



Regional Developments

21st March 2022



Haryana

Haryana CS directs officials to prepare action plan for crop residue management

On 11 March 2022, Haryana chief secretary (CS) Sanjeev Kaushal directed the concerned officials to prepare an advance action plan for crop residue management ahead of the upcoming season.

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DHBVN invites bids for setting up rooftop solar systems at residential premises in Haryana

The Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (DHBVN) has floated tenders for setting up grid-connected rooftop solar systems of 1-500 KW capacity in residential premises under its 11 operation circles in Haryana.

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HERC approves ARR of Rs. 22 bln for Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Ltd for 2022-23

The Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (HERC) has approved annual revenue requirement (ARR) of Rs. 22 billion for the Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam (HVPN) Limited for 2022-23.

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Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh CM lays foundation for Dhalli tunnel on Shimla-Kufri road

On 9 March 2022, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister (CM) Jai Ram Thakur laid the foundation stone of the double-lane Dhalli tunnel on the Shimla-Kufri road.

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Himachal Pradesh govt approves 'Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Transport Scheme'

The Himachal Pradesh government has approved the 'Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Transport Scheme' for the state. The aim is to promote low-cost transport operations in rural areas.

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Himachal Pradesh CM inaugurates, lays foundation for 21 projects in Barsar

On 13 March 2022, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister (CM) Jai Ram Thakur inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for 21 developmental projects worth Rs. 2.6 billion in Barsar Assembly constituency of Hamirpur district.

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Punjab

PSPCL promises to provide 8-hour of power supply to farmers in Punjab

The Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) has promised to provide eight-hour of power supply to farmers and regular supply to various categories in Punjab in the upcoming summer & paddy season. The corporation has also made power purchase arrangements (PPA) of nearly 500 MW on a short-term basis from June to September 2022.

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JSW Cement to source biomass from Punjab Renewable energy

The cement company plans to nearly halve its carbon emissions intensity by FY26. JSW Cement has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Punjab Renewable Energy Systems to use agricultural waste as biomass energy in its cement-manufacturing operations.

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Punjab govt releases Rs. 1 bln as compensation for damaged cotton crop

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)-led Punjab government has released an amount to the tune of Rs. 1 billion as compensation for the cotton crop which got damaged due to the pink bollworm attack. On 17 March 2022, a large number of farmers, under the banner of the Bharatiya Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan) gheraoed the Mansa district administrative complex.

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Gujarat

Union home minister rolls out 'Sahi Poshan, Desh Roshan' initiative in Gujarat

On 13 March 2022, Union home & cooperation minister Amit Shah inaugurated various projects under the 'Sahi Poshan, Desh Roshan' campaign in Gujarat. The initiative has been launched by the state government in collaboration with the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation. The minister praised Gujarat's cooperative sector for making invaluable contributions by providing equal development opportunities to the poor, farmers, women and youth. It would play a crucial role in fulfilling the Centre's mission of developing a self-reliant nation along with doubling the income of farmers.

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SJVN secures 100 MW solar power project in Gujarat

The state-owned power producer, SJVN, has secured a 100 MW grid-connected solar power project in Gujarat through tariff-based competitive bidding held by Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam (GUVNL). The project will generate 245.28 million units of power every year and is expected to generate cumulative energy of around 6,132 million units over the next 25 years. The project is estimated to cost around Rs.5 billion.

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Maharashtra

Maharashtra govt to offer incentives for setting up liquid medical oxygen units

The Maharashtra government is looking to offer incentives for setting up more liquid medical oxygen units in the state, in the wake of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This has come as the state government has estimated that the requirement of liquid medical oxygen could go up to 2,300 metric tonnes (MT) a day in the future.

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Maharashtra to reduce CNG VAT from 13.5% to 3%

The Maharashtra Budget has proposed a reduction in VAT on CNG from 13.5 per cent to 3 per cent.

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NHSRCL submits DPR for Mumbai-Nagpur bullet train corridor in Maharashtra

The National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) has submitted a detailed project report (DPR) of the proposed 700-km bullet train corridor between Maharashtra's Mumbai and Nagpur to the Railway Board. The construction works are being taken up by the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC).

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Maharashtra's Mumbai admin announces plan to eliminate carbon emissions by 2050

On 13 March 2022, Maharashtra's Mumbai administration announced a detailed plan to completely eliminate carbon emissions by 2050. The plan lists changes across six domains, including investments in housing, electrifying public transport & more walkable roads, flood-resistant drainage & water conservation, rooftop solar capacities, etc.

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Goa

20 pvt universities, HEIs pledge to strengthen India's net zero commitment

Over 20 Indian private universities and higher educational institutions (HEIs) have pledged for "better and improved" actions to achieve UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in their institutions and cities to strengthen India's net zero commitment. The institutions signed a "Goa Declaration" at the conclusion of the three-day PACT2030 conclave, held in Goa last week.

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Madhya Pradesh

Centre sanctions Rs. 8.7 bln for upgradation of 2 roads in Madhya Pradesh

The Centre has sanctioned an amount to the tune of Rs. 8.7 billion for the upgradation of as many as two roads in Madhya Pradesh. Notably, these roads are important from the point of view of tourism in the state. The development will provide better road connectivity from Sanchi to Chanderi and from Kanha National Park to the origin of Narmada river Amarkantak, besides helping tourists visiting the fossil park in Raipura.

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Madhya Pradesh govt to waive electricity bills deferred during COVID-19 period

The Madhya Pradesh government has decided to waive electricity bills of Rs. 60 billion that were deferred during the COVID-19 period. The move is expected to benefit around 8.8 million domestic consumers.

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Tamil Nadu

Chennai to get second airport

Chennai is set to get second airport. Preliminary work on the location for a second airport for Chennai has begun with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) inspecting four potential sites identified by the Tamil Nadu government for setting up the greenfield facility. The four sites that the state government has suggested for the Chennai's second airport are Tirupporur, Parandur, Pannur, Padalam.

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Tamil Nadu govt collects Rs. 127 bln from property registrations

The Tamil Nadu government collected Rs. 127 billion from property registrations as of 14 March 2022. This is a leap with respect to revenue of Rs. 16.7 billion in 2019-20 and Rs. 20.5 billion 2020-21. The state registration department is expecting an income of Rs. 135 billion by the end of 2021-22.

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Tamil Nadu govt unveils new Data Policy

On 16 March 2022, the Tamil Nadu government unveiled the Tamil Nadu Data Policy. The aim is to provide good governance and improve access & quality of services offered to the people. It is expected to support policy-making, improve implementation of schemes, encourage value-added services, improve access to and quality of services. The new policy will minimise exclusion & inclusion errors in government schemes and promote data analytics capabilities of departments.

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Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh's economy fully-recovered from pandemic's impact: Survey

Andhra Pradesh's economy has fully-recovered from the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, according to the Socio-Economic Survey 2021-22. The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at current prices stands at Rs. 12 trillion, as against Rs. 10.1 trillion in 2020-21. At constant prices, the GSDP grew at 11.4 per cent to Rs. 6.7 trillion.

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13 new districts to be functional in Andhra Pradesh from 2 April

The Andhra Pradesh government has completed the process of recognising new districts in a scientific way, informed GSRKR Vijay Kumar, secretary, planning. A blueprint for the newly-carved 13 districts has been prepared and will be submitted for final recommendations to the state government by 18 March 2022.

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AP discoms asked to promote energy efficient appliances

The Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission has directed the state power discoms to promote the use of energy-efficient appliances by domestic consumers. The aim is to help in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and save on electricity bills.

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Karnataka

Karnataka govt to expedite Bengaluru suburban rail project

The Karnataka government is preparing to commence works on the Bengaluru suburban rail project. The state government has already invited tenders for the second of the four corridors approved by the Centre.

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Karnataka Cabinet okays Fiscal Responsibility (Amendment) Bill

The Karnataka Cabinet gave its nod for the Karnataka Fiscal Responsibility (Amendment) Bill, on 11 March 2022. It will provide the state government freedom of increasing the fiscal deficit ceiling to 3.5 per cent and permitting state's debts to go beyond the stipulated limit of 25 per cent of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP).

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Karnataka govt inks pact with British Council

On 11 March 2022, the Karnataka government signed an MoU with the British Council for renewing their partnership so as to help the state's youth for acquiring skills in the areas of arts, education & English. The agreement will be valid for a period of three years.

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Telangana

Telangana govt to implement Pattana Pragathi Programme

The Telangana government is preparing to implement the Pattana Pragathi Programme for desludging in 142 urban local bodies (ULBs) across the state. The aim is to safeguard environmental quality, public health and comply with the Swachh Survekshan protocols.

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Telangana govt takes steps to strengthen MCH centres, SNCUs

The Telangana government has been taking up several measures to strengthen mother & child healthcare (MCH) centres and special newborn care units (SNCU) across the state. As part of the move, as many as 26 MCH centres have been sanctioned and specialist doctors & other staff have been recruited, informed state health minister T Harish Rao.

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Telangana's fish production value likely to surpass Rs. 55 bln in 2021-22

Owing to a significant increase in the distribution of fishlings, the state is likely to surpass the fish production value of Rs. 55 billion in 2021-22.

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Delhi

Delhi education dept issues new promotion policy

The Delhi education department has issued a new promotion policy for the current academic session. As part of it, students of classes IX and XI will be promoted to the next grade on the basis of their scores in the mid-term tests, annual examination and projects or practicals taken together.

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Delhi govt allows joint ownership of e-autos

In a bid to encourage more women to take up driving in the Delhi Transport Corporation, the Delhi government has allowed joint ownership of electric autorickshaws (e-autos). The government has been taking various initiatives to get more women behind the wheel in public transport. As part of this, 33 per cent e-autos have been reserved for women and height restrictions have also been relaxed, informed transport minister Kailash Gahlot.

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Delhi's NDMC to set up 5 STPs

As many as five sewage treatment plants (STPs) will be set up on public-private partnership (PPP) basis by the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC). The aim is to augment the water supply in its parks and green spaces.

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Uttar Pradesh

Greater Noida Authority allocates Rs. 11 bln for Noida-Greater Noida Metro works

Uttar Pradesh's Greater Noida Authority has allocated a sum of Rs. 11 billion for the Noida-Greater Noida Metro works. The project is likely to be completed by the end of 2024. In the first phase, the Metro will cover Sector-51 to Sector-2 of Greater Noida West. As many as five elevated stations will be built on the 9.1-km-long-elevated track. The GR Infra Project Limited has taken up the project.

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UP power discoms to raise debt worth Rs.80 billion before 31 March

The Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation (UPPC) will be issuing bonds worth Rs.80 billion before 31 March 2022, to bridge the gap between its revenues and operational expenses. The government-backed bonds will be traded on the BSE portal with a required minimum investment of Rs.1 million

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Uttar Pradesh govt to establish 6 Dhanwantri Mega Health Parks

The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to establish as many as six Dhanwantri Mega Health Parks across the state. The total cost of the project has been pegged at Rs. 300 billion. The move aims to enable the state to become self-sufficient by expanding the production of medical facilities, like health & surgical instruments and medicines, on a large scale.

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Rajasthan

Married daughters to get job on compassionate grounds in Rajasthan Roadways

The Rajasthan government has approved the proposal of Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC) enabling married daughters to get job in the state roadways on compassionate grounds in case of her father's death. Earlier, there was a provision to give compassionate appointments to the dependents on the death of the employee in the corporation, including sons, adopted sons, unmarried daughters, divorced daughters, widowed daughters or wife.

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Rajasthan govt to build 2,500-km roads in village panchayats

The Rajasthan government is planning to construct 2,500-km of roads in village panchayats under the Gandhi Vikas Path scheme so as to boost economy in the region. The project cost has been pegged at Rs.17.5 billion.

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West Bengal

West Bengal govt to improve tourism infrastructure in Sundarbans

The West Bengal government has decided to take up measures to improve the tourism infrastructure in the Sundarbans region. It has also sought the participation of the private sector in the matter, informed state tourism minister Indranil Sen on 10 March 2022.

[Read more](#)

West Bengal minister presents Rs. 3.2 tln state Budget for 2022-23

West Bengal finance minister Chandrima Bhattacharya presented the state's Budget for 2022-23, entailing a total outlay of Rs. 3.2 trillion. The Budget has proposed incentives for battery-operated and CNG vehicles along with tax relief for the tea sector.

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West Bengal govt to develop water supply network across urban areas

The West Bengal government has decided to develop the water supply network across urban areas of the state. It has set a target to cover 100 per cent of households with piped water supply by 2023. The state government has given a nod to Rs. 1.2 billion water augmentation project at the Jai Hind water treatment plant.

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Bihar

Bihar to get 4 expressways under Bharatmala project

Bihar is set to get as many as four expressways under phase-II of the Bharatmala project, along with several ring roads around important towns. This includes a 416-km stretch of the six-lane Gorakhpur-Siliguri greenfield expressway, which will be developed with an investment of Rs. 290 billion.

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Bihar govt to recruit transgenders in state police force

The Bihar government has decided to recruit transgender people in the state police force and club them with the Other Backward Class (OBC) category. The decision was taken during a meeting chaired by state chief secretary Amir Subhani on 12 March 2022. The objective is to enable them to access reservation benefits.

[Read more](#)

Bihar govt identifies land for setting up textile park under PM MITRA

The Bihar government has identified around 695.6 hectares of land in West Champaran for setting up a mega textile park under the Prime Minister Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA).

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Odisha

OSRTC replaces 86 buses with modern fleet in Odisha

The Odisha State Road Transport Corporation (OSRTC) has replaced as many as 86 old buses with modern ones on 46 existing routes across the state. The aim is to provide better comfort and safety to the passengers.

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Odisha govt signs pact with NABARD to boost fish production

The Odisha government and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have signed a pact for the creation of fisheries infrastructure to boost fish production in the state. A sum of Rs. 1.1 billion has been initially approved for the creation of a dedicated Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF).

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Odisha govt to implement 54 projects under 'Sagarmala' initiative

The Odisha government has decided to implement as many as 54 projects worth Rs. 630 billion under the Centre's ambitious 'Sagarmala' initiative. These projects are related to modernisation of the ports, connectivity, industrialisation, coastal community development and shipping & inland waterways.

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North-East

20 MW greenfield solar power plant to come up in Nagaland

The Nagaland government signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) with a Hyderabad-based Halo Energie to set up a 20 MW greenfield solar power plant in the state. The first-of-its-kind project will be spread across 48.5 hectares inside the Ganeshnagar industrial area in Dimapur.

[Read more](#)

Meghalaya govt earmarks Rs. 8 bln for projects under MITP

The Meghalaya government has earmarked an amount to the tune of Rs. 8 billion for the implementation of projects under the World Bank-funded Meghalaya Integrated Transport Project (MITP).

[Read more](#)

Centre gives nod for construction of new ALG in Arunachal Pradesh's Dirang

The Centre has given its approval for the construction of new advanced landing grounds (ALG) in Arunachal Pradesh's Dirang and the development of an old abandoned ALG at Anini for civil & military operations.

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Jharkhand

Companies in Jharkhand urged to utilise 2% profits for welfare activities

Companies in Jharkhand have been urged to spend at least two per cent of their profits for welfare activities and development of public amenities. The appeal was made by state transport minister Champai Soren, on 13 March 2022. The minister also demanded the Tata Steel Foundation to provide 1,500 e-scooters to the Sahiya Didis who work in the remote & difficult terrains.

[Read more](#)

Jharkhand's new airport in Deoghar all set to begin operations

Jharkhand's newly-constructed airport in Deoghar is likely to begin operations after receiving a nod from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation. The airport has been completed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI). It is spread over an area of 263 hectares and has a capacity to handle 200 passengers at peak hours. The terminal building also has tribal arts, handicrafts and local tourist sites. It is equipped with contemporary amenities such as round-the-clock medical assistance for passengers, six check-in counters, etc.

[Read more](#)

Kerala

Kerala govt earmarks Rs.10 billion for acquiring land for IT parks in its Budget 2022

On 11 March 2022, the Kerala finance minister KN Balagopal presented the first-ever paperless state Budget for 2022-23. The state government has earmarked Rs.10 billion for acquiring land for the development of various information technology (IT) parks and another Rs.10 billion for setting up four science parks.

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Kerala govt allocates Rs. 60 mln for carbon-neutral farming

The Kerala government has earmarked Rs. 60 million in the 2022-23 state Budget for introducing carbon-neutral farming methods in selected locations. The aim is to improve environmental balance and improve health for the safe sustenance of future generations.

[Read more](#)

Kerala govt to set up 56 e-charging stations

The Kerala government is setting up as many as 56 electric charging (e-charging) stations on a pay-per-charge basis. The information was shared by state electricity minister K Krishnankutty, on 17 March 2022. Of them, as many as five stations have already been installed by the Kerala State Electricity Board Limited (KSEBL).

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