Indian Economy · GS - III

One of the intended objectives of Union Budget 2017-18 is to 'transform, energize and clean India'. Analyse the measures proposed in the Budget 2017-18 to achieve the objective.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2017	GS - III	Indian Economy

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Agricultural transformation; rural development; infrastructure investment; digital economy; financial inclusion; governance reforms; fiscal discipline

Model Answer

Introduction

The Union Budget 2017–18 adopted the vision of "Transform, Energise and Clean India" to promote economic growth, improve public service delivery and strengthen transparency. Its proposals covered agriculture, rural development, infrastructure and governance.

Measures Proposed

1. Transform India

- **Agriculture:** The budget targeted higher agricultural productivity through irrigation, credit availability, crop insurance and market reforms.

- **Rural development:** Increased attention to rural roads, housing, employment and sanitation aimed to improve rural living standards.
- **Infrastructure:** Investment in transport, railways and other infrastructure sought to reduce logistics costs and stimulate economic activity.
- **Skill development:** Training and employment-oriented initiatives aimed to improve workforce productivity.

2. Energise India

- **Digital economy:** Promotion of digital payments and reduced dependence on cash aimed to improve transparency and formalisation.
- **MSMEs and entrepreneurship:** Support for small enterprises and easier access to finance sought to encourage investment and job creation.
- **Financial inclusion:** Banking access and digital financial services aimed to bring more people into the formal economy.
- **Capital expenditure:** Infrastructure spending was intended to stimulate demand and crowd in private investment.

3. Clean India

- **Sanitation:** Continued support for sanitation and cleanliness initiatives aimed to improve public health.
- **Transparency:** Digital transactions and technology-enabled administration sought to reduce leakages and corruption.
- **Tax compliance:** Measures to broaden the tax base aimed to improve revenue collection and fiscal capacity.

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Assessment

The proposals established important priorities, but their success depended on implementation quality, coordination among departments and measurable outcomes.

Conclusion

The budget sought to connect economic growth with inclusion, transparency and improved living conditions. Effective execution, accountability and regular evaluation were essential to achieve its objectives.