



THE ELECTION YEAR BUDGET FAVORS FOR MIDDLE CLASSES AND THE YOUTH



Finance Minister of India Nirmala Sitharaman

FEBRUARY 2, 2023

NEW DELHI (TIP): Two new classes of beneficiaries, tax relief to the expanding middle class and direct benefit transfer to 47 lakh youth over the next three years stand out as major hallmarks of the last full Union Budget of the incumbent BJP government, which is facing elections in nine states this year followed by the General Election in 2024.

The first new category of beneficiaries the government has created is of traditional craftspeople who work with bare hands using tools. The second new class is the particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs) that are currently out of the ambit of government schemes.

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I.S. SALUJA

FEBRUARY 2, 2023

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Hindenburg-Adani issue rocked Parliament with both Houses adjourned for the day without transacting any substantial business. The Congress-led Opposition raised allegations of irregularities against the Adani Group, demanding a probe into the matter by a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) or by a sitting judge of the Supreme Court.

Both Houses were adjourned until 2 pm after presiding officers of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha rejected calls for deferment of proceedings to discuss the matter, prompting the Congress-led Opposition to demand a JPC probe or a day-to-day judicial probe headed by a Supreme Court judge.

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Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and other leaders of the Opposition address the media outside Parliament in New Delhi on February 2, 2023
Photo credit / PTI

NY governor proposes \$227 billion budget



Governor Kathy Hochul presented her fiscal year 2024 Executive Budget in Albany on Wednesday, February 1. Screenshot

FEBRUARY 1, 2023

ALBANY, NY (TIP): New York Gov. Kathy Hochul presented a \$227 billion state budget plan on Wednesday that includes more money for schools and public transit and raises taxes on cigarettes.

She also put the spotlight on public

safety, including another set of revisions to the state's controversial bail reform laws. The governor's plan includes a 10% increase in school aid, finally fulfilling a nearly 20-year-old court order that said more money needs to be invested in the state's poorest schools.

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The Indian Panorama Editor Indrajit S Saluja among Top Indian Americans honored as Jewels of India



The Indian Panorama chief editor and publisher Prof. Indrajit S Saluja receives the "Jewel of India" award from the Consul General of India at New York, Ambassador Randhir Kumar Jaiswal. Seen to his left are Dr. Bharat Barai, eminent oncologist and co-author of Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery, and Chairman of Maneesh Media Chandmal Kumawat. Seen sitting on the dais are (from L to R) Darshan Singh Dhaliwal, Business magnet and philanthropist, Dr. H.R. Shah, Chairman TV Asia, and Dr. Kiran C. Patel, top philanthropist.
Photo / Maneesh Media

Former President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind released the book "Jewels of India" featuring 75 "Jewels"

PARVEEN CHOPRA
JANUARY 28, 2023

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): It was a superb celebration of India and the Indian diaspora. In a glittering, power-packed event organized by Maneesh Media here on January 28, 2023, none other than the former President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, congratulated 75 leading Indian Americans as the Jewels of India and released the lavishly mounted coffee table book profiling them.

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By Murli Menon

One is writing this from one's garden facing suite at Orchard Palace Resort at Gondal which is a heritage hotel managed by the Royal family of Gondal. The most exciting part of the visit to Orchard Palace, is its location. Orchard Palace is adjacent to Gondal antique and classic cars museum of the erstwhile Gondal State.

This royal collection of cars - Forty impressive vehicles, from a 1907 car made by the New Engine Company Acton and a 1935 vintage Mercedes saloon to racing cars raced by the present Maharaja of Gondal. Most are still in pristine working condition. The Delage D8, Daimler, and the grand 1935 Mercedes seven-seater saloon are some of the numerous heritage European cars of the 1920s and '30s, which can be seen at Gondal Heritage and Classic Cars Museum. The car collection was owned by Maharaja Bhagwat Sinhji who ruled the region in early 19th century and was a visionary leader.

The Gondal Antique Car Museum in Gujarat, India is a must-see destination for car enthusiasts and history buffs alike. The museum houses a collection of over 50 vintage cars and motorcycles, all beautifully restored and maintained to their original condition.

One of the highlights of the museum is the collection of cars from the 1920s and 1930s, including a 1923 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost and a 1931 Studebaker President. Visitors can also see a 1948 Rolls Royce Silver Wraith, a 1951 Chevrolet Styleline, and a 1955 Mercedes Benz 300SL Gullwing.

The museum is located in the historic town of Gondal, which is known for its palaces and havelis. Visitors can take a tour of the town and see the beautiful architecture of the buildings, many of which have been converted into heritage hotels. The museum is open to the public every day except Monday and visitors can take a guided tour of the museum, which is conducted in English and Hindi.

Overall, Gondal Antique Car Museum is a unique and interesting destination that offers a glimpse into the history of transportation and a chance to see some truly beautiful and rare vehicles. It's definitely worth a visit for anyone interested in cars and their history.

The Maharajah of Gondal had his own vintage and classic Car collection displayed at the heritage Orchard Palace Hotel at Gondal and the museum manager Mr. Bhavesh escorted me to photograph and carefully took me for an ambling walk through the antique cars, each parked in a private garage. The circumambulation of the garage allows tourists to appreciate nearly forty antique, classic and racing cars. Lunch over, we walked across the lawn and watched one garage door. There was a gorgeous, bright orange 1930 Delage designed by Maurice Gaultier and founded in 1905 by Louis Delage is part of the collection.

A 1947 top-of-the-line Frazer (Kaiser-Buick convertible) and Studebaker are also seen. A 1935 Packard, Ford convertible and Rolls Royce besides 1930 Daimler rub shoulders with one another in adjacent private garages. The most unusual "car" from 1907 was made in the United Kingdom and called "New Engine". Rather than a "car", it resembled a railroad or trolley car. This car not only could run on a street but also on train tracks! The Gondal Antique Car Museum in Gujarat, India is a must-see destination for car enthusiasts and history buffs alike. The museum houses a collection of over 50 vintage and classic cars, all beautifully restored and maintained to their

Gondal - vintage car enthusiasts dream



original condition. One 1923 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost and a 1948 Rolls Royce Silver Wraith, a 1951 Chevrolet Styleline, and a 1955 Mercedes Benz 300SL Gullwing can also be seen.

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How to get there?

Gondal is located 40 km. from Rajkot. And 60 km. from Junagadh making it a convenient base to visit this historic city by bus.

By Train:

Gondal Railway Station is located about 42km from Rajkot Railway Station.

By Air:

Gondal is about 41km from Rajkot Airport.

Museum Ticket:

Ticket price is Rs 120 per person plus Rs 280 for photos and video recording per camera. A few cars are behind glass windows so it is not possible to click photos of some of the antique cars. You need to pay extra to go to other palaces.

Where to stay?

Many budget hotels ranging from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1000/- dot Gondal. Several temple guest houses offer free accommodation for pilgrims. The Circuit House is an option for Government employees.

However, Bhubaneswari Residency and Tulja Residency at Gondal are the accommodation of choice for European tourists who would like to stay in the town. A family of four can rent twin sharing rooms with hot water showers and vegetarian food for 50 Euro per night. Advance booking is recommended during festivals or weekends.

Where to eat?

Several restaurants offering Indian vegetarian cuisine are located around Diu. Several make-shift stalls selling idlis, dosas, khaman and dhoklas are also found here. Dhabas serving Gujarati and Kathiawari vegetarian fare are found both at Gondal and all along the highway from Ahmedabad to Gondal.

Murli Menon, is a travel writer, stress management consultant and author based at Ahmedabad, India. He is the author of "ZeNLP-Learning through stories" published by The Written Word Publications, "ZeNLP-the power to succeed" published by Sage publications and "ZeNLP-the power to relax" by New Dawn Press. He can be reached at ceo@tips4ceos.com