names :

Best Goalkeeper: Shilton Paul (Mohun Bagan), Jarnail Singh Award for Best Defender: Varney K Kallon (NEROCA FC), Best Midfielder: Soosairaj Michael (Chennai City FC), Best Forward: Chencho Gyeltshen (Minerva Punjab FC), Highest Scorer: Dipanda Dicka (Mohun Bagan)

Best Emerging Player (U-22): Samuel Lalmuanpuia (Shillong Lajong FC), Syed Abdul Rahim Award for Best Coach: Gift Raikhan (NEROCA FC), Best Match Organiser: NEROCA FC, Fairplay Award: NEROCA FC.

8. Pinjra Tod movement :

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