



# DAILY PT POINTERS

2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu / Indian Express / Mint / PIB : Economy

## Budget 2024 Key Highlights: Fiscal deficit target for 2024-25 at 5.1% of GDP; no changes to income tax slabs

India Budget 2024 Key Highlights: Finance Minister announced 2 crore more houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G).

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## Analysis | Nirmala Sitharaman's interim Budget reveals BJP's confidence in comeback

FM Nirmala Sitharaman asserted that the Modi government would return in July to present a full Budget, on the strength of its record, and that it did not need announcements of last minute sops to go into the polls



### News

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the **interim budget 2024-25** in the Parliament.

### What is an interim budget?

- An interim budget is similar to a complete budget. One major difference is it only includes projections for a limited period of time, rather than an entire financial year.

### Key Highlights

- No change in tax rates for direct and indirect taxes, including import duties.
- The fiscal deficit — the gap between government's revenue and expenses — for 2024-25 is estimated at 5.1 per cent of GDP against 5.8 per cent in the current financial year.
- Three major railway corridors were announced - the Port connectivity corridor, the energy, mineral, and cement corridor, and the High traffic density corridor.
- A corpus of rupees one lakh crore will be established with a fifty-year interest-free loan. This will encourage the private sector to scale up research and innovation significantly in sunrise domains.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## The Hindu: Government Initiatives

### Karnataka plans digital detox initiative with game developers, NIMHANS

**Press Trust of India**  
BENGALURU



Online and offline centres will be set up across the State to provide counselling. AFP

The Karnataka government on Thursday said it would launch a 'Digital Detox' initiative in collaboration with the All India Game Developers Forum (AIGDF), with special emphasis on gaming and social media.

The aim is to spread awareness about the ills of spending too much time in the digital world and instead create an environment of responsible gaming, Minister for Information Technology, B...

Kharge said.

Speaking at the valedictory function of GAFX 2024, he said, "The Digital Detox initiative is yet another step towards fulfilling this government's commitment of building a

digitally empowered Karnataka through responsible use of technology."

#### **Toll on mental health**

Observing that mental health issues, shrinking attention spans and fraying real-world relationships are the outcomes of digital dependence, the Minister said that technology had woven itself firmly into the fabric of everyone's lives, and being glued to screens has become the norm in this hyper-connected age.

"This initiative will enable an environment of meaningful and constructive use of technology

while minimising its adverse effects," he assured.

The government of Karnataka will work with AIGDF and the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) to raise awareness about mindful technology.

Through this initiative, both online and offline digital detox centres will be set up across the State of Karnataka, which will offer personalised guidance, where trained professionals will provide counselling and support to individuals seeking to navigate their relationship with technology, an official release said.

## News

- The Karnataka government said it would launch a 'Digital Detox' initiative.

## About

- A **digital detox** is a period of time when a person voluntarily refrains from using digital devices such as smartphones, computers, and social media platforms
- Under this initiative, both online and offline Digital Detox Centres will be set up across the state of Karnataka, which will offer personalised guidance.
- There will be trained professionals to provide counselling and support to individuals seeking to navigate their relationship with technology.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## Indian Express: Polity and Governance

News / India / Jharkhand uncertainty ends, Champai Soren is CM-designate

Also read in: [മലയാളം](#)

# Jharkhand uncertainty ends, Champai Soren is CM-designate

The development caps a day of jitters for the ruling JMM-Congress, which had sought two meetings with the Governor to formalise Champai's appointment, but was told to wait both times.

## News

- **Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)** leader Champai Soren was appointed as the Chief Minister-designate by Governor C P Radhakrishnan after Hemant Soren resigned from the post.

## **Constitutional Provisions**

- Article 163(1) of the Constitution says “There shall be a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions”.
- Article 164(1) says “The Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the CM”.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## PIB: Education

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launches MoE - AICTE Investor Network

The Network will strengthen all-round support ecosystem to dynamic innovators - Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

Venture capitalists will also work as mentors and partners - Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

It is important to invest in dreams of the nation to realize the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047 partners - Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

Posted On: 01 FEB 2024 4:14PM by PIB Delhi



## News

- Union Minister for Education launched 'Ministry of Education - AICTE Investor Network'.

## About

- The MoE - AICTE Investor Network is jointly established by AICTE and the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) with a vision to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the education sector.
- The network aims to provide crucial financial support, mentoring, and strategic guidance to early-stage student or faculty-led startups.
- This Investor Network further aims to bridge the gap between investors and transformative educational initiatives, fostering collaboration for the advancement of education and technology.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## PIB: Polity and Governance

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Pralhad Joshi launches C-CARES, web portal of CMPFO

The portal will benefit CMPF subscribers and pensioners

Posted On: 01 FEB 2024 11:29AM by PIB Delhi

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Pralhad Joshi launched a web portal of CMPFO namely C- CARES developed and designed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), an R&D organization under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2024. This marks a significant leap in the digitization journey of CMPFO aiming to address the long-standing issue of digitizing its records and work processes.



## News

- Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs launched a web portal of Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO) namely **C- CARES**.

## Significance

- At present, CMPFO process settlement claims of Provident Fund subscribers and pensioners manually. With launch of the portal, settlement of PF and pension claims will now be processed and settled online.
- It will facilitate faster processing, transparency in operations, better record management and monitoring. It will also instil confidence in the subscribers and pensioners.

## Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO)

- It is an autonomous organization under the aegis of Ministry of Coal established in the year 1948.