

Uttarakhand Unveils Rs 89,000 Crore Budget

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttarakhand government unveiled its **budget** for the fiscal year **2024-25 in the Assembly.**

Uttarakhand's economic growth rate stood at 7.63% in 2022-23, surpassing the national average.

Key Points

- Allocating Rs 89,000 crore for a range of initiatives with significant emphasis on addressing poverty, disaster management, infrastructure development, and improving air connectivity.
- The budget emphasised a dedication to the **"four pillars" of a developed India** welfare of the poor, youth empowerment, <u>agricultural initiatives</u>, and <u>women's empowerment</u>.
- Provisions made for each pillar are:
 - Rs 5,658 crore has been earmarked for the welfare of the poor, encompassing housing initiatives, food grain distribution, and free gas refill schemes.
 - The budget allocates Rs 1,679 crore towards youth welfare, technical and higher education, and organising national games.
 - Provisions have also been made for schemes promoting the merit of minority girls and fostering employment opportunities.
 - Rs 2,415 crore has been allocated for various farmer-centric schemes, including cooperative initiatives, apple cultivation, farmer pensions, and <u>fisheries development</u>.
 - The budget sets aside approximately Rs 14,538 crore for gender-specific initiatives.
 - These encompass schemes aimed at <u>maternal and child welfare</u>, and enhancing women's economic participation.

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