

# Schemes announced in Budget 2018-19

## Agricultural Schemes

- Govt. will set up an **agricultural market and infrastructure fund of Rs. 2000 crore to improve market connectivity.**
- **Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan – Kusum Scheme for farmers.** This scheme will provide subsidy on establishing solar power plants on their barren land and result in **doubling farmers income by 2022.** **Total outlay of this scheme is Rs. 48,000 crore.**
- In addition to this, govt. has also launched **“Operation Greens”** on the lines of **Operation Flood to boost agricultural production.** For this operation greens, **govt. has allocated Rs. 500 crore under Market Assurance Scheme.** This will promote various Food Processing Organizations (FPOs), agri-logistics and processing facilities. Under this scheme, govt. will give provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Tomato, Onion and Potato and will give them TOP Priority. Here govt. will provide **“Nyuntam Samarthan Mulya”** for **T – Tomato, O – Onion and P – Potato.**
- Increase in the agricultural credit target from Rs. 8.5 lakh crore to Rs. 11 lakh crore. In addition, **govt. will extend the Kisan Credit Card to fisheries and animal husbandry.**
- Henceforth, govt. will also launch a **Restructured Bamboo Mission with a total outlay of Rs. 1200 crore.**
- For every district, govt. will start **“Krishi Cluster Scheme”.**
- Central govt. will also introduce a **special scheme to manage crop residue and tackle Air Pollution in Delhi NCR region.**
- In addition, govt. has also started **Gobar Dhan Scheme For Farmers to improve their life and double their income by 2022.**
- Gobar Dhan stands for **Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan.** This scheme will focus on managing cattle dung and use it as bio-fuel / bio-CNG. **Accordingly, this scheme is another step of central govt. to “Double the Farmers Income by 2022”.**

## Rural People / Economy Schemes

- **Extension of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana to provide LPG Connections to women.** Now, Central govt. will provide these LPG connections to 8 crore rural families. Thus, **this budget focuses on Women Empowerment.**
- Central Govt. will provide electricity connections to 4 crore people under **Pradhan Mantri Saubhagya Scheme –Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana.** For this, govt. will spend **Rs. 16000 crore.**
- **National Livelihood Mission get budgetary allocation of Rs. 5750 crore**

## Educational Schemes

- Central govt. has **allocated Rs. 1 lakh crore** for upgradation of education sector under **Revitalising Infrastructure and Systems in Education – RISE Scheme .**
- Govt. will start **Eklavya schools comprising of more than 50% of ST candidates.**
- Subsequently, **govt. will also transform blackboards to digital boards by 2022.**
- Central govt. will identify 1000 b.tech candidates and enable them to do PHDs in IIT and IISc under **Prime Minister Research Fellowship (PMRF) Scheme.**
- Students who fulfil the eligibility criteria and get shortlisted will be offered a **fellowship of Rs 70,000 a month in the first two years, Rs 75,000 per month in the third year and Rs 80,000 per month in the fourth and the**

**fifth years. A research grant of Rs 2 lakh each will also be provided** to the fellows for a period of five years to cover foreign travel expenses for presenting research papers at international conferences and seminars.

- **The scheme will cost Rs 1,650 crore for a period of seven years, beginning 2018-19.**

## Health Care Schemes

- Central govt. has launched **National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS)** to provide **Health Insurance of Rs. 5 Lakh to each poor family**. Accordingly, **this scheme will cover 10 crore families (50 crore) people**.
- Under **Ayushman Bharat Yojana**, govt. will set up **1.5 lakh health and wellness centers with total outlay of Rs. 1200 crore**. This scheme will benefit deprived sections of the society.
- This financial assistance is for secondary and tertiary hospitalization. **Ayushman Bharat Scheme is the biggest Health Assurance Scheme of the world.**
- **Central govt. has allocated Rs. 600 crore for Tuberculosis patients**. TB patients will get **Rs. 500 per month during their treatment period**.
- Furthermore, **Central govt. will ensure that there is 1 medical college within 3 parliamentary constituencies**. For now, govt. will open 24 new govt. medical colleges.
- **Central govt. is going to start this scheme from 15 August 2018 or 2 October 2018.**

## Schemes in Details

### RISE - Revitalising Infrastructure and Systems in Education

In his Budget 2018 speech, Jaitley unveiled a new scheme called **Revitalising Infrastructure and Systems in Education or RISE**.

**The RISE scheme will be financed via a restructured higher education financing agency (HEFA) that is functioning for the last two months as a non-banking financial company**. It aims to lend low-cost funds to government higher educational institutions. Right now HEFA is looking to raise Rs20,000 crore and in budget announcement hiked this number to Rs1 trillion.

**While HEFA was granted a budgetary allocation of Rs250 crore in fiscal year 2018, in FY19, the lending body will be provided a budget of Rs2,750 crore.**

HEFA was created to infuse fiscal discipline among government higher educational institutions and allow them to raise money and pay back from their own income. In a way, Budget 2018's plan to expand HEFA will put in place a system where higher educational institutions will be borrowing from a dedicated organization instead of depending on grant money for each of their expenses.

Of the total education outlay for FY19, **school education has got a lion share of Rs50,000 crore (nearly Rs3,000 crore more than the previous revised budget) and rest Rs35,010 crore has gone to the higher education sector.**

### Prime Minister Research Fellows (PMRF)

The scheme has been announced in the Budget Speech 2018-19.

Under this scheme, the best students who have completed or are in the final year of B. Tech or Integrated M.Tech or M.Sc. in Science and Technology streams from IISc/IITs/NITs/IISERs/IIITs will be offered direct admission in PhD programme in the IITs/IISc.

Such students, who fulfill the eligibility criteria, and shortlisted through a selection process, as laid down in the PMRF Guidelines, will be offered a fellowship of Rs.70,000/- per month for the first two years, Rs.75,000/- per month for the 3rd year, and Rs.80,000/- per month in the 4th and 5th years.

Apart from this, a research grant of Rs.2.00 lakh will be provided to each of the Fellows for a period of 5 years to cover their foreign travel expenses for presenting research papers in international conferences and seminars.

**A maximum of 3000 Fellows would be selected in a three year period, beginning 2018-19.**

**The scheme will cost Rs 1,650 crore for a period of seven years, beginning 2018-19.**

## Operation Greens

In the Union Budget 2018-19, Arun Jaitley announced **“Operation Greens”** on the lines of Operation Flood to boost agricultural production.

**For this operation greens, govt. has allocated Rs. 500 crore under Market Assurance Scheme.**

This will promote various Food Processing Organizations (FPOs), agri-logistics and processing facilities.

To help in the structural and infrastructure part of the scheme, Jaitley announced that as many as **470 agriculture market committee (APMCs) promoted markets will now be connected to the e-nam platform while the government will help in development of 22,000 agricultural markets.**

Under this scheme, **govt. will give provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Tomato, Onion and Potato** and will give them **TOP Priority**. Here govt. will provide **“Nyuntam Samarthan Mulya”** for **T – Tomato, O – Onion and P – Potato**.

About Operation Flood: Operation Flood, launched in 1966, was a project of India's National Dairy Development Board, which was the world's biggest dairy development program. It transformed India from a milk-deficient nation into the world's largest milk producer, surpassing the USA in 1998

## Re-structured National Bamboo Mission

Terming Bamboo as **‘Green Gold’**, the Finance Minister **announced a Re-structured National Bamboo Mission with an outlay of Rs.1290 crore to promote bamboo sector in a holistic manner.**

Bamboo’s commercial journey began when it was struck off the list of trees by amending the Indian Forest Act last year.

## Gobar Dhan Scheme - Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan

**Gobar Dhan stands for Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan.** This scheme will focus on managing cattle dung and use it as bio-fuel / bio-CNG. Accordingly, **this scheme is another step of central govt. to “Double the Farmers Income by 2022”.**

Central government has launched Gobar Dhan Scheme for Farmers. Subsequently, this scheme will help in managing and reuse cattle dung and thus makes the nation **“Open Defecation Free”**. Accordingly, farmers can reuse this waste

as compost and fertilizer in agriculture. Thus, this agri-focused scheme in Union Budget 2018-19 will improve the life of villagers.

**Central govt. has also identified 115 districts where govt. will make investment in various social services and develop them as role models.** Accordingly, these social services will include health & education, nutrition, rural electrification and drinking water in a timely manner. This Gobar Dhan Scheme will make villages clean and raise the income of the small and marginal farmers.

## Kusum Scheme - Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan

Central government has announced **Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan – Kusum Scheme for farmers.** Subsequently, govt. will provide subsidy on setting up pf solar power plants on their barren land. Accordingly, Kusum Scheme will solarize agricultural pump sets to double the income of farmers by 2022. **Central govt. has allocated Rs. 48,000 crore in Union Budget 2018-19** for upcoming 5 years for successful implementation of this scheme.

Farmers can set up solar power projects on their barren land and use the generated energy. Moreover, farmers can also sell the excess energy to DISCOMS through grid setups to generate additional income.

**Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** will start implementing this scheme from the next fiscal year to promote solar farming among farmers.

**Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (Kusum) scheme consists of 4 components which are as follows:-**

- **Firstly, govt. will set up 10,000 MW solar power plants on the barren land of farmers.**
- **Secondly, govt. will incentivize DISCOMS to purchase additional energy generated. Govt. will provide 50 paise per unit to buy generated energy.** This scheme will enable farmers to sell their excess energy to the grid thereby generating extra income. **This component will include subsidy of Rs. 4,875 crore.**
- **Accordingly, Central govt. will distribute 17.5 lakh solar agri pump sets (pumps) to the farmers. The subsidy component is Rs. 22,000 crore to buy solar grid pumps.**
- **Moreover, govt. will solarize the existing agricultural pump sets (farm pumps) having 7250 MW capacity with Rs. 15,750 crore. and various other government tube wells of 8250 MW capacity with subsidy component of Rs. 5000 crore.**

### **Kusum Scheme – Subsidy for Farmers**

Under this scheme, govt. will provide subsidy to set up solar power pants on the unused lands of farmers as follows:-

- **Central govt. will provide 60% of the total cost as subsidy to farmers.**
- **In addition to this, Banks will provide 30% of the total expenses as bank loans to the farmers.**
- **Henceforth, farmers will just have to bear an upfront cost of 10% to set up solar power projects.**
- **In its Union Budget 2018-19, central govt. has allocated Rs. 1,40,000 crore (1.4 trillion) to generate total energy capacity of 28,250 MW.**

## Eklavya School

**To realise this mission, it has been decided that by the year 2022, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons, will have an Ekalavya Model Residential School.** Ekalavya schools will be on par

with **Navodaya Vidyalayas** and will have special facilities for preserving local art and culture besides providing training in sports and skill development.

**The Ekalavya Model Residential School (EMRS)** is a scheme run by the Government of India that sets up a model residential school for Indian tribals (Scheduled Tribes (ST) spread over 20 acres.

**Under the scheme, the government offers ₹30 lakh as one-time grant to establish school, thereafter it gives ₹30 lakh per school annually.** Till 2007, 72 such schools were established and functional in tribal areas across India, including the highest of 10 in Orissa, followed by eight each in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh.

## National Health Protection/Ayushman Bharat Scheme

**Health and Wellness Centre:-** The National Health Policy, 2017 has envisioned Health and Wellness Centres as the foundation of India's health system. **Under this 1.5 lakh centres will bring health care system closer to the homes of people.** These centres will provide comprehensive health care, including for non-communicable diseases and maternal and child health services. These centres will also provide free essential drugs and diagnostic services. **The Budget has allocated Rs.1200 crore for this flagship programme.** Contribution of private sector through CSR and philanthropic institutions in adopting these centres is also envisaged.

**National Health Protection Scheme:-** The second flagship programme under Ayushman Bharat is **National Health Protection Scheme, which will cover over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries) providing coverage upto 5 lakh rupees per family per year** for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization. **This will be the world's largest government funded health care programme.** Adequate funds will be provided for smooth implementation of this programme.

**Central govt. has allocated Rs. 600 crore for Tuberculosis patients. TB patients will get Rs. 500 per month during their treatment period.**

The Finance Minister further said, that these two health sector initiatives under **Ayushman Bharat Programme will build a New India 2022 and ensure enhanced productivity, well being and avert wage loss and impoverishment.** These Schemes will also generate lakhs of jobs, particularly for women.

**Central govt. is going to start this scheme from 15 August 2018 or 2 October 2018.**

**The Finance Minister said, that in order to further enhance accessibility of quality medical education and health care, 24 new Government Medical Colleges and Hospitals will be set up,** by up-grading existing district hospitals in the country. **This would ensure that there is at least 1 Medical College for every 3 Parliamentary Constituencies and at least 1 Government Medical College in each State of the country.**