

Budget 2018-19 - Key Takeaways

- As per the FM in the Union Budget, India is expected to become the fifth largest economy very soon.
- The Growth rate is expected between 7.2-7.5% in the second half of 2017-18.
- Exports are expected to grow 15% in 2018.
- As per the FM, India is a Rs2.5 trillion economy.
- Minimum Support Price (MSP) of all crops shall increase to at least 1.5 times that of the production cost.
- The government will set up a fund of Rs 2,000 crore for developing agricultural markets.
- Our focus is on productive and gainful on-farm and non-farm employment for farmers and landless families, says Jaitley.
- MSP for Kharif crop will be 1.5 times the cost of production.
- As per the FM, **APMCs will be linked with ENAM.**
- The government will develop 22,000 Gramin agricultural markets.
- The cluster-model approach will be adopted for agricultural production.
- Allocation in food production sector doubled to Rs 1400 crore.
- Operation Green will be launched for agriculture and the Minister allocates Rs500 crore for this.
- Agricultural corpus worth Rs 2000 crore will be set up. 470 APMCs have been connected to eNAM network, the rest to be connected by March 2018.
- A fund for the fishery, aquaculture development and animal husbandry will be set up with a total corpus to be Rs 10,000 crore. We will also allocate Rs 1290 crore for a bamboo mission, as it is green gold.
 - In all, we are providing Rs 10 lakh crore to Rs 11 lakh crore as credit for agricultural activities.
- Jaitley proposes to increase the target of providing free LPG connections to 8 crore to poor women.
- Ujjwala Yojana, the free LPG connection scheme expanded to eight crore households.
- Six crore toilets have been built already, and in the next year, two crore additional toilets will be constructed.
- The government will provide 4 crore electricity connections to the poor under Saubhagya Yojana.
- Kisan credit card to be extended to fisheries, animal husbandry farmers.
- The government will establish a dedicated affordable housing fund.
- Loans to self-help groups will increase to Rs75,000 crore.
- Govt. allocated Rs5,750 crore to National Livelihood Mission and Rs2,600 crore to the groundwater irrigation scheme.
- 24 new government medical colleges.
- Government is implementing a comprehensive social security scheme.
- Govt. will initiate an integrated B-Ed programme for teachers.
- Government proposes to launch the Revitalising of Infrastructure and Systems of Education (RISE) by next year.
- Govt. proposed to set up two new full-fledged schools of planning and architecture.
- 18 new schools of planning and architecture will be set up in the IITs and NITs.
- Rs. 1 lakh crore over 4 years for initiative for Infrastructure Devt. in education.
- 2 major initiatives as part of Ayushman Bharat program.

Budget 2018-19 and Economic Survey 2017-18

- National health protection scheme to cover 10 cr poor families. Health cover of up to 5 lakh per family per year for poor & vulnerable. National health protection scheme to benefit 50 crore people.
- 24 new govt medical college & hospitals.
- Rs. 600 crore for nutritional support to all TB patients.
- Rs. 1200 crore for health and wellness centres.
- Loans to women self-help groups of women to be increased to 75,000 cr by March 19.
- Govt. is launching a new national health protection scheme - **Rashtriya Samaj Beema Yojana**. This will have 50 crore beneficiaries and 10 crore families will get 5 lakh per year for their families to cover secondary and tertiary hospital expenses. **This is the world's largest government-funded healthcare program.**
- A Rs 600 crore corpus is being set up to help Tuberculosis patients. This will build a new India in 2022 and enhance productivity and will also generate lakhs of jobs for women.
- PM Jeevan Beema Yojana benefitted more than 2 crore families.
- Jan Dhan Yojana will be extended to all 60 crore bank accounts.
- The government increased allocation for SC-ST earmarked programmes: **Rs 56,000 crore for SCs and Rs 39,000 crore for STs.**
- By 2022, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal people will have 'Ekalavya' school at par with Navodaya Vidyalas.
- The government will announce measures to address non-performing assets of MSMEs.
- As per the FM, Rs. 3 lakh crore for lending under is being allocated in FY 19 for PM's MUDRA Yojana.
- Smart city Mission and AMRUT discussed.
- Smart city command control centre discussed.
- Govt to contribute 12% of wages of new employees to EPF for 3 yrs.
- Rs. 7148 crore allocation for the textile sector.
- Govt. will launch a scheme for **Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBARDHAN)**.
- Under the Smart City mission, 99 cities selected with the outlay of Rs. 2.04 lakh crores.
- EPF contribution has been reduced to 8% for the first 3 years of employment and 12% government contribution to EPF in sectors employing a large number of people, however, there will be no changes in employer contribution.
- 10 tourist cities to be developed into iconic tourist destinations.
- 600 railway stations to be redeveloped.
- Over 3600 km railway track renovation targeted in the current year.
- Scheme for revitalizing school infrastructure, with an allocation of 1 lakh crore rupees over four years. **Called RISE - Revitalizing Infrastructure in School Education.**
- The Bharatmala project has been approved and we are confident of completing 9000 km of highway construction.
- In Railways, 18,000 kms of doubling of tracks would eliminate capacity constraints.
- We are moving towards optimum electrification of the railway. Over 3,600 km of track renewal is being targeted in 2018-19.
- 150 km additional suburban railway network at the cost of **Rs. 40,000 cr.**
- Regional air connectivity scheme shall connect 56 unserved airports.
- Airport capacity to be hiked to handle 1 billion trips per year.
- Training for 50 lakh youth by 2020.
- Govt. to eliminate over 4,267 unmanned level crossings in the next two years.

Budget 2018-19 and Economic Survey 2017-18

- All railway stations and trains will have **WiFi and 150 kilometres** of additional suburban corridors in being planned.
- Rs. 17,000 crore is being set aside for Bengaluru Metro.
- **UDAN** will connect 56 unserved airports and 36 unserved heliports.
- Rs 11,000 crore is being allocated for Mumbai Suburban Railways.
- 5 lakh WiFi spots to be installed for benefit of **5 crore rural citizens**.
- As per the FM, The Airport Authority of India has **124 airports**.
- The government announced AMRUT program to focus on water supply to all households in 500 cities. Water supply contracts for 494 projects worth 19,428 crore will be awarded.
- Proposal for railway university in Vadodara.
- Niti Aayog to establish a national program to direct efforts in artificial intelligence.
- Department of Science will launch a national program for cyberspace.
- Allocation of Digital India has been doubled and the government proposes to set up 5 lakh WiFi hotspots.
- Government does not consider crypto-currency as legal tender and will work towards eliminating illicit transactions going on through crypto assets.
- Disinvestment target of Rs. 80,000 crore for 2018-19.
- Bank recap to help banks lend additional **Rs. 5 lakh crores**.
- **24 Public Sector Units to be divested**.
- The government will involve a scheme to assign every enterprise a unique ID just like Aadhaar.
- The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management will come up with debt Exchange Traded Fund.
- **Gold monetisation scheme** to be revamped.
- **Govt revised fiscal deficit for 2017-18 was Rs 5.95 lakh crore or 3.5% of GDP. Jaitley projects deficit of 3.3% of GDP next fiscal.**
- National Logistics Portal as a single online window will link all stakeholders, to be developed by Department of Commerce.
- Government insurance companies to be merged into a single entity, and subsequently listed in the stock exchange, as part of the disinvestment programme.
- Target for 2017-18 has been exceeded and will reach Rs 1 lakh crores.
- **Salaries of President, VP and Governors will be increased. Rs. 5 lakh for President, Rs 4.0 lakh for Vice-President and Rs 3.5 lakh for Governors. Salaries of Members of Parliament will also be raised which will be linked to Inflation Indexation.**
- A new law will be introduced that will automatically revise MPs' emoluments every five years, indexed to inflation.
- Govt. announced a Rs 150 crore fund to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- Rs 11,000 crores will be allocated to Mumbai rail network.
- **GST revenue for only 11 months, instead of the usual 12 months, is 21.5 lakh crore.**
- Tax buoyancy for 2017-18 is at 2.11%.
- Number of tax payers has increased from 6.47 lakh crores to 8.27 lakh crores.
- Government to set up two industrial defence industrial development corridors in 2018-19.
- 100% tax deduction for farmer production firms with 100 cr turnover.
- 100% tax deduction for the first five years to companies registered as farmer producer companies with a turnover of Rs 100 crore and above.
- **12.6% growth in direct taxes in 2017-18.**
- **18.7% growth in indirect taxes in 2017-18.**

Budget 2018-19 and Economic Survey 2017-18

- Employment-based tax incentives will be extended to footwear and leather industry.
- The benefits of corporate tax by bringing down the tax rate to 25% for firms that reported turnover up to Rs 250 crores.
- **No change in income tax slabs**, but assesses can avail of a **standard deduction of Rs 40,000**.
- Long term capital gains over Rs. 1 lakh to be **taxed at the rate of 10%**.
- Railway Capital Expenditure is set at **Rs. 1.48 lakh crore**.
- All stations and trains to have WiFi.
- Relief on tax for senior citizens from income coming from **bank interest increased from 10,000 to 30,000**.
- **Fixed Deposit/Post office interest to be exempt till Rs 50,000** {80D benefit enhanced to Rs 50,000 (from 30,000)}.
- Short-term capital gains taxed at 15% to continue for a one-year hold period.
- Standard deduction of Rs 40,000 with respect to transport reimbursements. Standard deduction is in lieu of travel and medical expense reimbursement, which amounts to Rs 30,000. So the actual tax benefit would be Rs 10,000 for each taxpayer.
- Customs duty increased on mobile phones from 15% to 20%.
- 4% health and education cess; currently it's 3%.
- Estimates 1.38 trillion rupees expenditure on health, education and social security. Railway capital expenditure set at 1.49 trillion rupees for 2018/19.

Union Budget 2018-19: A Complete Analysis

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley presents the Union Budget 2018-19 on 1st February 2018. In his speech he said that, "When our government took over, India was part of "fragile five," but now are now the fastest growing economy of the world. He also said that Indian economy is a \$2.5 trillion economy. India is expected to become the fifth largest economy very soon.

Agriculture and Rural Economy

- MSP to increase at least 1.5 times that of production cost.
- Minimum Support Price (MSP) of all crops shall increase to at least 1.5 times that of the production cost.
- The government will set up a fund of Rs 2,000 crore for developing agricultural markets.
- Our focus is on productive and gainful on-farm and non-farm employment for farmers and landless families, says Jaitley.
- MSP for Kharif cost will be 1.5 times the cost of production.
- As per the FM, APMCs will be linked with ENAM.
- The government will develop 22,000 Gramin agricultural markets.
- The cluster-model approach will be adopted for agricultural production.
- Allocation in food production sector doubled to Rs 1400 crore.
- Minimum Support Price shall be increased by 1.5 times. Operation Green will be launched for agriculture and the Minister allocates Rs 500 crore for this.
- Agricultural corpus worth Rs 2000 crore will be set up. 470 APMCs have been connected to eNAM network, the rest to be connected by March 2018.
- A fund for the fishery, aquaculture development and animal husbandry will be set up with a total corpus to be Rs 10,000 crore. We will also allocate Rs 1290 crore for a bamboo mission, as it is green gold.

Budget 2018-19 and Economic Survey 2017-18

- In all, we are providing Rs 10 lakh crore to Rs 11 lakh crore as credit for agricultural activities.
- Jaitley proposes to increase the target of providing free LPG connections to 8 crore to poor women.
- Ujjwala Yojana, the free LPG connection scheme expanded to eight crore households.
- Six crore toilets have been built already, and in the next year, two crore additional toilets will be constructed.
- The government will provide 4 crore electricity connections to the poor under Saubhagya Yojana.
- Kisan credit card to be extended to fisheries, animal husbandry farmers.
- The government will establish a dedicated affordable housing fund.
- Loans to self-help groups will increase to Rs75,000 crore.
- Govt. allocated Rs5,750 crore to National Livelihood Mission and Rs2,600 crore to the groundwater irrigation scheme.

Education, Health and Social Protection

- Outlay on health, education and social protection will be 1.38 lakh crore.
- By 2022, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal people will have 'Ekalavya' school at par with Navodaya Vidyalas.
- A major initiative named Revitalising Infrastructure and Systems in Education (RISE) to be launched by 2022 with a total investment of Rs.1,00,000 crore in next four years.
- Government will launch the Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF) Scheme this year.
- Allocation on National Social Assistance Programme this year has been kept at Rs. 9975 crore.
- Govt. is launching a new national health protection scheme - Rashtriya Samaj Beema Yojana. This will have 50 crore beneficiaries and 10 crore families will get 5 lakh per year for their families to cover secondary and tertiary hospital expenses. This is the world's largest government-funded healthcare program.
- A Rs 600 crore corpus is being set up to help Tuberculosis patients. This will build a new India in 2022 and enhance productivity and will also generate lakhs of jobs for women.
- PM Jeevan Beema Yojana benefitted more than 2 crore families.
- Jan Dhan Yojana will be extended to all 60 crore bank accounts.
- Rs 1200 crores allocated for the National Health Policy, 2017, which with 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centres will bring health care system closer to the homes of people.
- Government will be setting up 24 new Government Medical Colleges and Hospitals.
- All 4465 Ganga Grams - villages on the bank of river - have been declared open defecation free.

Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs) and Employment

- Rs. 3794 crores provided for giving credit support, capital and interest subsidy and for innovations.
- Target of Rs.3 lakh crore for lending under MUDRA for 2018-19.

Employment Generation

- Finance Minister cited an independent study as showing that 70 lakh formal jobs will be created this year.
- Government will contribute 12% of the wages of the new employees in the EPF for all the sectors for next three years.
- An outlay of Rs.7148 crore for the textile sector in 2018-19.
- EPF contribution has been reduced to 8% for the first 3 years of employment and 12% government contribution to EPF in sectors employing a large number of people, however, there will be no changes in employer contribution.

Infrastructure and Financial Sector Development

- Increase of budgetary allocation on infrastructure for 2018-19 to Rs.5.97 lakh crore
- Under the Bharatmala Pariyojana, about 35000 kms road construction in Phase-I at an estimated cost of Rs.5,35,000 crore has been approved.

Railways

- Railways Capital Expenditure for the year 2018-19 has been pegged at Rs.1,48,528 crore.
- 600 railway stations to be redeveloped.
- Over 3600 km railway track renovation targeted in the current year.
- In Railways, 18,000 kms of doubling of tracks would eliminate capacity constraints.
- We are moving towards optimum electrification of the railway. Over 3,600 km of track renewal is being targeted in 2018-19.
- 150 km additional suburban railway network at the cost of Rs. 40,000 cr.
- Rs 11,000 crore is being allocated for Mumbai Suburban Railways.
- Proposal for railway university in Vadodara.
- Rs. 17,000 crore is being set aside for Bengaluru Metro.
- Govt. to eliminate over 4,267 unmanned level crossings in the next two years.
- All railway stations and trains will have WiFi and 150 kilometres of additional suburban corridors in being planned.

Air Transport

- Airport capacity to be hiked to handle 1 billion trips per year.
- UDAN will connect 56 unserved airports and 36 unserved heliports.
- As per the FM, The Airport Authority of India has 124 airports.

Finance & Digital Economy

- Government will establish a unified authority for regulating all financial services in International Finance Service Centre (IFSCs) in India.
- NITI Aayog will initiate a national program to direct efforts in artificial intelligence.
- Department of Science & Technology will launch a Mission on Cyber Physical Systems
- Allocation on Digital India programme increased to Rs 3073 crore in 2018-19
- Proposed to set up five lakh wi-fi hotspots to provide net connectivity to five crore rural citizens.
- Rs. 10000 crores allocated in 2018-19 for creation and augmentation of Telecom infrastructure.

Disinvestment

- Finance Minister announced that 2017-18 disinvestment target of Rs. 72,500 crores has been exceeded and expected receipts of Rs.1,00,000 crore.
- Disinvestment target of Rs. 80,000 crores for 2018-19.
- Three Public Sector Insurance companies- National Insurance Co. Ltd., United India Assurance Co. Ltd., and Oriental India insurance Co. Ltd., will be merged into a single insurance entity.
- A comprehensive Gold Policy will be formulated to develop gold as an asset class
- To celebrate the 150 Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi an amount of Rs.150 crore set aside for the activities leading to the commemoration programme.
-

Fiscal Management, Direct & Indirect Taxes

- Budget Revised Estimates for expenditure in 2017-18 are Rs.21.57 lakh crore (net of GST compensation transfers to the States) as against the Budget Estimates of Rs.21.47 lakh crore.

Budget 2018-19 and Economic Survey 2017-18

- FM projected a Fiscal Deficit of 3.3% of GDP for the year 2018-19.
- Revised Fiscal Deficit estimates for 2017-18 were put at Rs. 5.95 lakh crore at 3.5% of GDP.
- Proposed acceptance of key recommendations of the Fiscal Reform and Budget Management Committee to bring down Central Government's Debt to GDP ratio to 40%.
- Growth of direct taxes in financial year 2016-17 was 12.6 percent, and for financial year 2017-18 (upto 15th Jan, 2018) is 18.7 percent. Buoyancy in personal income tax for financial year 2017-18 (RE) is 2.11.
- Number of Effective Tax Payers has increased from 6.47 crore at the beginning of Financial year 2014-15 to 8.27 crore at the end of 2016-17.
- Proposed 100 percent deduction to companies registered as Farmer Producer Companies with an annual turnover upto Rs. 100 crores on profit derived from such activities, for a period of five years from financial year 2018-19.
- Payments exceeding Rs. 10,000 in cash made by trusts and institutions shall be disallowed and would be subject to tax.
- Long Term Capital Gains exceeding Rs. 1 lakh to be taxed at the rate of 10 percent, without allowing any indexation benefit.
- Proposed to introduce a tax on distributed income by equity oriented mutual funds at the rate of 10 percent
- Proposed to increase the cess on personal income tax and corporation tax to 4 percent from the present 3 percent. It will be called the "Health and Education Cess".
- Increase customs duty on mobile phones from 15 percent to 20 percent, on some of their parts and accessories to 15 percent and on certain parts of televisions to 15 percent.
- Customs duty is proposed to be reduced on raw cashew from 5 percent to 2.5 percent, to help the cashew processing industry.
- Proposed to change the name of the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) to the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- Deduction of 30 percent on emoluments paid to new employees Under Section 80-JJAA to be relaxed to 150 days for footwear and leather industry, to create more employment.
- No adjustment in respect of transactions in immovable property where Circle Rate value does not exceed 5 percent of consideration.
- Standard Deduction of Rs. 40,000 in place of present exemption for transport allowance and reimbursement of miscellaneous medical expenses. 2.5 crore salaried employees and pensioners to benefit.
- Introduce a tax on distributed income by equity oriented mutual fund at the rate of 10%.

Relief to Senior Citizens proposed in the Budget

- Exemption of interest income on deposits with banks and post offices to be increased from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 50,000.
- TDS not required to be deducted under section 194A. Benefit also available for interest from all fixed deposit schemes and recurring deposit schemes.
- Hike in deduction limit for health insurance premium and/ or medical expenditure from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 50,000 under section 80D.
- Increase in deduction limit for medical expenditure for certain critical illness from Rs. 60,000 (in case of senior citizens) and from Rs. 80,000 (in case of very senior citizens) to Rs. 1 lakh for all senior citizens, under section 80DDB.
- Proposed to extend Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana up to March, 2020. Current investment limit proposed to be increased to Rs. 15 lakhs from the existing limit of Rs. 7.5 lakh per senior citizen.

Other Important Highlights from the Budget

- To make the villages open defecation free and improving the lives of villagers, FM announced the launch of Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBAR-DHAN).

Budget 2018-19 and Economic Survey 2017-18

- 2600 crore allocated under Prime Minister Krishi Sinchai Yojna to provide assured irrigation in 96 deprived irrigation districts
 - Allocation of Rs 1,34,572 crore has been made for the transport sector while the efforts to develop disaster resilient infrastructure is being given a push with an allocation of Rs. 60 crores in 2018-19.
 - Total earmarked allocation for SCs in 279 programmes increased to Rs. 56,619 crores & for STs in 305 programmes to Rs. 39,135 crores for 2018-19.
 - Ten prominent sites to be developed as iconic tourist destinations.
 - Under the Smart City mission, 99 cities selected with the outlay of Rs. 2.04 lakh crores.
 - The government announced AMRUT program to focus on water supply to all households in 500 cities. Water supply contracts for 494 projects worth 19,428 crores will be awarded.
 - Government does not consider crypto-currency as legal tender and will work towards eliminating illicit transactions going on through crypto assets.
 - 24 Public Sector Units to be divested.
-
- The government will involve a scheme to assign every enterprise a unique ID just like Aadhaar.
 - The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management will come up with debt Exchange Traded Fund.
 - National Logistics Portal as a single online window will link all stakeholders, to be developed by Department of Commerce.
 - Salaries of President, Vice President and Governors will be increased. Rs. 5 lakhs for President, Rs 4.0lakh for Vice-President and Rs 3.5 lakh for governors. Salaries of Members of Parliament will also be raised.
 - A new law will be introduced that will automatically revise MPs' emoluments every five years, indexed to inflation.
 - Government to set up two industrial defence industrial development corridors in 2018-19.
 - Estimates 1.38 trillion rupees expenditure on health, education and social security. Railway capital expenditure set at 1.49 trillion rupees for 2018/19.

Source: Economic Times, Business Line, Live Mint.

Important Points from the Economic Survey

Economic Survey is an annual document of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and reviews the developments in the Indian economy over the previous 12 months, summarises the performance on major development programs, and highlights the policy initiatives of the government and the prospects of the economy in the short to medium term.

Economic Survey 2017-18 tabled in Parliament on 29th January 2018 by the Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Shri Arun Jaitley.

1. The Economic Survey 2017-18 was in pink colour to highlight the gender issues.
2. As per the Economic Survey, a series of major reforms undertaken over the past year will allow real GDP growth to reach 6.75 percent this fiscal and will rise to 7.0 to 7.5 percent in 2018-19.
3. The Gross Value Added (GVA) at constant basic prices is expected to grow at the rate of 6.1 per cent in 2017-18 as compared to 6.6 per cent in 2016-17. Agriculture, industry and services sectors are expected to grow at the rate of 2.1 per cent, 4.4 per cent, and 8.3 per cent respectively in 2017-18.
4. Economic Survey draws attention to 10 new Economic facts on Indian Economy. Goods and Services Tax (GST) has given a new perspective of the Indian economy and new data has emerged. There has been a fifty percent increase in the number of indirect taxpayers.
5. As per the survey, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Telangana account for 70% of India's exports. India's internal trade in goods and services is 60 percent of GDP.
6. Over the last 10-15 years, India's performance improved on 14 out of 17 indicators of women's agency, attitudes, and outcomes.
7. The Gross Non-Performing Advances (GNPA) ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) increased from 9.6 percent to 10.2 percent between March 2017 and September 2017. Non-Food Credit (NFC) grew at 8.85 percent Y-o-Y in November 2017 as compared to 4.75 per cent in November 2016. Bank credit lending to Services and Personal Loans (PL) segments continue to be the major contributor to overall NFC growth. The IBC mechanism is being used actively to resolve the NPA problem of the banking sector. A major factor behind the effectiveness of the new Code has been the adjudication by the Judiciary.
8. Consumer Price Index(CPI) based headline inflation averaged 3.3 percent during the period which is the lowest in the last six financial years.
9. As per the survey, the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) which is a volume index with base year 2011-12, shows that the industrial output increased by 3.2 percent during April-November 2017-18. As per the survey, the Eight Core Infrastructure Supportive Industries, viz. Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Petroleum, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement and Electricity attained a cumulative growth of 3.9 percent during April-November, 2017-18. In 2017-18 (April - September), the inflow of total FDI was to the quantum of USD 33.75 billion.
10. Regarding Civil Aviation Sector, the Economic Survey says that in 2017-18 (April - September), domestic airlines carried 57.5 million passengers, showing a growth rate of 16% over the corresponding previous year period, with 10.3 percent domestic cargo handled.
11. Highlighting the initiatives and achievement in the Power Sector, the Survey mentions that All-India installed power generation capacity has reached 3,30,860.6 MW as on 30th November, 2017 and electrification in 15,183 villages has been completed.
12. As per the survey, with growing rural to urban migration by men, there is feminisation of agriculture sector, with increasing number of women in multiple roles as cultivators, entrepreneurs, and labourers. For Recognizing the critical role of women in agriculture,

the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has declared 15th October of every year as Women Farmer's Day.

13. As per the survey, Rs.20,339 crores has been approved by the Government in 2017-18 to meet various obligations arising from interest subvention being provided to the farmers on short term crop loans, as also loans on post-harvest storages meets an important input requirement of the farmers in the country, especially small and marginal farmers who are the major borrowers.
14. The Survey says that the actual expenditure of Department of Agricultural Research and Education/Indian Council of Agricultural Research has increased from Rs.5393 crore in 2010-11 to Rs.6800 (BE) crore during 2017-18.
15. According to the survey, on 30th November 2017, the share of renewable energy sources was 18 percent in the total installed capacity of electricity.
16. During the period April-September 2017-18, growth in services exports and services imports were robust at 16.2 per cent and 17.4 per cent. To boost services exports, the Government in its mid-term Review of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020, has increased incentives under Services Exports from India Schemes (SEIS) by 2 per cent, leading to an additional annual incentive of Rs.1,140 crores
17. As per the Survey, out of the 32 States and Union Territories (UTs), in 15 states and UTs, the Services Sector is the dominant sector, contributing more than half of the Gross State Value Added (GSVA). The major services in most of the States are trade, hotels and restaurants, followed by real estate, ownership of dwellings and business services.
18. FDI equity inflows to the services sector grew by 15.0 percent during 2017-18 (April-October). At present, more than 90 per cent of FDI inflows are through automatic route.
19. The Services sector, with a share of 55.2 per cent in India's Gross Value Added (GVA), continued to be the key driver of India's economic growth contributing almost 72.5 per cent of GVA growth in 2017-18, as per the Economic Survey 2017-18. The growth of Service Sector as a whole is expected to be at 8.3 per cent in 2017-18, the growth in Services exports was 16.2 per cent in H1 of 2017-18.
20. Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) during 2017 were 10.2 million, with a growth of 15.6 per cent, while Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) from tourism were US\$ 27.7 billion, with a growth of 20.8 per cent over 2016.
21. India's gross expenditure on R&D has been at around 1 per cent of GDP. India ranks 60th out of 127 on the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2017, improving from 66th rank in 2016.
22. Foreign exchange earnings of India from export of satellite launch services increased noticeably in 2015-16 and 2016-17 to Rs 394 crore.
23. Expenditure on Social services stands at 6.6 per cent in 2017-18 (BE).
24. The Survey mentions that there has been highest ever budget allocation under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) during 2017-18. About 4.6 crore households were provided employment totaling 177.8 crore person days during 2017-18 as on 14th January, 2018. Out of this, 54 per cent were generated by women, 22 per cent by Schedule Castes and 17 per cent by Schedule Tribes.
25. The Survey takes note of the National Health Policy 2017 which recommended increasing State sector health spending to more than 8 percent of the States' Government Budget by 2020.
26. As per the survey, With the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) on 2nd October, 2014, the sanitation coverage in rural India has increased substantially from 39 per cent in 2014 to 76 percent in January, 2018. The number of persons defecating in open in rural areas, which were 55 crore in October, 2014 declined to 25 crore in January, 2018. So far, 296 districts and 307,349 villages all over India have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). Eight states and two Union Territories. i.e., Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Daman & Diu and Chandigarh have been declared as ODF completely.
27. As per the survey, DEMONITISATION HAS HELPED SHARE OF FINANCIAL SAVING RISE

28. India's foreign exchange reserves reached US\$ 409.4 billion on end-December 2017. Foreign exchange reserves grew by 14.1 percent on a y-o-y basis from end December 2016 (US\$ 358.9 billion) to end December 2017 (US\$ 409.4 billion). Foreign exchange reserves increased further to US\$ 413.8 billion on January 12, 2018.
29. India's CAD stood at US\$7.2 billion (1.2 percent of GDP) in Q2 of 2017-18, narrowing sharply from US\$ 15.0 billion (2.5 percent of GDP) in the preceding quarter.
30. Economic Survey calls for Fiscal Federalism and accountability to avoid low equilibrium trap.
31. As India emerges as one of the world's largest economies, it needs to gradually move from being a net consumer of knowledge to becoming a net producer. This has been emphasized in the Economic Survey.
32. Current account deficit for 2017-18 expected to average between 1.5%-2% of GDP.
33. Personal income-tax collections to rise to 2.3% of GDP in 2017-18
34. As per the survey, India will need \$4.5 trillion investment in infrastructure by 2040.
35. As per the Survey, the policy agenda for next year is support agriculture, privatise Air India, Finish bank recapitalization.

Source: Economic Times, Business Line, Live Mint, Banker's Adda.