

Chhattisgarh Budget 2025-2026

Analysis

I. Introduction

The Indian state of Chhattisgarh maintains a position among the states that display the highest rate of growth. Its GSDP amounts to ₹5.09 lakh crore (2023–24 est.), while its per capita GSDP reaches ₹1,52,348 (2023–24 est.)¹. The state is one of the wealthiest in India because it possesses the nation's third largest coal reserve, which generates electricity together with coal and steel for national consumption.

On March 4, 2025, the Chhattisgarh Budget for FY 2025-26 was presented in the Chhattisgarh Assembly. In a very unique move, Finance Minister OP Choudhary demonstrated his passionate approach through the presentation of his hand-drafted Hindi budget, which contained 100 pages. People interpret his approach as evidence of thorough dedication toward creating the budget document. The Prime Minister's involvement with financial planning raised the value of state budgeting and revealed his straightforward method of directly managing state finances.

"I was writing my own (Budget) speech and I realised that a handwritten document expresses my feelings, my emotions, my vision, my commitment, and my attachment more. And so, I thought, I should write in my own handwriting,"² he said.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai proclaimed that Chhattisgarh became the pioneer state to establish its good governance and convergence department before revealing that the budget ensures rapid progress because GYAN development efforts have intensified under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's direction.

"This budget has been prepared keeping in mind the current needs while aligning with the future infrastructure requirements of a developed Chhattisgarh. The budget not only focuses on improving the agricultural economy, which has made Chhattisgarh the rice bowl of India, but also lays a solid foundation for transforming Chhattisgarh into an industrial and IT hub. We inherited a legacy of a weakened treasury and mis-governance in the state but through fiscal reforms and improvements in administrative systems, we have started welfare activities for the public with a balanced use of the budget,"³ CM Vishnu Deo Sai said.

¹ <https://prsindia.org/budgets/states/chhattisgarh-budget-analysis-2023-24>

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<https://money.rediff.com/news/market/handwritten-budget-chhattisgarh-fm-s-unique-act-in-ai-era/23211420250309>

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<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/raipur/chhattisgarh-cm-vishnu-deo-sai-hails-state-budget-says-it-will-scape-golden-future/articleshow/118695294.cms>

II. Budget Highlights

"The previous year's budget laid a foundation for inclusive development. This year's budget has presented the next step in that developmental journey." -Chhattisgarh FM O.P Choudhary

The Chhattisgarh Government presents its strategic budget for the financial year 2025-26 that demonstrates focused dedication to building an inclusive society as well as maintaining social well-being and infrastructure expansion. The state's budget includes a detailed funding plan to boost development and provide equal advantages to every segment of society, according to Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai. The current budget builds upon last year's GYAN (Gareeb, Yuva, Annadata & Nari) theme but focuses this year on accelerating State progress through GYAN ke liye "GATI" (Good Governance, Accelerating Infrastructure, Technology, Industrial Growth) implementation to fulfill the 2030 objectives in Chhattisgarh's Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 trajectory.

S. No.	Description	2024-25 (Budget Estimates)	2025-26 (Budget Estimates)	% Growth
1.	G.S.D.P	5,67,880	6,35,918	12%
2.	Total Receipts	1,47,500	1,65,100	12%
3.	Total Expenditure	1,47,446	1,65,000	12%
4.	Revenue Expenditure	1,24,840	1,38,196	11%
5.	Capital Expenditure	22,300	26,341	18%
6.	Capex to Budget	15%	16%	-
7.	Capex to GSDP	3.93%	4.14%	-
8.	Revenue Surplus	+1,060	+2,804	-
9.	Fiscal Deficit	-16,296	-18,900	-
10.	Fiscal Deficit as % of GSDP	2.90%	2.97%	-

Budget At A Glance

Credits: https://finance.cg.gov.in/budget_doc/2025-2026/Press%20Note/Press%20Note-E.pdf

III. Promises vs. Performance: Analyzing the BJP's 2023 Manifesto in Light of Budget 2025

A. Agriculture Sectors

The BJP Manifesto, along with the current government's budget, strongly prioritize farmers' welfare since agriculture remains a dominant economic sector in the state. The budget contains ₹60 crore for sugarcane farmer bonuses to provide needed financial support and the Agriculture Unnati Yojana will support 25.49 lakh paddy farmers at MSP with ₹10,000 crore while the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Bhumiheen Krishak Mazdoor Kalyan Yojana will distribute ₹10,000 annually to 5.62 lakh landless laborers with an allocated fund of ₹600

crore⁵. The BJP's Chhattisgarh election manifesto promises two key sugarcane policy points, which include timely payments without price volatility alongside a single payment system facilitated through Panchayat Bhawan cash counters for purchasing 21 quintals of paddy per acre at ₹3,100. Gunny bags will be established in advance to stop purchase process delays. The Kishri Mazdoor Kalyan Yojan, initiated by Deendayal Upadhyay, offers ₹10,000 per year as its benefits⁶.

Every farmer fears about who will execute the Agriculture Unnati Yojana and Deen Dayal Upadhyay Bhumiheen Krishak Mazdoor Kalyan Yojana and sugarcane farmer bonuses efficiently. Their main concern remains when these needed financial schemes will be delivered effectively. The schemes require concrete achievements that solve price inconsistencies and speed up payments and make the procurement process more efficient. The state must surpass simple declarations because it requires transparent, accountable and efficient implementation to earn back farmers' trust and empower its agricultural foundation in Chhattisgarh.

B. Industry Sector

The upcoming period of progress for Chhattisgarh capitalizes on urban development and infrastructure expansion which both appear prominently in state budget plans for 2025 and BJP's electoral pledge. The 2025 Chhattisgarh Budget allocates ₹2,000 crore for road construction and ₹500 crore for city infrastructure upgrades, with a dedicated ₹250 crore for Bastar region security, education, and industrial growth. A total of ₹9,500 crore has been designated for infrastructure development while Raipur-Durg metro rail project received ₹5 crore from this fund⁷.

The BJP has outlined the development of a State Capital Region as a project uniting Raipur with Naya Raipur, Durg, and Bhilai Nagar which will follow Delhi's NCR model. The plan seeks harmonized urban development through their Urban Prosperity Scheme to create sustainable and inclusive cities. BJP has dedicated itself to transforming every state highway into multi-purpose roads that can be accessed by four-wheel-drive vehicles across the year by 2027.

The state of Chhattisgarh stands on a decisive moment of change because the 2025 state budget and the BJP's visionary manifesto provide essential structure for developing inclusive urban growth and strong infrastructure. The budget emphasizes urgent projects for connectivity enhancement and urban facilities improvement as well as regional security measures, but the BJP's plans to transform the urban area through integrated development and sustainability strategies. The state's initiatives create a complete course for leading Chhattisgarh into future economic expansion while building better living conditions and modern government systems, which promise an exciting development period.

⁵ https://finance.cg.gov.in/budget_doc/2025-2026/Press%20Note/Press%20Note-E.pdf

⁶ https://www.bjp.org/files/election-manifesto-documents/Chhattisgarh-Vision-Document-2023_0.pdf

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C. Education, Skill, and Sports Sector

The direction between empowerment of youth stands differently between the Chhattisgarh Budget 2025 and the BJP's 2023 Manifesto since they each pursue separate approaches. So, what's on the table? Let's break it down!

The state government allocated ₹50 crore for establishing the first National Institute of Fashion Technology in Raipur alongside funding Vivekanand Technological University with ₹25 crore and six new physiotherapy colleges receiving ₹6 crore and twelve nursing institutions getting ₹34 crore. But that's not all! School infrastructure repairs receive a financial boost of ₹170 crore under the PM SHRI Scheme which enables schools to get revival work done. A budget allocation of ₹5 crore was designated to create a football stadium which aims to promote youth sports activities⁸.

The BJP manifesto concentrated on providing opportunities and access to its constituents but the budget prioritizes infrastructure development. The Chhattisgarh Institute of Technology (CIT) should be established as an IIT-translated institution across every Lok Sabha constituency. The 'Chhattisgarhiya Hunar Scholarship' provides educational opportunities at the top 100 top universities to study UG and PG levels for students from SC, ST, OBC and EWS categories⁹.

The Chhattisgarh Budget of 2025 and the BJP's 2023 Manifesto have common goals to empower youth yet they demonstrate opposing approaches to implement them. The budget focuses on enhancing both physical and academic infrastructure through the construction of institutions and bettering schools along with sports promotion programs to establish enduring state-wide capacity development. The BJP 2023 Manifesto provides scholarships and global exposure as direct methods to empower people quickly by creating immediate individual development possibilities. These strategies represent separate but equally important methods between developing core institutions and directing funds toward youth education that results in empowerment and development outcomes.

D. Health Sector¹⁰

Every citizen in Chhattisgarh holds the same view: healthcare needs immediate improvement through strengthening both healthcare facilities while making medical care affordable for both rural and tribal residents.. The government of Chhattisgarh dedicated ₹1,850 crore to National Health Mission funding and also organized ₹1,500 crore for implementing the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Ayushman Swasthya Yojna to expand health insurance options. Hospital infrastructure will receive attention through the budget by constructing new 100-bed hospitals in Sarna and Janakpur alongside establishing a 50-bed Women & Child Hospital in Takhatpur and a Psychiatry Hospital in Manendragarh and improving community health centers¹¹.

⁸ <https://newsriveting.com/chhattisgarh-economy-to-get-gati-govt-presents-rs-165000-crore-budget/>

⁹ https://www.bjp.org/files/election-manifesto-documents/Chhattisgarh-Vision-Document-2023_0.pdf

¹⁰ https://finance.cg.gov.in/budget_doc/2025-2026/Press%20Note/Press%20Note-E.pdf

¹¹ https://finance.cg.gov.in/budget_doc/2025-2026/Press%20Note/Press%20Note-E.pdf

As per the BJP manifesto, healthcare was said to receive a boost. As part of its healthcare agenda the proposed plan entailed multiplying Ayushman Bharat insurance coverage from ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh¹² per family alongside the launch of 500 additional Jan Aushadhi¹³ sickle cell screening centers and construction of AIIMS-like Chhattisgarh Institutes of Medical Science in all divisions and Sickle Cell Screening Centers across entire blocks.

The State budget dedicates funding to improve healthcare facilities together with expanding medical insurance programs, and the BJP manifesto outlined their health plan by targeting reasonable healthcare access and primary prevention priorities. Quality healthcare services need effective implementation to reach every household block and village in Chhattisgarh, according to both proposals.

E. Women Welfare sector

The 2025 budget of Chhattisgarh, along with the BJP's manifesto introduces major policies for women's empowerment and child welfare. The state government of Chhattisgarh dedicates extensive resources for the betterment of women and children. The Mahtari Vandan Yojna dedicates its vast ₹5,500 crore fund to offering nutritional healthcare services for poor women. Additionally, ₹800 crore supports women-led projects like Drone Didi and Lakhpati Mahila through the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

Through Mahtari Vandan Yojana the BJP manifesto promised to provide ₹12,000 annually to all married women while nighttime gas cylinder costs are capped at ₹500 for families in need¹⁴ and women self-help groups can get up to ₹5 lakh loans on favorable rates¹⁵ and government procurement initiatives will receive priority.

The state has designed a comprehensive safety network through its combined distribution of emergency funds with medical care and ongoing employment programs to build self-dependent women. This economic safety system through cash transfer mechanisms alongside essential subsidy programs alongside renewed attention to Self-Help Groups (SHGs) simultaneously solves current fragilities while creating sustainable development pathways that integrate women into economic enhancement. The multiple initiatives demonstrate a major improvement in women and children's upliftment, which supports the state's goal of building more inclusive and equitable development.

IV. New Initiatives in the Chhattisgarh budget 2025-26

The 2025-26 budget of Chhattisgarh includes multiple new programs to promote comprehensive growth together with development throughout all sectors:

¹²

<https://www.indiatoday.in/elections/chhattisgarh-assembly-polls-2023/story/free-health-insurance-ram-temple-visits-bjp-manifesto-chhattisgarh-polls-2457722-2023-11-03>

¹³

<https://www.abplive.com/states/chhattisgarh/chhattisgarh-assembly-elections-2023-bjp-manifesto-released-know-main-points-2529075>

¹⁴

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/chhattisgarh-assembly-polls-bjp-releases-modi-guarantee-2023-manifesto-promises-lpg-cylinders-govt-jobs-101699007083727.html>

¹⁵ https://www.bjp.org/files/election-manifesto-documents/Chhattisgarh-Vision-Document-2023_0.pdf

- a) Under this program, Mukhyamantri Khadyan Sahayata Yojana uses ₹4,500 crore to strengthen food security through better availability of essential food grains for vulnerable citizens¹⁶. The
- b) Mukhyamantri Mobile Tower Scheme delivers mobile connectivity to remote regions through digital bridges for communication network enhancement¹⁷.
- c) proposed budget features two financial initiatives for fuel relief through a ₹1 liter reduction of petrol costs and lowered VAT on diesel fuel for citizen benefit¹⁸.
- d) Chhattisgarh witnesses its first pension fund, the Chhattisgarh Growth and Stability Fund, established in the budget, that ensures secure retirement benefits for government personnel.
- e) The budget allocates funds for court computerization as well as state data center development and emergency response system construction to boost governance operations by using technology.

The Mukhyamantri Khadyan Sahayata Yojana stands as a significant initiative in the state budget, which creates a shield to protect vulnerable groups from hunger and nutrition deficiency. The Mukhyamantri Mobile Tower Scheme eliminates digital gaps by connecting distant areas with the primary communication infrastructure to provide people with both social and economic opportunities. Petrol and diesel price cuts create essential temporary comfort for residents by decreasing their daily expenses, which affect their financial security both directly and indirectly. To ensure financial stability, Chhattisgarh made its history-defining move by creating its first pension fund for government employees. The state demonstrates its commitment to modern governance through its technological investments that include court-system computers, state data facilities, and emergency management systems for service improvement. The combination of these initiative programs stands ready to enhance Chhattisgarh's economic advancement alongside improved social welfare and quality-of-life improvements for its citizens.

V. Critical Analysis

The Chhattisgarh Budget 2024-25 showcases both ambitious inclusiveness through its strategy yet encountering significant implementation obstacles together with target sector obstacles. A lack of strategic planning regarding programs that support young people in their growth and learning exists. The budget prioritizes institution construction through fashion technology and physiotherapy colleges whereas it does not address concrete initiatives for scholarships and skill development and international opportunities toward marginalized communities. The current budget favors the construction of infrastructure projects instead of making direct payments for human capital improvement.

A large amount of funding was dedicated to hospital construction and Ayushman Bharat health insurance within healthcare but widespread rural and tribal healthcare accessibility deficits persist. To achieve healthcare inclusivity it is necessary to enhance primary healthcare infrastructure and deploy medical staff in remote locations.

¹⁶

<https://krishijagran.com/news/chhattisgarh-budget-2025-26-rs-165-lakh-crore-presented-see-major-allocations-for-agriculture-sector/>

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<https://krishijagran.com/news/chhattisgarh-budget-2025-26-rs-165-lakh-crore-presented-see-major-allocations-for-agriculture-sector/>

¹⁸ <https://tehelka.com/chhattisgarh-budget-2025-govt-to-invest-rs-2000-crore-for-road-construction/>

The plan lacks essential frameworks for finding ways to develop sustainable urbanization and inclusive industrial growth despite providing major financing for road infrastructure and urban projects. The budget lacks precise plans to generate employment in zones that experience rural-urban transition along with systematic approaches to use environmental sustainability in industrial manufacturing.

VI. Recommendations

In terms of Youth development, the government can provide substantial benefits from state-specific skill missions which emphasize vocational and technological education and from targeted scholarships for students belonging to SC/ST/OBC/EWS groups. The healthcare sector requires both mobile health units and telemedicine services dedicated to treating remote and tribal populations and the urgent implementation of sickle cell disease screening among populations. Eco-friendly industrial policies must support local employment creation and the growth of MSMEs for industrial development. District-specific development models which blend local requirements with central scheme coordination will help welfare programs reach every area of the state in a cost-effective manner.

VII. Conclusion

After the presentation of the budget, Chief Minister CM Vishnu Deo Sai told reporters in a press conference, ***"This budget is for the golden future of Chhattisgarh and will take every section to new heights."***

"Our budget is inclusive and has been prepared in line with our motto of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas."¹⁹ With this budget, our state will take a new flight with renewed resolutions to fulfil its dreams" said CM Vishnu Deo Sai

Through the implementation of the "GATI" framework, the budget focuses on good governance together with technological advancement, and industrial expansion alongside infrastructure development to achieve faster state development while at the same time maintaining financial discipline. The government demonstrates dedication to sustainable development through substantial funding allocations that support agriculture development, along with industry expansion coupled with health services and education programs and programs empowering women. The government approaches revenue growth by making capital investments that drive economic stability while avoiding tax increases. Effectively deployed, this financial plan holds promise to transform Chhattisgarh into the economic powerhouse of India, which it envisions for 2047.

VIII. References

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<https://www.cnbctv18.com/photos/budget/chhattisgarh-budget-2025-highlights-finance-minister-op-c-houdhary-vishnu-deo-sai-19567523-6.htm>
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