



# Regional Developments

7<sup>th</sup> March 2022



## Haryana

### Haryana govt plans to introduce third-party audit before giving OC to buildings

The Haryana government is planning to introduce an independent third-party audit before giving the occupation certificate to a building. The new system would be a mix of self-certification and government intervention, by which audits will be introduced to ensure compliance with regulations.

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### Haryana govt to launch policy for resolution of stressed assets

The Haryana government has decided to launch a policy for the resolution of stressed assets within the framework of the RERA Act and the Urban Areas Act. This would help in establishing a transparent and reliable mechanism for ensuring the structural stability of multi-storey buildings.

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### Haryana govt bans diesel autos older than 10 years in Gurugram

The Haryana government has imposed a ban on the plying of diesel auto-rickshaws older than 10 years and petrol ones older than 15 years in Gurugram. The state government has not taken any decision to remove old vehicles in other cities and is working on a plan to provide relief to people living in other districts falling within the NCR limits.

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## Himachal Pradesh

### Himachal Pradesh govt registers 17% increase in GST revenue

The Himachal Pradesh government has recorded Goods & Service Tax (GST) collection of Rs. 3.2 billion in February 2022, as compared to Rs. 2.7 billion in the corresponding period in 2021. This translates to an overall growth of 17 per cent in the state's GST revenue.

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### Himachal Pradesh CM presents state economic survey 2021-22

Himachal Pradesh CM Jai Ram Thakur presented the state economic survey for 2021-22. The state economy is expected to witness real GDP spike of 8.3 per cent in the fiscal.

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### Himachal Pradesh govt to get 15% EVs by 2025

The Himachal Pradesh government is preparing to develop the state as a hub for electric vehicles (EVs) by 2025. The aim is to create a pollution free environment in the state. As part of this, the state government has set a target to replace 15 per cent of old vehicles in the state with EVs during the period.

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## Punjab

### Punjab govt targets 23% increase in area under cotton

The Punjab government is targeting to increase area under cotton by 23 per cent in the upcoming kharif season starting from April 2022. Following this, the total land under the commodity will increase from 325,000 hectares in 2021 to 400,000 hectares this year.

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### Punjab industries urge PSERC to declare power tariff before 1 April

The Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (PSERC) has been urged by the state industries for announcement of power tariff for 2022-23, before 1 April 2022. This would help them in planning out their manufacturing expenditure well in time and save the state government from the complication of bearing arrears.

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## Gujarat

### DRDO allocates Rs. 12 bln for academic research in defence in Gujarat

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in Gujarat has set aside an amount of Rs. 12 billion for supporting academic research in defence. A total of 500 research students will be working with the centre wherein defence-related core research will be undertaken. Around 40 students have already registered for the courses and they will get an opportunity to work in the defence laboratory.

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### Gujarat health minister inaugurates 31 dialysis centres

On 1 March 2022, Gujarat health minister Rushikesh Patel inaugurated 31 dialysis centres at as many talukas. The development has come under the Gujarat Dialysis Programme, managed by the Institute of Kidney Diseases & Research Centre (IKDRC), as per The Indian Express. With this, there are 92 dialysis centres under the programme.

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### Gujarat finance minister presents Rs. 2.4 tln state Budget for 2022-23

Gujarat finance minister Kanubhai Desai presented a Rs. 2.4 trillion state Budget for 2022-23, on 3 March 2022. The education sector has received the highest outlay of Rs. 348.8 billion, followed by Rs. 155.6 billion to the energy & petrochemicals department, Rs. 142.9 billion for urban development, Rs. 122.4 billion to health & family welfare and Rs. 120.2 billion to the road & building department.

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## Maharashtra

### Maharashtra's PMC approves infrastructure projects worth Rs. 25 bln

The Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) in Maharashtra approved infrastructure projects worth Rs. 25 billion. Prime Minister (PM) will inaugurate multiple civic projects, including the Pune Metro rail, on 6 March 2022.

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### Maharashtra govt launches Agriculture Export Policy

The Maharashtra government launched the state's Agriculture Export Policy (AEP). The policy will focus on the export promotion of 21 agricultural commodities as it can help increase the net income of farmers by about 40 to 45 per cent, according to The Economic Times. Some of the activities envisaged under the policy are infrastructure creation, export of organic products, export of products registered under Geographical Indication, developing sea protocol & trial consignments, etc.

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### Maharashtra govt prepares draft for new women's empowerment policy

The Maharashtra government has prepared a draft for the new women's empowerment policy taking a holistic view of gender equality. The policy proposes to engage extensively with men and boys in promoting gender equality, informed state minister Yashomati Thakur. The policy focuses on social and economic development of women, girls & persons belonging to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersex, asexual (LGBTQIA) community.

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## Goa

### Goa government notifies charging infra policy for electric vehicles

The Goa state government has notified the Goa EV Concessional Charging Infrastructure Policy 2021. This will pave the way for EV charging stations across the state. It will also boost sales of electric vehicles. As per the policy, the charging stations operators shall be allowed other sources to generate revenue, but with prior approval.

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### Goa govt allows school students to attend offline classes without parental consent

The Goa government has withdrawn its circular making parents' consent mandatory for school students to attend physical classes. The move has come after parents raised objections to the consent forms. In another development, an expert committee has recommended to the state government that schools can begin functioning at full capacity, in view of the declining coronavirus (COVID-19) cases.

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## Madhya Pradesh

### Madhya Pradesh To Set Up Agriculture Excellence Centers In Cooperation With Israel

The Consulate General of Israel Shri Kobbi Shoshani told Chief Minister Shri Chouhan that out of 29 centres of excellence in agriculture in India, Israel proposes to set up two centres in Madhya Pradesh. Officers of Madhya Pradesh's Agriculture and Horticulture Department will be benefitted through a fortnight's specialization course in Israel.

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### India seeks Namibia's partnership for re-introduction of Cheetahs into Madhya Pradesh's wild

A five-member team of experts including principal secretary of Madhya Pradesh forest department and chief wildlife warden along with experts from MoEF and WII visited Namibia and held a bilateral talk with the government officials for sourcing a few Cheetahs into their historical range and wild habitat in India.

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## Tamil Nadu

### Tamil Nadu tops country's overall renewable capacity

Tamil Nadu has topped the chart in overall installed renewable energy capacity across the country. The state's total capacity stood at 15,914 MW followed by Karnataka with 15,795 MW, as on 31 January 2022. The state's total solar capacity increased to 4,894 MW, including ground-mounted, rooftop and off-grid capacity, from 2,575 MW as of 31 March 2019.

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### Tamil Nadu govt reduces fee to obtain NOC for medical internships by over 90%

The Tamil Nadu government has reduced the fee paid by foreign medical graduates to obtain no-objection certificates (NOC) to do their internships in government medical colleges. Following this, the fee has been slashed by more than 90 per cent, from Rs. 354,000 to Rs. 29,400.

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### Third edition of TANSEED launched in Tamil Nadu

The Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (TANSIM) has launched the third edition of Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Grant Fund (TANSEED). Under the TANSEED scheme, a grant of Rs. 1 million will be given to qualified early-stage companies through a stringent selection process executed by TANSIM in association with professional implementation partners.

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## Andhra Pradesh

### Andhra Pradesh govt plans to develop air connectivity to Hope Island

The Andhra Pradesh government is planning to develop air connectivity between Kakinada and Hope Island in the Kakinada Bay. The move aims to facilitate people to explore the scenic beauty of the Godavari estuary in the state.

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### Andhra Pradesh govt to construct 3.2 mln fully-equipped houses in 2 phases

The Andhra Pradesh government has decided to construct 3.2 million fully-equipped houses in two phases. Under phase-I, the construction of 1.5 million houses is expected to be completed soon.

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### Andhra Pradesh CM releases State Focus Paper for 2022-23

On 2 March 2022, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister (CM) YS Jaganmohan Reddy released a State Focus Paper (SFP) for 2022-23, prepared by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The state's agriculture sector has achieved a growth rate of 4.1 per cent, despite the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

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## Karnataka

### 18 companies to set up ESDM operations in Karnataka

The Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) has received Letter of Intent (LoI) from as many as 18 corporations to set up operations in the state. This would boost the growth of the electronics, system, design & manufacturing (ESDM) industry in the state and develop it into an epicentre for innovation.

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### Karnataka govt records 21% growth in GST collection

The Karnataka government's Goods & Service Tax (GST) revenue touched Rs. 91.7 billion in February 2022. This is a 21 per cent increase as compared to collections in the corresponding period in 2021.

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### Union minister inaugurates, lays foundation for 46 NH projects in Karnataka

Union minister for road transport & highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated and laid foundation stones for as many as 46 national highway (NH) projects in Karnataka. The total cost of these projects has been pegged at Rs. 199.3 billion.

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## Telangana

### Telangana govt to launch chemotherapy & radiotherapy centres in all districts

The Telangana government has decided to come up with chemotherapy and radiotherapy centres in each district of the state. The move aims to ensure convenience for thousands of cancer patients who travel to Hyderabad and other major hospitals for cancer treatment from far-flung areas.

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### Telangana govt plans to unveil Space-Tech framework through Metaverse on 18 April

The Telangana government is planning to unveil its Space-Tech framework through the Metaverse platform on 18 April 2022. In the first-of-its-kind initiative by any state, Telangana will be unveiling an emerging technology policy by using another niche technology.

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### Telangana govt to develop Ramappa temple into spiritual tourism hub

The Telangana government is looking to prepare a detailed project report for development of the Ramappa temple and its premises into a spiritual tourism hub. The move comes after the thirteenth-century temple made it to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's list of world heritage sites.

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## Delhi

### Centre to develop satellite unit of NIH in Delhi

The Centre is planning to make the National Institute of Homoeopathy (NIH) as a world-class centre with greater emphasis on research & development. As part of this, a satellite unit of the Kolkata-based centre of excellence is being constructed in Delhi, with an investment of Rs. 3 billion.

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### Delhi Metro Rail Corporation signs MoU with CPWD

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and Central Public Works Department (CPWD) have signed an MoU. As per the pact, the former will provide technical assistance and execute finishing & service works for the construction of a loop corridor connecting the existing Metro network with the new Central Secretariat buildings. Under the proposed plan, a Metro loop corridor of around three-km, will cater to those wishing to travel to these offices using the Metro.

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## Uttar Pradesh

### AAI to provide air navigation services at Jewar airport

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Yamuna International Airport (YIAPL) has inked an agreement for the provision of Communication Navigation Surveillance Systems (CNS) & Air Traffic Management (ATM) facilities and services at the Noida International Airport or the Jewar airport. The Jewar airport is expected to be commissioned by the year 2025.

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### Uttar Pradesh govt to pay bonus to contractors for completing Purvanchal Expressway before time

The Uttar Pradesh government would pay Rs. 1.8 billion as bonus to contractors for completing the 341-km-long Purvanchal Expressway 150 days before the scheduled completion date. The project contract had a clause, according to which contractors would be paid a bonus equivalent to 0.04 per cent of the contract price for each day of early completion from the completion date, subject to maximum of per cent of contract price.

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## Rajasthan

### Rajasthan CM approves Rs. 2 bln for renovating Ferozepur feeder canal

Rajasthan Chief Minister (CM) Ashok Gehlot has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 2 billion for the renovation of the Ferozepur feeder canal. The canal emanates from the Harike barrage and supplies water to Sriganganagar, as per The Tribune. The renovation is being undertaken as the lining of the structure has collapsed at several places and 4,800 to 5,300 cubic foot per second (cusecs) of water is being released, instead of the canal's original capacity to carry 6,000 cusecs.

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### Rajasthan govt announces 'Camel Protection and Development Policy'

The Rajasthan government has announced the 'Camel Protection and Development Policy', to tackle the problem of declining number of camels in the state. A budget of Rs. 100 million has been proposed in the next financial year under the new policy for rearing, protection and overall development of the state animal.

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### Rajasthan to get 2 new solar parks

Rajasthan is set to get as many as two new solar parks with 1,800 MW capacity in Jaisalmer and Bikaner. As part of it, 800 MW solar parks will be developed in Jaisalmer by the Rajasthan Vidyut Utpadan Nigam in phase-I and 1,000 MW parks in Bikaner by the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation. Approval for the same has already been received from the Union ministry of new and renewable energy.

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## West Bengal

### COVID-19-induced night curbs to continue in West Bengal till 15 March

The COVID-19-induced night curbs from midnight to 5 am will continue in West Bengal till 15 March 2022. The move has come in the wake of the declining cases of COVID-19. Barring essential & emergency services, movement of people, vehicles and all public gatherings will be prohibited during the said period.

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### Thirty countries attend interactive meeting before Bengal Global Business Summit

Thirty countries attended a special meeting organised by the West Bengal government, before the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) takes place in April this year. The West Bengal government has been attempting to draw investors to the state. The BGBS, scheduled to take place on 20-21 August, has infrastructure, agri & allied activities, industries (including MSME), services including health and education, tourism, exports, IT & ITeS, and mining as its focus sectors.

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## Bihar

### Bihar SGDP growth rate expected to be 9.7% in 2022-23

The Bihar government is expecting the state gross domestic product (SGDP) to grow at 9.7 per cent in 2022-23. The fiscal deficit is also likely to be contained at 3.4 per cent of the state GDP. The state government is anticipating a revenue surplus of around Rs. 47.4 billion, which will be used for investment in physical infrastructure.

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### Bihar finance minister presents Rs. 2.3 tln state Budget for 2022-23

On 28 February 2022, Bihar finance minister Tarkishore Prasad presented the state Budget for 2022-23, entailing an outlay of Rs. 2.3 trillion. It focuses on education, rural development, energy, infrastructure, agriculture and youth. Moreover, the state government expects a growth rate of 7.9 per cent in the financial year 2022-23.

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### Agricultural Diagnostics for Bihar

The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) partnered with DFID, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development in India, to undertake an agricultural sector diagnostic study for the state of Bihar, titled, Water-to-Cloud: Correlating socio-economic indicators with river water quality, to understand the economic, natural, technological, and political constraints that agriculture in the state faces.

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## Odisha

### Odisha highways to be 100% road signage compliant

The Odisha commerce & transport department is planning to make highways in the state 100 per cent road signage compliant. The objective is to prevent road mishap fatalities by improving road infrastructure to warn, inform, guide and delineate the commuters.

[Read more](#)

### Odisha registers 23% growth in GST revenue

The Odisha government has recorded a 23 per cent growth in Goods & Service Tax (GST) revenue in the last one year. The gross GST collection was Rs. 41 billion during February 2022, as against Rs. 33.4 billion during the same month in 2021.

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### Odisha govt directs officials to expedite work on Deo Irrigation Project

The Odisha government has directed the concerned officials to complete the works of the Deo Irrigation Project in Mayurbhanj within the stipulated time. The facility is being developed with an investment of Rs. 9.4 billion.

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## North-East

### Centre sanctions Rs. 1.2 bln for setting up cancer centre at BCCI in Assam's Guwahati

The Centre has sanctioned Rs. 1.2 billion for setting up a centre for the management of paediatric and adult haematolymphoid cancers at the Dr. B Borooah Cancer Institute (BCCI) in Assam's Guwahati.

[Read more](#)

### Centre undertaking efforts to facilitate border trade between Mizoram & neighbouring countries

The Centre is taking proactive measures to facilitate border trade between Mizoram and two neighbouring countries, i.e. Myanmar and Bangladesh. As part of it, the Union government has sanctioned Rs. 150 million for strengthening the Indo-Myanmar border trade point at Zokhawthar village.

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### Oil India starts work on green hydrogen plant in Assam

Oil India has begun work on a 100 KW capacity pilot plant for generating Green Hydrogen with AEM Technology at its pump station at Jorhat in Assam. The company has estimated an investment of Rs.60 million.

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## Jharkhand

### JREDA to develop canal-top solar PV panels at 3 sites in Jharkhand

The Jharkhand Renewable Energy Development Agency (JREDA) has invited bids to prepare the feasibility-cum-detailed project report for megawatt-scale canal-top solar photovoltaic (PV) panels in the state.

[Read more](#)

### IR extends route of Ranchi-Deoghar Intercity train in Jharkhand

The Indian Railways (IR) has extended the route of the Ranchi-Deoghar Intercity train to Dumka in Jharkhand. The train will depart from Dumka at 3:30 hrs and will reach Ranchi at 12:50 hrs via Basukinath Ghormara, Dhanbad Gamo, Chandrapura, Deoghar, Jasidih and Bokaro. This has come as a relief to the residents of the area.

[Read more](#)

### Jharkhand finance minister presents Rs. 1 tln state Budget for 2022-23

Jharkhand finance minister Rameshwar Oraon presented the state Budget for 2022-23, entailing an outlay of Rs. 1 trillion, today. It focuses on education, health and agriculture.

[Read more](#)

## Kerala

### Kerala's CIAL commissions 12 MWp solar power plant in Kannur

The Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) in Kerala is set to become power-positive with the commissioning of its new solar power plant near Payyannur in Kannur district.

[Read more](#)

### Kerala govt launches scheme to convert fossil fuel-run fishing boats into LPG-driven vessels

The Kerala government has launched an eco-friendly scheme, under which fossil fuel-run fishing boats will be converted into liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)-driven vessels.

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### Kerala govt issues guidelines announcing various incentives to 'green'-rated buildings

The Kerala government has issued detailed guidelines announcing various incentives to the 'green'-rated buildings in the state, as part of encouraging eco-friendly buildings. According to the guidelines, the buildings will be rated on various criteria from the choosing of land for construction till the completion, in order to offer incentives including discounts in building tax, stamp duty and property tax.

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