

UP Budget to focus on farmers, youths, women & middle class

Focus On Infra, Revenue Surplus Budget Likely

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Lucknow: With a focus on farmers, youths, women and the middle class, finance minister **Suresh Khanna** will present his 6th consecutive budget on Thursday. The total budget size is expected to be slightly more than that in the previous fiscal and could hover between

Rs 7.9 lakh crore and over Rs 8 lakh crore. As a sign of a healthy economy and unlike several other states, the budget this time is also expected to be revenue surplus like it had been in the previous fiscal.

The UP govt's total budget outlay for the current fiscal stood at over Rs 7.66 lakh crore, which also included two supplementary budgets of over Rs 12,000 crore and Rs 17,000 crore, respectively. Khanna said that the budget will give new hope to the middle class, farmers, women and youth. The focus will also be on infrastructure,

he added. Experts said the finance minister would focus primarily on maintaining the economic discipline including the FRBM limit, which currently stands at around 3.5%.

However, the area of concern for the UP govt would be to ensure a balance between budgetary estimate and expenditure, economist Yashveer Tyagi said that this year also, it is more likely that the budgetary expenditure would be less than the budgetary estimate.



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