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TODAY'S ANALYSIS

(04 February 2025)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- **NATIONAL MANUFACTURING MISSION**
- **4 NEW RAMSAR SITES ADDED**
- **PRADHAN MANTRI DHAN DHANYA KRISHI YOJANA**
- **MCQs**



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NATIONAL MANUFACTURING MISSION



- On **February 1, 2025**, Union Finance Minister **Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman** presented the **Union Budget 2025-26** in Parliament, where she outlined a series of initiatives designed to strengthen India's manufacturing sector, promote employment, and drive economic growth.
- Some of the key announcements include the launch of the **National Manufacturing Mission**, the introduction of a **Focus Product Scheme for Footwear and Leather**, and the establishment of a **National Action Plan for Toys**.

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- The budget also highlights the commitment to supporting the **Purvodaya** initiative for the food processing sector.

THE MISSION

- The **National Manufacturing Mission** aims to cover **small, medium, and large industries** to enhance the **Make in India** initiative, improving India's manufacturing sector's global competitiveness.
- The mission will provide comprehensive policy support, roadmaps for execution, and a framework for governance and monitoring at both the central and state levels.

FOCUS AREAS

The Mission will focus on the following five critical areas:

- **Ease and Cost of Doing Business:** Streamlining regulatory processes to make it easier and more cost-effective for businesses to operate in India.
- **Future-Ready Workforce:** Fostering a workforce that is skilled for the emerging needs of modern industries.
- **Vibrant and Dynamic MSME Sector:** Supporting Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to grow, innovate, and become competitive.

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- **Technology Availability:** Ensuring the availability of advanced and innovative technologies for manufacturing sectors.
- **Quality Products:** Promoting the production of high-quality products that meet international standards.

SECTORAL FOCUS

- **Clean Tech Manufacturing:** The mission will support sectors involved in the manufacturing of clean technologies, including:
 - **Solar PV cells**
 - **Electric Vehicle (EV) batteries**
 - **EV motors and controllers**
 - **Electrolyzers**
 - **Wind turbines**
 - **High voltage transmission equipment**
 - **Grid-scale batteries**

The mission's goal is to **increase domestic value addition**, reduce dependency on imports, and help build an ecosystem for the production of these critical components in India.

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- **Focus Product Scheme for Footwear & Leather Sectors**

- The government has introduced a new Focus Product Scheme aimed at enhancing the productivity, quality, and competitiveness of the footwear and leather sectors.

KEY FEATURES:

- The scheme will support the **design capacity, component manufacturing, and machinery** required for both **leather and non-leather footwear production**.
- Special emphasis will be placed on **non-leather quality footwear** in addition to the traditional leather footwear and leather products.

Expected Outcomes:

- **Employment Generation:** The scheme is projected to create **22 lakh jobs**.
- **Economic Impact:** It is expected to generate a **turnover of ₹4 lakh crore**.
- **Export Growth:** The initiative aims to boost exports from the sector to **₹1.1 lakh crore**.
- **National Action Plan for Toys**
 - The **National Action Plan for Toys** is a strategic initiative aimed at making India a **global hub for toy manufacturing**.

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- The plan will focus on creating a manufacturing ecosystem that produces high-quality, innovative, and sustainable toys under the **Made in India** brand.

Key Focus Areas:

- **Toy Manufacturing Clusters:** Development of specialized manufacturing hubs for toy production to optimize production capabilities and reduce costs.
- **Skill Development:** Ensuring a skilled workforce for the toy industry through training and education.
- **Innovation & Sustainability:** Encouraging the production of eco-friendly and innovative toys to cater to global market demands.

The plan is expected to position India as a major player in the global toy industry, which has a massive market globally.

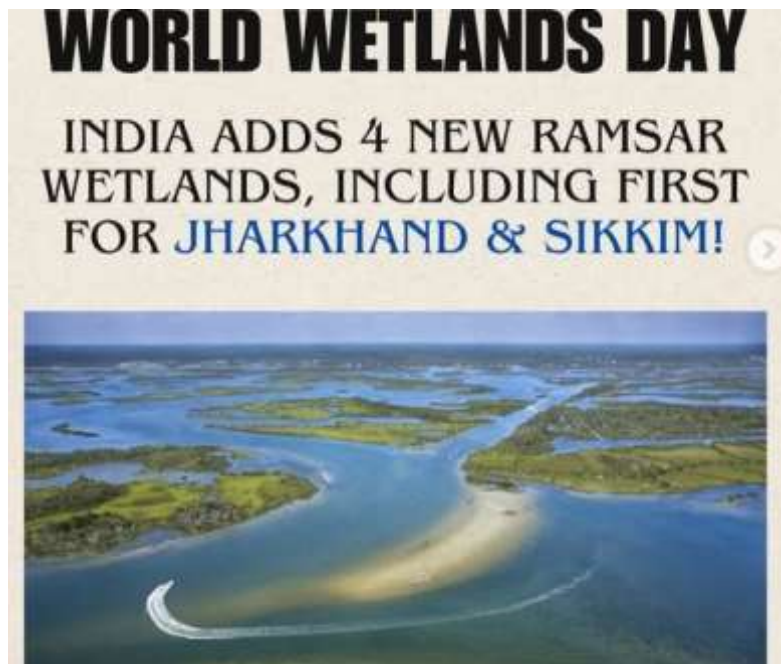
- **Support for Food Processing: Purvodaya**
 - As part of the **Purvodaya** initiative, which focuses on the development of Eastern India, the government has proposed the establishment of the **National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Management (NIFTEM) in Bihar**.
 - This institute will play a pivotal role in supporting the growth of the **food processing sector** in Eastern India.

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4 NEW RAMSAR SITES ADDED



The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) celebrated World Wetlands Day 2025 on 2nd February at the Parvati Arga Ramsar Site in Gonda, Uttar Pradesh (UP).

ABOUT WORLD WETLAND DAY

- **World Wetlands Day** is celebrated annually to raise awareness about the vital role of wetlands in sustaining biodiversity, protecting water resources, and combating climate change.

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- The day marks the adoption of the **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands** on **2nd February 1971** in **Ramsar, Iran**.
- This international treaty aims to protect wetlands worldwide by recognizing their ecological significance.

Theme for 2025:

- The theme for **World Wetlands Day 2025** is "**Protecting Wetlands for our Common Future.**"

NEW SITES ADDED

Udhwa Lake	Jharkhand	Freshwater wetland, habitat for migratory bird, First Ramsar Site in Jharkhand
Theerthangal	Tamil Nadu	Wetland ecosystem supporting diverse flora and fauna
Sakkarakottai	Tamil Nadu	Rich biodiversity, important for fish and waterfowl
Khecheopalri Lake	Sikkim	First Ramsar Site in Sikkim , cultural importance

- **Significance:**
 - These four sites bring India's total Ramsar Sites to **89**.
 - Notably, this is the **first Ramsar Site in Sikkim** and **Jharkhand**.
 - **Tamil Nadu** has the highest number of Ramsar Sites (**20 sites**), followed by

Uttar Pradesh with 10 sites. **ADDRESS:**

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ABOUT AMRIT DHAROHAR INITIATIVE

Launched in **June 2023**, the **Amrit Dharohar Initiative** focuses on conserving wetlands, especially Ramsar Sites, through key components such as:

1. **Species and Habitat Conservation**
2. **Nature Tourism**
3. **Wetlands Livelihood**
4. **Wetlands Carbon (Carbon Sequestration)**

THREATS TO WETLANDS

- **Pollution** from industrial effluents and untreated sewage is one of the **biggest threats** to wetlands worldwide.
- This pollution disrupts the delicate ecosystems, affecting water quality, biodiversity, and the livelihood of local communities.

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PRADHAN MANTRI DHAN DHANYA KRISHI YOJANA

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PRIME MINISTER DHAN-DHAANYA KRISHI YOJANA

- Govt will undertake 'Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana' in partnership with states to help around **1.7 crore farmers**
- It will cover **100 districts** with low productivity, moderate crop intensity and below-average credit parameters
- It aims to:**
 - Enhance agricultural productivity
 - Adopt crop diversification & sustainable agriculture practices
 - Augment post-harvest storage at Panchayat & Block level
 - Improve Irrigation facilities
 - Facilitate availability of long-term & short-term credit



- In the Union Budget 2025-26, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced **several significant measures** to strengthen India's agricultural sector.
- These initiatives **focus on improving productivity, sustainability, and the socio-economic well-being of farmers**, especially in rural areas.

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ABOUT THE YOJANA

- **Objective:** The scheme aims to boost agricultural productivity, crop diversification, and the adoption of sustainable farming practices, specifically targeting areas with low agricultural output.
- **Focus Areas:**
 - **Improvement in Post-Harvest Storage:** Enhance storage infrastructure at the panchayat and block levels.
 - **Irrigation Facilities:** Improved irrigation systems to ensure water availability during critical crop growth periods.
 - **Credit Support:** Provision of both short-term and long-term credit to farmers.
 - **Target:** The program is expected to impact around **1.7 crore farmers** in **100 districts** with low productivity, moderate crop intensity, and below-average credit scores.
 - **Partnerships:** The initiative will be executed in collaboration with state governments and through the convergence of existing agricultural schemes.

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FUNDING ALLOCATION

While no separate allocation was made for the scheme, funds have been earmarked for related missions such as:

- **Rs 1,000 crore** for the Mission for Pulses.
- **Rs 500 crore** for the Mission for Vegetables and Fruits.
- **Rs 100 crore** for the Makhana Board **(to be set up in Bihar)**.
- **Rs 100 crore** for the Hybrid Seed Mission.
- **Rs 500 crore** for the Cotton Technology Mission.

SELF SUFFICIENCY MISSION FOR PULSES

- **Focus:** Achieve self-sufficiency in the production of **tur (arhar), urad, and masoor (lentils)**.
- **Details:**
 - Over the past decade, the government has already made progress towards self-sufficiency in pulses.
 - The mission will ensure continued procurement by central agencies like **NAFED** and **NCCF** at **minimum support prices (MSP)**.

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- The government will enter into agreements with farmers, especially those in areas with surplus pulses, to procure the crop at remunerative prices.

NATIONAL MISSION ON HIGH YIELDING SEEDS

- **Objective:** Improve seed quality and yield by focusing on research and development in high-yielding, pest-resistant, and climate-resilient seed varieties.
- **Scope:** The mission will make more than **100 new seed varieties (developed since July 2024)** commercially available to farmers.

MISSION FOR COTTON PRODUCTIVITY

- **Purpose:** Enhance cotton farming's productivity and sustainability, with a focus on extra-long staple cotton.
- **Alignment with Textile Vision:** The initiative is part of India's broader strategy to rejuvenate the textile sector, ensuring a steady supply of quality cotton for domestic production.

ENHANCED LOAN LIMIT FOR FARMERS

- **New Loan Limit:** The loan limit under the **Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS)** has been raised from **Rs 3 lakh to Rs 5 lakh**.

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- **Impact:** Farmers can now access credit more easily, with an interest rate subsidy, making loans more affordable and reducing financial stress during challenging seasons.
 - The effective interest rate could be as low as **4%** if farmers repay loans promptly.
 - This will benefit **small and marginal farmers**, especially those with **Kisan**

Credit Cards (KCC).

SELF SUFFICIENCY IN UREA FERTILIZER

- **New Plant:** To reduce dependency on imports, a new urea fertilizer plant will be set up in **Namrup, Assam**, with an annual capacity of **12.7 lakh metric tons**.
- **Goal:** Achieve **self-sufficiency in urea production** to ensure the steady availability of fertilizers for farmers.

BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR AGRICULTURE:

- **Total Allocation:** **Rs 1.37 lakh crore** for the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare for 2025-26, a 4% increase from the previous year.
 - **Rs 1.27 lakh crore** for the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.
 - **Rs 10,466 crore** for the Department of Agricultural Research and Education.

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KEY SCHEME ALLOCATION

- **PM-Kisan Scheme: Rs 63,500 crore** (same as the revised estimates for FY 2024-25).
- **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):** The budget allocation has been reduced to **Rs 12,242 crore** (down from Rs 14,600 crore last year), reflecting a shift in priorities.

CONCLUSION

The agricultural initiatives introduced in the Union Budget 2025-26 demonstrate the government's commitment to improving farmer welfare and transforming India's agriculture sector. By focusing on improving productivity, sustainability, and financial support, these measures aim to create long-term economic resilience in rural India. The increase in funding for critical sectors like pulses, seeds, cotton, and fertilizers, alongside the ambitious Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, reflects a holistic approach to agricultural development.

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MCQs

1. Which of these are focus areas under the National Manufacturing Mission?

1. Ease of Doing Business
2. Technology Accessibility
3. Quality Enhancement

- (A) Only 3
(B) Only 2 & 3
(C) Only 1 & 3
(D) All of the above

Ans. (D)

2. Which sectors will be focussed upon under the National manufacturing Mission?

1. Footwear manufacturing
2. Toys Manufacturing
3. Clean Tech Manufacturing
4. Hardware for data centres manufacturing.

- (A) Only 1 & 3
(B) Only 1,2 & 3
(C) Only 2,3 & 4
(D) All of the above

Ans. (B)

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3. Consider the following statements wrt India & the Ramsar Convention and mark the correct one:

1. India has the highest no. of wetlands in the world now.
2. India is a founding member signatory of the Ramsar convention.

- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 & 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (D)

4. Consider the following pairs and mark how many of them are correctly matched?

Wetland

State

1. Theerthangal Jharkhand
2. Udhwa Lake Tamil Nadu
3. Khecheopalri Lake Sikkim

- (A) Only 1 pairs is correctly matched
(B) Only 2 pairs are correctly matched
(C) All the pairs are correctly matched
(D) None of the pairs are correctly matched.

Ans. (A)

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5. Consider the following statements wrt the announcements done in Budget 2025-26 and mark the correct one:

1. PM Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana aims at developing 100 districts with high productivity.

2. Makhana Board has to be established in Bihar.

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 & 2

(D) Neither 1 nor 2



Ans. (B)

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