

# KAMAL SANDESH

Vol. 16, No. 03

16-28 February, 2021 (Fortnightly)

₹20



'MAMATA DIDI DID GREAT INJUSTICE TO FARMERS IN WEST BENGAL'

## SIX PILLARS OF BUDGET

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

PHYSICAL & FINANCIAL CAPITAL, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR ASPIRATIONAL INDIA

REINVIGORATING HUMAN CAPITAL

INNOVATION AND R&D

MINIMUM GOVERNMENT AND MAXIMUM GOVERNANCE

# BUDGET 2021-22



## 'PRO-ACTIVE BUDGET FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT'

SPECIAL INTERVIEW WITH SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN





BJP National President Shri JP Nadda participating in statewide "Krishak Suraksha Sah-Bhoj" program with three thousand farmers at Shahpur in Malda, West Bengal



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda waving at the gathering during a huge rally in Puducherry



Kerala BJP welcomes Party National President Shri JP Nadda to a huge public meeting in Thrissur, Kerala.



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda addressing the Tamil Nadu BJP Office Bearers Meeting in Madurai



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah flanked by former CM of Maharashtra Shri Devendra Fadnavis inaugurating a Medical College at Sindhudurg in Maharashtra



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah addressing a public meeting via video conferencing in Howrah, West Bengal



## EDITOR

PRABHAT JHA

## EXECUTIVE EDITOR

DR. SHIV SHAKTI BAKSHI

## ASSOCIATE EDITORS

RAM PRASAD TRIPATHY  
VIKASH ANAND

## CREATIVE EDITORS

VIKAS SAINI  
BHOLA ROY

## DIGITAL MEDIA

RAJEEV KUMAR  
VIPUL SHARMA

## SUBSCRIPTION & CIRCULATION

SATISH KUMAR

## E-MAIL

MAIL.KAMALSANDESH@GMAIL.COM

MAIL@KAMALSANDESH.ORG

PHONE: 011-23381428, FAX: 011-23387887

WEBSITE: WWW.KAMALSANDESH.ORG



## 'ALL-INCLUSIVE BUDGET TOUCHES EVERY SECTION OF SOCIETY'

The Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2021-22 in...

## INTERVIEW

'Faster Infrastructure Creation and Employment Generation are Key Objectives behind this Budget': **Nirmala Sitharaman** 18

Modi Govt. will take every step which is beneficial for disadvantaged sections: **Anurag Thakur** 31

## ARTICLE

Budget puts India on path to \$5 trillion economy by **Amit Shah** 29

## MANN KI BAAT

'Wherever possible, make contribution to cleanliness' 33

## OTHERS

Key Highlights of Economic Survey 2020-21 21

Indian Industry Hails Budget 2021-22 22

President's address to Parliament 24

'BJP would continue its partnership with AIADMK in Tamil Nadu' 27

India celebrates 72nd Republic Day 34



## 18 'FASTER INFRASTRUCTURE CREATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION ARE KEY OBJECTIVES BEHIND THIS BUDGET'

Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman has...

## 26 MAMATA DIDI DID GREAT INJUSTICE TO FARMERS IN WEST BENGAL: JP NADDA

Bharatiya Janata Party National President, Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda...



## 27 'BJP WILL END CORRUPTION AND EXPEDITE DEVELOPMENT'

Addressing a huge public meeting at the AFT grounds in Puducherry on January 31, 2021 during his day long visit to galvanize the party for the...

## 28 PM MODI GIVING SPECIAL ATTENTION TO KERALA: JP NADDA

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said, "The National Democratic...





## SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER



**@narendramodi**

In West Bengal TMC, Left and Congress have Criminalised politics, Institutionalised corruption, Politicised the state machinery and the results are disastrous.



**@JPNadda**

MVA in Maharashtra has a unique model of governance - hail noises of anarchy from overseas who show India in poor light but harass patriotic Indians who stand for the nation. It is difficult to decide what is more flawed: their priorities or their mindset?



**@AmitShah**

No propaganda can deter India's unity! No propaganda can stop India to attain new heights! Propaganda can not decide India's fate only 'Progress' can. India stands united and together to achieve progress.



**@rajnathsingh**

This year's @AeroIndiashow has offered a unique platform not only to the Indian public and private sector industry, but also to the global OEMs to forge partnerships, showcase their products and technologies to the potential customers and investors.



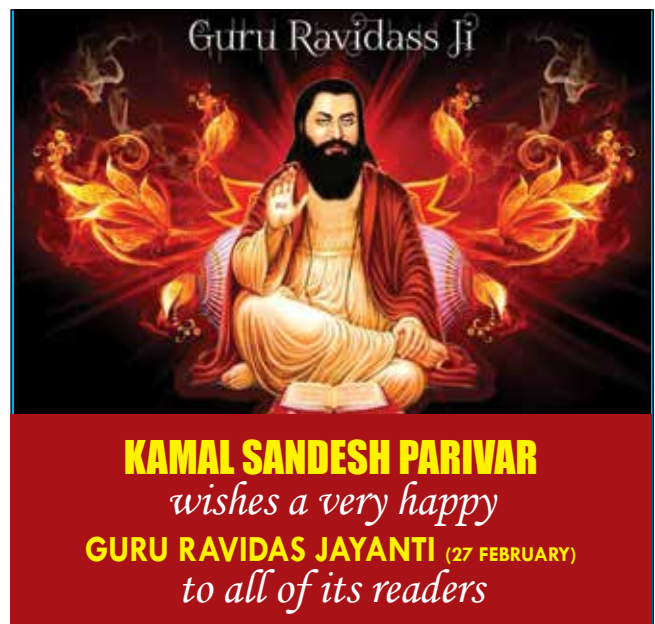
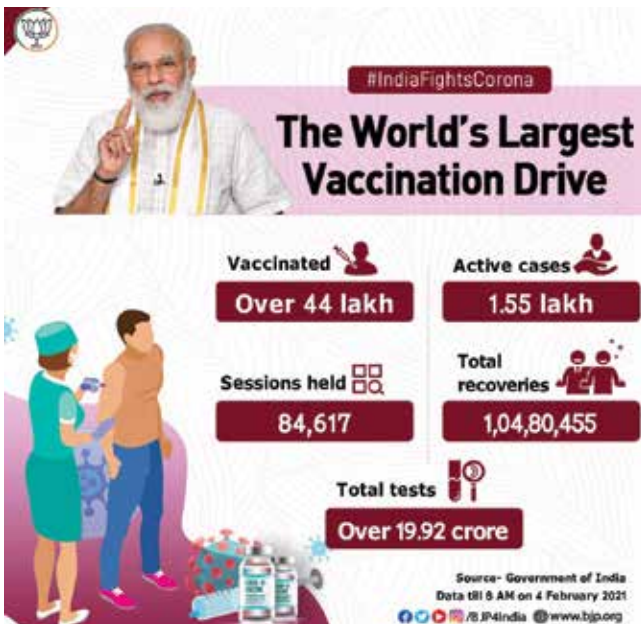
**@nitin\_gadkari**

In our efforts to build infrastructure for the nation faster than ever, we are not only setting new standards but also breaking world records. #Infra4NewIndia #PragatiKaHighway



**@BLSanthosh**

Delhi Govt under @ArvindKejriwal withdraws DTC buses given to Police & para military forces for bandobust duty. Delhiites will suffer for the Punjab aspirations of @AamAdmiParty. Anarchists indeed.



# AN INCLUSIVE BUDGET FOR ASPIRATIONAL INDIA

**T**he Budget 2021-22 has been wholeheartedly welcomed across the country by every section of the society. An eagerly awaited Budget in the backdrop of Covid-19 pandemic has not only met the expectations but even gone beyond setting the stage for a giant leap in near future. The budget promises not only to reinvigorate the Indian economy which is on the path of fast recovery but also to strengthen it with a futuristic vision. An all-inclusive budget addressing the pandemic concerns and strategising accordingly, it has been applauded by experts and commoners alike for its focussed and farsighted approach carrying the imprint of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of a Self-reliant India. There is no doubt that the budget is set to give the required big push to the Indian economy leading it towards V-shaped recovery and double digit growth in the days to come.

The six pillars of the budget comprehensively lay down the foundation of the post-Covid economy aimed at doubling farmers' income, building a strong infrastructure while creating opportunities for youth. While on the one hand it addresses the immediate health concerns by allocating a huge amount for vaccination drive, on the other hand it also unfolds the roadmap with a whopping increase of 137% in

budget outlay for the health sector. The centrally sponsored PM Aatmanirbhar Bharat Swasth Yojana scheme along with 17,788 rural and 11,024 urban health and wellness centres, universal coverage of water supply, Swachh Bharat-Swasth Bharat scheme may transform the health sector while providing quality and healthy life to the people. The proposal to make massive investments in nation's infrastructure with highest ever outlay for roads and highways including Bharatmala Pariyojana, economic corridors, expressways, railway infrastructure, augmenting urban infrastructure with buses and metros, increasing power infrastructure along with allocating huge sums for ports, shipping, waterways, petroleum and natural gas will definitely enable the nation for speedier realisation of the goals of Self-reliant India.

The budget has also made huge provisions for the inclusive development of aspirational India. While ensuring MSP at 1.5 times of the cost of production, special focus on allied activities like animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries is aimed at doubling the farmers' income in India. The increase in rural infrastructure fund and taking care of migrant labourers with schemes like 'One Nation-One Ration Card', more than doubling allocations for MSME sector are going to further strengthen the rural infrastructure in the country. The budget has also laid huge emphasis on reinvigorating human capital by making provisions for implementing NEP components in 15,000 schools, opening 100 new Sainik schools, Central University in Leh and by creating an umbrella structure for higher education institutions. The opening of 750 new Eklavya model residential schools in tribal areas and provisions for skilling activities will further strengthen the human capital of the country. The budget has also focussed on research and innovation by allocating funds for strengthening the overall research ecosystem in the country. In the entire budget the idea of 'Minimum Government & Maximum Governance' is implemented by streamlining the system, making it transparent and more accessible to the people.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has rightly termed the budget as a pro-active budget for Aatmanirbhara. The Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman should be congratulated for presenting the budget with the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and for comprehensively addressing the issues related to pandemic concerns. It is an inclusive budget for aspirational India in true sense. ■

**THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE BUDGET IS SET TO GIVE THE REQUIRED BIG PUSH TO THE INDIAN ECONOMY LEADING IT TOWARDS V-SHAPED RECOVERY AND DOUBLE DIGIT GROWTH IN THE DAYS TO COME.**

 shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org



# 'ALL-INCLUSIVE BUDGET TOUCH

**T**he Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2021-22 in the Parliament on 01 February, 2021 which is the first budget of this new decade and also a digital one in the backdrop of unprecedented COVID-19 crisis.

Laying a vision for AatmaNirbhar Bharat, she said this is an expression of 130 crore Indians who have full confidence in their capabilities and skills. She said that Budget proposals will further strengthen the Sankalp of Nation First, Doubling Farmer's Income, Strong Infrastructure, Healthy India, Good Governance, Opportunities for youth, Education for All, Women Empowerment, and Inclusive Development among others. She said 13 promises of Budget 2015-16 are on the path to fast-implementation and which will be materialized during the Amrut Mahotsav of 2022, on the 75th year of our Independence. They too resonate with this vision of Aatma Nirbharta, Smt. Sitharaman added.

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman stated that India's fight against COVID-19 continues into 2021 and this moment in history, when the political, economic and strategic relations in the post-COVID world are changing, is the dawn of a new era – one in which India is well-poised to truly be the land of promise and hope.

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

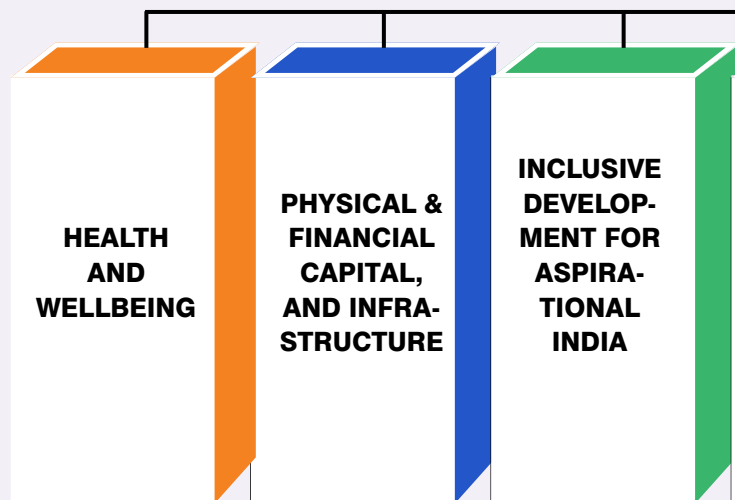
- Rs. 2,23,846 crore outlay for Health and Wellbeing in BE 2021-22 as against Rs. 94,452 crore in BE 2020-21 – an increase of 137%
- Focus on strengthening three areas: Preventive, Curative, and Wellbeing
- Steps being taken for improving health and wellbeing:

## VACCINES

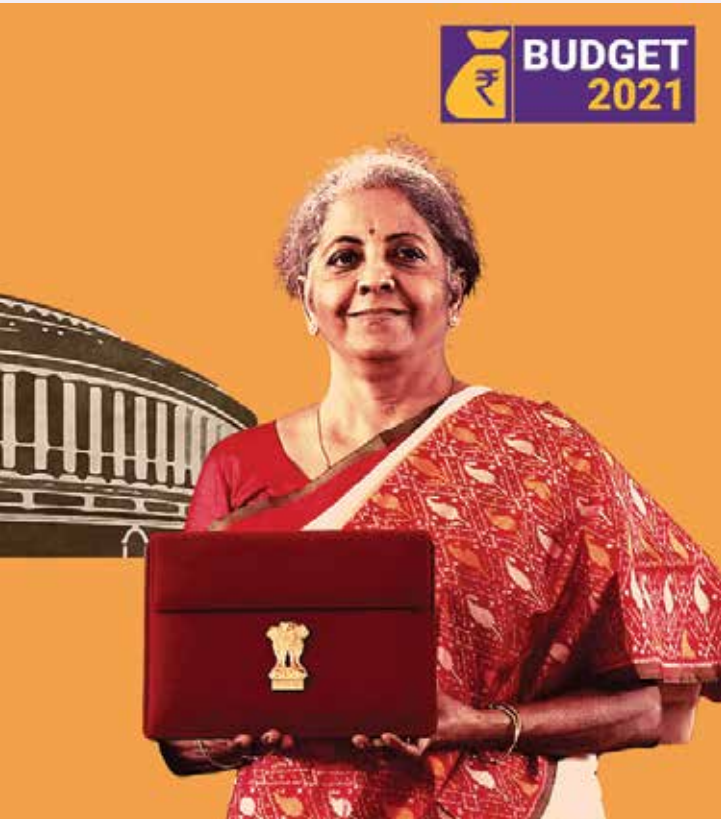
- Rs. 35,000 crore for COVID-19 vaccine in BE 2021-



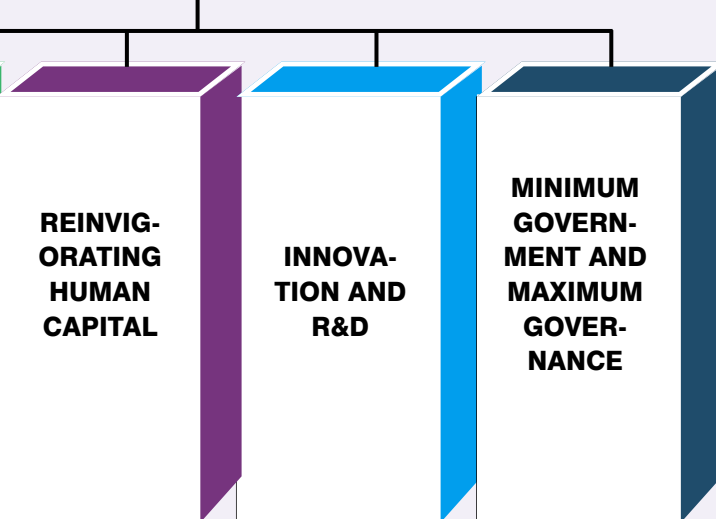
## 6 PILLARS OF THE UNION



# REACHES EVERY SECTION OF SOCIETY'



## BUDGET 2021-22



22

- The Made-in-India Pneumococcal Vaccine to be rolled out across the country, from present 5 states – to avert 50,000 child deaths annually.

### HEALTH SYSTEMS

- Rs. 64,180 crore outlay over 6 years for PM AatmaNirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana – a new centrally sponsored scheme to be launched, in addition to NHM
- Main interventions under PM AatmaNirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana:
  - National Institution for One Health
  - 17,788 rural and 11,024 urban Health and Wellness Centers
  - 4 regional National Institutes for Virology
  - 15 Health Emergency Operation Centers and 2 mobile hospitals
  - Integrated public health labs in all districts and 3382 block public health units in 11 states
  - Critical care hospital blocks in 602 districts and 12 central institutions
  - Strengthening of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), its 5 regional branches and 20 metropolitan health surveillance units
  - Expansion of the Integrated Health Information Portal to all States/UTs to connect all public health labs
  - 17 new Public Health Units and strengthening of 33 existing Public Health Units
  - Regional Research Platform for WHO South-East Asia Region
  - 9 Bio-Safety Level III laboratories

### NUTRITION

- Mission Poshan 2.0 to be launched:
  - To strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach, and outcome
  - Merging the Supplementary Nutrition Programme and the Poshan Abhiyan
  - Intensified strategy to be adopted to improve nutritional outcomes across 112 Aspirational Districts

### UNIVERSAL COVERAGE OF WATER SUPPLY

- Rs. 2,87,000 crore over 5 years for Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban) - to be launched with an aim to provide:



## 'BUDGET CARRIES A VISION OF AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT AND INCLUSION OF EVERY CITIZEN'

**P** rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has said that the Budget 2021-22 has feel of reality and confidence of development and showcases India's self-belief. He also said that it will infuse a new confidence in the world in these difficult times.

In his remarks after the Union Budget was tabled in the Lok Sabha on 01 February, 2021 the Prime Minister said that 'the Budget carries a vision of Aatamnirbharta' and inclusion of every citizen and section. Shri Modi explained that the principles behind the Budget include – expansion of new opportunities for growth; new opportunities for the youth; giving new dimension to human resource; infrastructure development and helping new sectors grow.

The Prime Minister said that the Budget will enhance 'ease of living' for the common man by simplifying procedure and rules. The Budget will bring positive changes for individuals, investors, industry and infrastructure sector.

PM Shri Modi noted the

positive early response that the Budget received within hours of its presentation. He said the Government gave proper attentions to its responsibility towards fiscal sustainability while increasing the size of the budget. He expressed happiness that transparency factor of the budget has been appreciated by the experts.

Stressing the proactive approach of the Government, whether during Corona pandemic, or campaign for 'Aatamnirbharta',

- **Budget will enhance 'ease of living' for the common man by simplifying procedure and rules. The Budget will bring positive changes for individuals, investors, industry and infrastructure sector.**

the Prime Minister noted that the budget doesn't have an iota of reactive approach. "We have gone beyond active and have given a pro-active budget", said the Prime Minister.

Appreciating the all-round development emphasis of the Budget, Shri Modi said that it is focused on wealth and wellness, MSME and infrastructure. He also

noted unprecedented focus on healthcare. The Prime Minister expressed happiness that the Budget has taken into account the development needs of southern states, the Northeast and Leh Laddakh. He said this is a huge step in the direction of turning our coastal states like Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal into business powerhouse. The Budget will also be greatly helpful in tapping unexplored potential of the North-Eastern states such as Assam.

Mentioning the impact of the Budget on the various segments of society, Shri Modi said its emphasis on research and innovation will help the youth. Common men and women will be benefitted by stress on health, swachhta, nutrition, clean water and equality of opportunities. Similarly, enhanced allocation in infrastructure and procedural reforms will lead to job creation and growth.

The Prime Minister said that the Budget has many provisions for agriculture sector and increasing farmer's income. Farmers will get easy and more credit.

Shri Modi noted that MSME sector allocation has been doubled to improve employment opportunities. ■



## 'BUDGET WILL STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY AND DOUBLE FARMERS' INCOME'



**T**he BJP hailed the Union Budget as one for an 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', and asserted that this all-inclusive budget will strengthen the economy and double farmers' income.

The Union budget is all-inclusive and touches every section of society, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said while expressing gratitude to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Speaking on the Budget, the BJP National President said that the Budget that was presented in an unprecedented situation is inclusive and dedicated to the welfare of the Indians.

He said in the General Budget 2021-22, Finance Minister stressed on Health & wellbeing, financial capital, inclusive growth, human capital, innovation & R&D and minimum interventions which is base of all-round development of India.

In the General Budget 2021-22, there is a special focus on infrastructure development. Reforms in the health sector have been pushed forward. FDI policy has been changed in the insurance sector. The MSMEs sector has been strengthened. Seven mega textile park has been announced and special attention has been paid to education and research which will

play a huge role in employment generation in the country.

Shri Nadda said Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has increased the health sector budget by 137 percent. This time the budget of health has been increased to Rs. 2 lakh 23 thousand crore as against Rs. 92 thousand crore last time. 64,180 crores has been given for 'Aatmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana'. This in itself is going to change the picture

- **The Modi government has transferred nearly three times more money than the UPA government of the Congress in the account of the farmers of the country.**

of India's health sector. I heartily congratulate Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji and Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharamanji for this budget which is dedicated to the health of the people of our country.

He said Rs. 35,000 crore has been allocated for corona vaccine development program in the General Budget 2021-22 which shows how serious and sensitive the Modi government to eliminate Covid from India.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Bharatiya Janata Party government at the Center is committed for the welfare of farmers and doubling their income. The MSP on crops has been increased to one and a half times of the production cost. At the same time, the Modi government has transferred nearly three times more money than the UPA government of the Congress in the account of the farmers of the country.

He said home for all is our biggest priority. Extending the provision of reduction of interest of 1.5 lakh rupees on home loan till 31 March 2022 will help people in realizing their dream of home.

The BJP President said the change in the Insurance Act 1938, which has been in operation since 1938, is a positive step. In this regard discussion was going on for a long time, but this change has been done by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Also, an investment of 20,000 crore in public sector banks will further strengthen the banking sector. ■

Union Budget 2021-22

**Central Govt Expenditure**

Budget Estimates for 2021-22 (in ₹ crore)

Pension	1,89,328	External Affairs	18,155	Scientific Departments	30,640
Defence	3,47,088	Finance	91,916	Social Welfare	48,460
Major Subsidies	3,35,361	Health	74,602	Tax Administration	1,31,100
Agriculture & Allied Activities	1,48,301	Home Affairs	1,13,521	Transfer to States	2,93,302
Commerce & Industry	34,623	Interest	8,09,701	Transport	2,33,083
Development of North East	2,658	IT and Telecom	53,108	Union Territories	53,026
Education	93,224	Planning and Statistics	2,472	Urban Development	54,581
Energy	42,824	Rural Development	1,94,633	Others	87,528
				<b>Grand total</b>	<b>34,83,236</b>

- 2.86 crore household tap connections
- Universal water supply in all 4,378 Urban Local Bodies
- Liquid waste management in 500 AMRUT cities

**SWACHH BHARAT, SWASTH BHARAT**

- Rs. 1,41,678 crore over 5 years for Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0

**MAIN INTERVENTIONS UNDER SWACHH BHARAT MISSION (URBAN) 2.0:**

- Complete faecal sludge management and waste water treatment
- Source segregation of garbage
- Reduction in single-use plastic
- Reduction in air pollution by effectively managing waste from construction-and-demolition activities
- Bio-remediation of all legacy dump sites
- Rs. 2,217 crore to tackle air pollution, for 42 urban centers with a million-plus population

**SCRAPPING POLICY**

- Voluntary vehicle scrapping policy to phase out old and unfit vehicles

**Fitness tests in automated fitness centres:**

- After 20 years in case of personal vehicles
- After 15 years in case of commercial vehicles

**PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL CAPITAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Production Linked Incentive scheme (PLI)
- Rs. 1.97 lakh crore in next 5 years for PLI schemes in 13 Sectors
- To create and nurture manufacturing global champions for an AatmaNirbhar Bharat
- To help manufacturing companies become an integral part of global supply chains, possess core competence and cutting-edge technology
- To bring scale and size in key sectors
- To provide jobs to the youth

**TEXTILES**

- Mega Investment Textiles Parks (MITRA) scheme, in addition to PLI:
- 7 Textile Parks to be established over 3 years
- Textile industry to become globally competitive, attract large investments and boost employment generation & exports

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

- National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) expanded to 7,400 projects:
- Around 217 projects worth Rs. 1.10 lakh crore completed

**CREATION OF INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES: INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING**

- Rs. 20,000 crore to set up and capitalise a Development Financial Institution(DFI) – to act as a provider, enabler and catalyst for infrastructure financing
- Rs. 5 lakh crore lending portfolio to be created under the proposed DFI in 3 years
- Debt Financing by Foreign Portfolio Investors to be enabled by amending InvITs' and REITs' legislations
- Big thrust on monetizing assets
- National Monetization Pipeline to be launched
- Important asset monetization measures:
- 5 operational toll roads worth Rs. 5,000 crore being transferred to the NHAIInvIT
- Transmission assets worth Rs. 7,000 crore to be transferred to the PGCILInvIT
- Dedicated Freight Corridor assets to be monetized by Railways, for operations and maintenance, after commissioning
- Next lot of Airports to be monetized for operations and management concession
- Other core infrastructure assets to be rolled out under the Asset Monetization Programme:
- Oil and Gas Pipelines of GAIL, IOCL and HPCL
- AAI Airports in Tier II and III

## BUDGET IS FOR AN AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT: RAJNATH SINGH



Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh hailed Budget 2021-22 and said the 'More it is praised, less it is'. He said this budget is for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Shri Singh hailed the budget presented by the Finance Minister saying that the government has already presented five mini-budgets before this year's Budget.

Shri Singh said people hadn't expected a Budget of this kind because, in a way, the government had presented five mini-budgets earlier. Several packages were announced, of which Aatmanirbhar Bharat is also a part. It's a superb Budget. The more it is praised, the less it is," he said. ■

## BUDGET- A GUIDE TO SELF-RELIANT INDIA: AMIT SHAH



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah on 01 February, 2021 termed the Budget 2021-22 a guide to "self-reliant India" and said it has strengthened Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's efforts towards doubling farmers' income and making India the fastest growing economy in the world.

Shri Shah lauded the budget presented by Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and said the "all-inclusive budget" was prepared under the guidance of the Prime Minister amidst the Corona pandemic. "This will pave the way for a self-reliant India, a USD 5 trillion economy and double the income of farmers," he said. ■

cities

- Warehousing Assets of CPSEs such as Central Warehousing Corporation and NAFED
- Sports Stadiums

### SHARP INCREASE IN CAPITAL BUDGET

- Rs. 5.54 lakh crore capital expenditure in BE 2021-22 – sharp increase of 34.5% over Rs. 4.12 lakh crore allocated in BE 2020-21 :
- Over Rs. 2 lakh crore to States and Autonomous Bodies for their Capital Expenditure.
- Over Rs. 44,000 crore for the Department of Economic Affairs to provide for projects/programmes/departments exhibiting good progress on Capital Expenditure

### ROADS AND HIGHWAYS INFRASTRUCTURE

- Rs. 1,18,101 lakh crore, highest ever outlay, for Ministry of Road Transport and Highways – of which Rs. 1,08,230 crore is for capital
- Under the Rs. 5.35 lakh crore Bharatmala Pariyojana, more than 13,000 km length of roads worth Rs. 3.3 lakh crore awarded for construction:
- 3,800 km have already been constructed
- Another 8,500 km to be awarded for construction by March 2022
- Additional 11,000 km of national highway corridors to be completed by March 2022

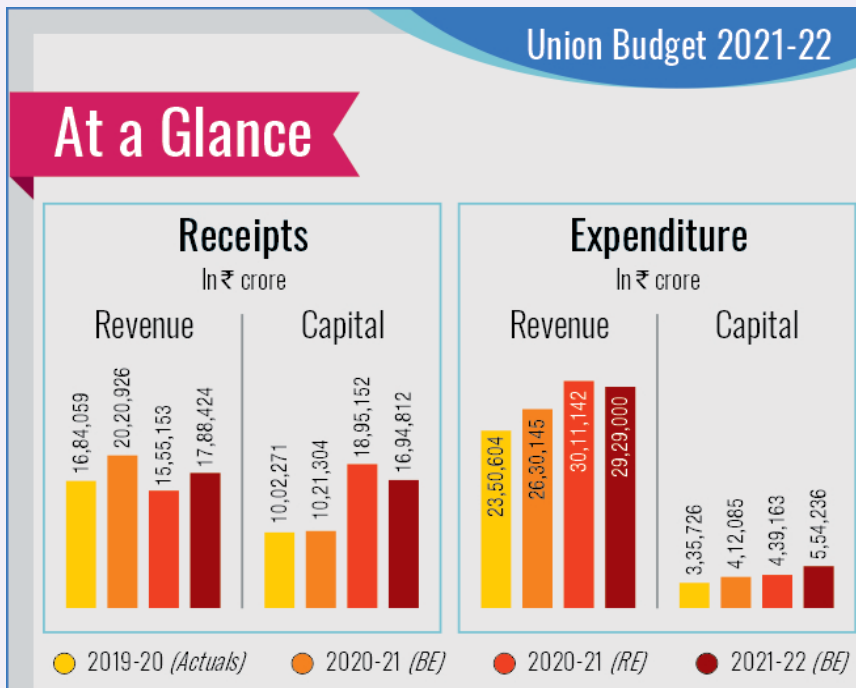
### ECONOMIC CORRIDORS BEING PLANNED:

- Rs. 1.03 lakh crore outlay for 3,500 km of NHs in Tamil Nadu
- Rs. 65,000 crore investment for 1,100 km of NHs in Kerala
- Rs. 25,000 crore for 675 km of NHs in West Bengal
- Over Rs. 34,000 crore to be allocated for 1300 km of NHs to be undertaken in next 3 years in Assam, in addition to Rs. 19,000 crore works of NHs currently in progress in the State

### FLAGSHIP CORRIDORS/ EXPRESSWAYS:

- **Delhi-Mumbai Expressway** – Remaining 260 km to be awarded before 31.3.2021
- **Bengaluru - Chennai**





**Expressway** – 278 km to be initiated in the current FY; construction to begin in 2021-22

- **Kanpur - Lucknow Expressway** – 63 km expressway providing an alternate route to NH 27 to be initiated in 2021-22
- **Delhi-Dehradun economic corridor** – 210 km to be initiated in the current FY; construction to begin in 2021-22
- **Raipur-Vishakhapatnam** – 464 km passing through Chhattisgarh, Odisha and North Andhra Pradesh, to be awarded in the current year; construction to start in 2021-22
- **Chennai-Salem corridor** – 277 km expressway to be awarded and construction to start in 2021-22
- **Amritsar-Jamnagar** – Construction to commence in 2021-22
- **Delhi-Katra** – Construction will commence in 2021-22
- Advanced Traffic management

system in all new 4 and 6-lane highways: Speed radars Variable message signboards G P S enabled recovery vans will be installed

**RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Rs. 1,10,055 crore for Railways of which Rs. 1,07,100 crore is for capital expenditure
- **National Rail Plan for India (2030):** to create a ‘future ready’ Railway system by 2030
- 100% electrification of Broad-Gauge routes to be completed by December, 2023
- **Broad Gauge Route Kilometers (RKM) electrification** to reach 46,000 RKM, i.e. 72% by end of 2021
- **Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC)** and Eastern DFC to be commissioned by June 2022, to bring down the logistic costs – enabling Make in India strategy
- **The Sonnagar-Gomoh Section**

(263.7 km) of Eastern DFC to be taken up in PPP mode in 2021-22

- **Future dedicated freight corridor projects** – East Coast corridor from Kharagpur to Vijayawada
- **East-West Corridor** from Bhusaval to Kharagpur to Dankuni
- **North-South corridor** from Itarsi to Vijayawada

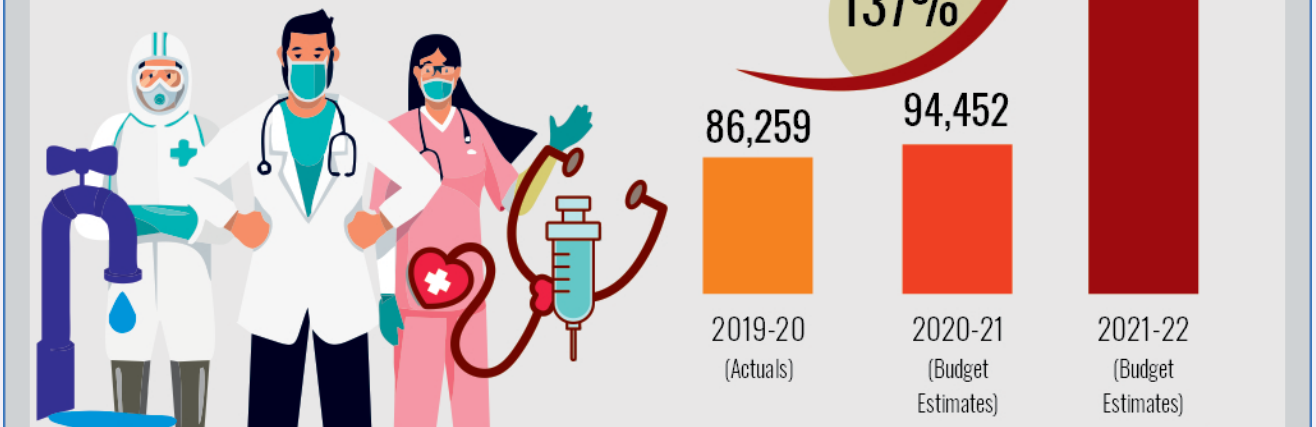
**URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Raising the share of public transport in urban areas by expansion of metro rail network and augmentation of city bus service
- Rs. 18,000 crore for a new scheme, to augment public bus transport:
- Innovative PPP models to run more than 20,000 buses
- To boost automobile sector, provide fillip to economic growth, create employment opportunities for our youth
- A total of 702 km of conventional metro is operational and another 1,016 km of metro and RRTS is under construction in 27 cities
- ‘MetroLite’ and ‘MetroNeo’ technologies to provide metro rail systems at much lesser cost with similar experience in Tier-2 cities and peripheral areas of Tier-1 cities.
- Central counterpart funding to Kochi Metro Railway Phase-II of 11.5 km at a cost of Rs. 1957.05 crore
- Chennai Metro Railway Phase –II of 118.9 km at a cost of Rs. 63,246 crore
- Bengaluru Metro Railway Project Phase 2A and 2B of 58.19 km at a cost of Rs. 14,788 crore

## Union Budget 2021-22

## Health and Wellbeing Expenditure

In ₹ crore



- Nagpur Metro Rail Project Phase-II and Nashik Metro at a cost of Rs. 5,976 crore and Rs. 2,092 crore respectively.

**POWER INFRASTRUCTURE**

- 139 Giga Watts of installed capacity and 1.41 lakh circuit km of transmission lines added, and additional 2.8 crore households connected in past 6 years
- Consumers to have alternatives to choose the Distribution Company for enhancing competitiveness
- Rs. 3,05,984 crore over 5 years for a revamped, reforms-based and result-linked new power distribution sector scheme
- A comprehensive National Hydrogen Energy Mission 2021-22 to be launched

**PORTS, SHIPPING, WATERWAYS**

- Rs. 2,000 crore worth 7 projects to be offered in PPP-mode in FY21-22 for operation of major ports

- Indian shipping companies to get Rs. 1624 crore worth subsidy support over 5 years in global tenders of Ministries and CPSEs
- To double the recycling capacity of around 4.5 Million Light Displacement Tonne (LDT) by 2024; to generate an additional 1.5 lakh jobs

**PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS**

- Extension of Ujjwala Scheme to cover 1 crore more beneficiaries
- To add 100 more districts to the City Gas Distribution network in next 3 years
- A new gas pipeline project in J&K
- An independent Gas Transport System Operator to be set up for facilitation and coordination of booking of common carrier capacity in all-natural gas pipelines on a non-discriminatory open access basis

**FINANCIAL CAPITAL**

- A single Securities Markets Code

to be evolved

- Support for development of a world class Fin-Tech hub at the GIFT-IFSC
- A new permanent institutional framework to help in development of Bond market by purchasing investment grade debt securities both in stressed and normal times
- Setting up a system of Regulated Gold Exchanges: SEBI to be notified as a regulator and Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority to be strengthened
- To develop an investor charter as a right of all financial investors
- Capital infusion of Rs. 1,000 crore to Solar Energy Corporation of India and Rs. 1,500 crore to Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency

**INCREASING FDI IN INSURANCE SECTOR**

- To increase the permissible FDI limit from 49% to 74% and allow

**BUDGET FOR WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES INCREASES BY 51.65%: THAWARCHAND GEHLOT**



Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thawarchand Gehlot speaking on the budget-2021-22 said, “Under the successful leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Government of India has increased the budget for the welfare of Scheduled Caste by 51.65% over the previous year, proving the basic mantra of “Sabka Saath - Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas”.

foreign ownership and control with safeguards

**RECAPITALIZATION OF PSBS**

- Rs. 20,000 crore in 2021-22 to further consolidate the financial capacity of PSBs

**DEPOSIT INSURANCE**

- Amendments to the DICGC Act, 1961, to help depositors get an easy and time-bound access to their deposits to the extent of the deposit insurance cover
- Minimum loan size eligible for debt recovery under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 proposed to be reduced from Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 20 lakh for NBFCs with minimum asset size of Rs. 100 crore

**COMPANY MATTERS**

- To decriminalize the Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) Act, 2008
- Easing Compliance requirement of Small companies by revising their definition under Companies Act, 2013 by increasing their thresholds for Paid up capital from “not exceeding Rs. 50 Lakh” to “not exceeding Rs. 2 Crore” and turnover from “not exceeding Rs. 2 Crore” to “not exceeding Rs. 20 Cr”.

**FIRST BUDGET TO PROVIDE A MAJOR BOOST TO INFRA: NITIN GADKARI**



Union Minister for Roads, Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari hailed the ‘historic’ Union Budget 2021 and pointed out that it was the first budget to provide a major boost to infrastructure in the country. Shri Gadkari noted that the budget of his Ministry had been increased from Rs 91,000 crore to Rs 1,18,000 crore after the Union Budget 2021 and predicted it to be a huge boost for infrastructure.

- Promoting start-ups and innovators by incentivizing the incorporation of One Person Companies (OPCs):
- Allowing their growth without any restrictions on paid up capital and turnover
- Allowing their conversion into any other type of company at any time,
- Reducing the residency limit for an Indian citizen to set up an OPC from 182 days to 120 days and
- Allowing Non Resident Indians (NRIs) to incorporate OPCs in India.
- To ensure faster resolution of cases by:
- Strengthening NCLT framework
- Implementation of e-Courts system
- Introduction of alternate methods of debt resolution and special framework for MSMEs
- Launch of data analytics, artificial intelligence, machine learning driven MCA21 Version 3.0 in 2021-22

**GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL REFORMS**

- Treasury Single Account (TSA) System for Autonomous Bodies to be extended for universal application
- Separate Administrative Structure to streamline the ‘Ease of Doing Business’ for Cooperatives



## INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR ASPIRATIONAL INDIA

### AGRICULTURE

- Ensured MSP at minimum 1.5 times the cost of production across all commodities.
- SWAMITVA Scheme to be extended to all States/UTs, 1.80 lakh property-owners in 1,241 villages have already been provided cards
- Agricultural credit target enhanced to Rs. 16.5 lakh crore in FY22 - animal husbandry, dairy, and fisheries to be the focus areas
- Rural Infrastructure Development Fund to be enhanced to Rs. 40,000 crore from Rs. 30,000 crore
- To double the Micro Irrigation Fund to Rs. 10,000 crore
- 'Operation Green Scheme' to be extended to 22 perishable products, to boost value addition in agriculture and allied products
- Around 1.68 crore farmers registered and Rs. 1.14 lakh crore of trade value carried out through e-NAMs; 1,000 more mandis to be integrated with e-NAM to bring transparency and competitiveness.
- APMCs to get access to the Agriculture Infrastructure Funds for augmenting infrastructure facilities

### FISHERIES

- Investments to develop modern fishing harbours and fish landing centres – both marine and inland
- 5 major fishing harbours – Kochi, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, and Petuaghat to be developed as hubs of economic activity
- Multipurpose Seaweed Park in Tamil Nadu to promote seaweed cultivation

### MIGRANT WORKERS AND LABOURERS

- One Nation One Ration Card scheme for beneficiaries to claim rations anywhere in the country - migrant workers to benefit the most
- Scheme implementation so far covered 86% of beneficiaries across 32 States and UTs
- Remaining 4 states to be integrated in next few months
- Portal to collect information on unorganized labour force, migrant workers especially, to help formulate schemes for them
- Implementation of 4 labour codes underway

- Social security benefits for gig and platform workers too minimum wages and coverage under the Employees State Insurance Corporation applicable for all categories of workers
- Women workers allowed in all categories, including night-shifts with adequate protection
- Compliance burden on employers reduced with single registration and licensing, and online returns

### FINANCIAL INCLUSION

- Under Stand Up India Scheme for SCs, STs and women,
- Margin money requirement reduced to 15%
- To also include loans for allied agricultural activities
- Rs. 15,700 crore budget allocation to MSME Sector, more than double of this year's BE

### REINVIGORATING HUMAN CAPITAL

#### SCHOOL EDUCATION

- 15,000 schools to be strengthened by implementing all NEP components. Shall act as exemplar schools in their regions for mentoring others
- 100 new Sainik Schools to be set up in partnership with NGOs/private schools/states

#### HIGHER EDUCATION

- Legislation to be introduced to setup Higher Education Commission of India as an umbrella body with 4 separate vehicles for standard-setting, accreditation, regulation, and funding
- Creation of formal umbrella structure to cover all Govt. colleges, universities, research institutions in a city for greater synergy.
- Glue grant to implement the same across 9 cities
- Central University to come up in Leh for accessibility of higher education in Ladakh

#### SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES WELFARE

- 750 Eklavya model residential schools in tribal areas:
- Unit cost of each school to be increased to Rs. 38 crore
- For hilly and difficult areas, to Rs. 48 crore
- Focus on creation of robust infrastructure facilities for tribal students
- Revamped Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for welfare of SCs
- Rs. 35,219 crore enhanced Central Assistance for 6 years till 2025-2026

**SPECIAL ATTENTION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE TRIBAL SOCIETY: ARJUN MUNDA**



Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Shri Arjun Munda said this budget is in line with the sentiments of the common people of India, reflecting the sentiments of 130 crore Indians, in which special attention has been given to the tribal society. It has not only an account of income and expenditure for the entire year, but a vision of development for the next five years. This budget is the budget to bring a new vision to India's new horizon in the 75th year of independence. It contains the vision of the government. The Union Budget is based on six pillars and the government has increased the health budget by 137 percent, he added.

- Initiatives for partnership with other countries in skilling to be taken forward, similar to partnership:
- With UAE to benchmark skill qualifications, assessment, certification, and deployment of certified workforce
- With Japan for a collaborative Training Inter Training Programme (TITP) to transfer of skills, technique and knowledge

**INNOVATION AND R&D**

- Modalities of National Research Foundation announced in July 2019 –
- Rs. 50,000 crore outlay over 5 years
- To strengthen overall research ecosystem with focus on national-priority thrust areas
- Rs. 1,500 crore for proposed scheme to promote digital modes of payment
- National Language Translation Mission (NTLM) to make governance-and-policy related knowledge available in major Indian languages
- PSLV-CS51 to be launched by New Space India Limited (NSIL) carrying Brazil's Amazonia Satellite and some Indian satellites
- As part of the Gaganyaan mission activities:
- 4 Indian astronauts being trained on Generic Space Flight aspects, in Russia



- First unmanned launch is slated for December 2021
- Rs. 4,000 crore over five years for Deep Ocean Mission survey exploration and conservation of deep sea biodiversity

### **MINIMUM GOVERNMENT, MAXIMUM GOVERNANCE**

- Measures being undertaken to bring reforms in Tribunals to ensure speedy justice
- National Commission for Allied Healthcare Professionals already introduced to ensure transparent and efficient regulation of the 56 allied healthcare professions
- The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill introduced for the same in nursing profession
- Proposed Conciliation Mechanism with mandate for quick resolution of contractual disputes with CPSEs
- Rs. 3,768 crore allocated for first digital census in the history of India
- Rs. 300 crore grant to the Government of Goa for the diamond jubilee celebrations of the state's liberation from Portuguese
- Rs. 1,000 crore for the welfare of Tea workers especially women and their children in Assam and West Bengal through a special scheme
- RE for Expenditure is Rs. 34.50 lakh crore as against original BE expenditure of Rs. 30.42 lakh crore
- Quality of expenditure has been maintained as Capital Expenditure estimated as per RE is Rs. 4.39 lakh crore in 2020-2021 as against Rs. 4.12 lakh crore in BE 2020-21
- Estimates of Rs. 34.83 lakh crore BE for expenditure in 2021-2022 including Rs. 5.5 lakh crore as capital expenditure, an increase of 34.5% to give required push to economy

### **TAX PROPOSALS**

- Vision of a transparent, efficient tax system to promote investments and employment in the country with minimum burden on tax payers
- Corporate tax rate slashed to make it among the lowest in the world
- Burden of taxation on small taxpayers eased by increasing rebates
- Return filers almost doubled to 6.48 crore in 2020 from 3.31 crore in 2014
- Faceless Assessment and Faceless Appeal introduced

### **RELIEF TO SENIOR CITIZENS:**

- Exemption from filing tax returns for senior citizens over 75 years of age and having only pension and interest income; tax to be deducted by paying bank

### **SUPPORTING 'HOUSING FOR ALL':**

- Additional deduction of interest, up to Rs. 1.5 lakh, for loan taken to buy an affordable house extended for loans taken till March 2022
- Tax holiday for Affordable Housing projects extended till March 2022
- Tax exemption allowed for notified Affordable Rental Housing Projects

### **TAX INCENTIVES TO IFSC IN GIFT CITY:**

- Tax holiday for capital gains from incomes of aircraft leasing companies
- Tax exemptions for aircraft lease rentals paid to foreign lessors
- Tax incentive for relocating foreign funds in the IFSC
- Tax exemption to investment division of foreign banks located in IFSC

### **EASE OF FILING TAXES:**

- Details of capital gains from listed securities, dividend income, interest from banks, etc. to be pre-filled in returns

### **GST:**

- Nil return through SMS
- Quarterly return and monthly payment for small taxpayers

### **PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN YOJANA (PMGKY):**

- Valued at Rs. 2.76 lakh crore
- Free food grain to 80 crore people
- Free cooking gas for 8 crore families
- Direct cash to over 40 crore farmers, women, elderly, the poor and the needy

### **AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT PACKAGE (ANB 1.0):**

- Estimated at Rs. 23 lakh crore – more than 10% of GDP
- PMGKY, three ANB packages (ANB 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0), and announcements made later were like 5 mini-budgets in themselves
- Rs. 27.1 lakh crore worth of financial impact of all three ANB packages including RBI's measures – amounting to more than 13% of GDP. ■



## 'FASTER INFRASTRUCTURE CREATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION ARE KEY OBJECTIVES BEHIND THIS BUDGET'

**U**nion Finance Minister **Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman** has presented the 2021-22 Union Budget in the backdrop of once in a century pandemic. However, by presenting a historic Budget for Aatmanirbhar Bharat she has surprised many. In a conversation with Kamal Sandesh Associate Editors **Ram Prasad Tripathy & Sanjeev Kumar Sinha**, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman explained at length on some of the key highlights of the Budget and revealed that how the central government led by Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi wanted to give a boost to public expenditure for creating roads, ports, infrastructure for Agriculture, Health, Education and to accelerate the overall development of the country. She said this Budget lays out various measures to provide 'Ease of Living' to every citizen and also stands in support of country's wealth creators. Excerpts of the conversation:

**You have presented this Budget in the backdrop of a once in a century Coronavirus pandemic. After the pandemic, everyone was apprehensive about what the Budget 2021-22 would bring. However, this all-inclusive Budget for Aatmanirbhar Bharat has surprised many. What's the central objective you wanted to achieve with this Budget?**

The central objective of the budget stands on six pillars. First, 'Health and Wellbeing'. We have taken a holistic approach to Health, focussing on strengthening three areas: Preventive, Curative, and Wellbeing, which also includes cleanliness and control on pollution. Second is 'Physical & Financial Capital and Infrastructure'. We will create institutional structures, monetize assets, and enhance the share of capital expenditure in central and state budgets, to ensure robust infrastructure financing. Expenditure on infrastructure will ensure comprehensive growth through its multiplier effect.

Third being 'Inclusive Development for Aspirational India' includes steps taken to boost farmer income, develop fisheries, and ensure financial inclusion for all. This also includes securing the well-being of migrant workers and labourers through steps like a dedicated portal that will collect relevant information on gig, building, and construction-workers among others to help formulate Health, Housing, Skill, Insurance, Credit, and food schemes for labourers. The fourth pillar is 'Reinvigorating Human Capital'. Here we ensure that all sections of the society get equal opportunity

to contribute to New India's growth story- scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, youth, etc. This focuses on providing equal education opportunities and skilling facilities to all.

'Innovation and R&D' is the fifth pillar. This, among other things, includes the launch of the National Research Foundation with an outlay of Rs 50000 crore for strengthening the overall research ecosystem of the country with focus on identified national-priority thrust areas. Sixth and the last one 'Minimum Government and Maximum Governance', which has always been the motto of the government under the leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi, lays out various measures to provide ease of living to the citizens without much interference from the government, be it by setting up more tribunals in order to ensure faster delivery of justice or taking steps to improve ease of doing business for companies dealing with CPSEs.

**It was a very bold step to increase the Health Budget phenomenally. There was also a separate allocation of Rs. 35,000 crore for the Covid vaccine. Do you think this huge allocation will transform the health sector and its infrastructure?**

Yes, because the approach that we have adopted towards health is a holistic one. As mentioned earlier, the focus is on strengthening three areas: Preventive, Curative, and Wellbeing. This includes emphasis on nutrition as well, with adoption of an intensified strategy to improve nutritional outcomes across 112 Aspirational Districts. Keeping in mind WHO's recommendation,



This, in turn, would generate employment. While an infrastructure project takes a few years to complete, the jobs are generated immediately. Since the ongoing and announced infrastructure projects are spread across various states, labour from all the states is set to gain from the employment opportunities that will be created.

**This year's Budget has many things to boost the Agriculture sector and Agri infrastructure. Is the opposition to agriculture reforms a deterrent?**

The government has taken the opposition on board in its continued reform of the agriculture sector. In fact, the government is implementing reforms the Congress party itself said it would do if it won! Congress said in its 2019 Manifesto that it would repeal the APMC Act and make trade in agricultural produce — including exports and inter-state trade — free from all restrictions.

Since 2014, we have initiated changes in the agriculture sector aimed at empowering the farmer. The crop insurance scheme was changed to make it more farmer-friendly. The PM-KISAN scheme was also brought in. The government has repeatedly invited dialogues on the three Farm

Laws. So far, 12 rounds of talks have been completed and the government is open for more. The Agriculture Minister has said that he is ready to go over the Farm Laws clause by clause. That is the level of consultation the government is doing.

Early this year, Hon'ble Prime Minister had launched the SWAMITVA Scheme. Under this, a record of rights is being given to property owners in villages. Up till now, about 1.80 lakh property-owners in 1,241 villages have been provided cards. In the Union Budget, this was extended to cover all States/UTs during FY22.

To provide adequate credit to our farmers, agricultural credit target has been enhanced to Rs 16.5 lakh crores in FY22. The allocation to the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund was also increased from Rs 30,000 crores to Rs 40,000 crore. The Micro Irrigation Fund was doubled.

The scope of 'Operation Green Scheme', which was applicable to tomatoes, onions, and potatoes,

this budget gives importance to ensuring clean water, sanitation, and clean environment, as a prerequisite to achieving universal health. For this purpose, we are launching The Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban) that aims

at universal water supply in all 4,378 Urban Local Bodies, as well as liquid waste management in 500 AMRUT cities. The Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 will be implemented with a total financial allocation of Rs 1,41,678 crores over a period

of 5 years. In addition, an amount of Rs 2,217 crores has been provided to tackle air-pollution for 42 urban centres with a million-plus population.

**What is the thought behind the announcement of mega textile parks and huge Budget allocation for infrastructure? How is it going to bring the much awaited solution to the huge labour migration problem from certain states and create jobs?**

With the PLI scheme, we are strengthening the key industries where we see great potential. Textile is also one such industry. We want to make the industry globally competitive and attract investments through the proposed Mega Investment Textiles Parks. Employment generation is a key goal behind this. By spending on infrastructure, we want to invest in creation of assets such as roads, ports, etc. It is going to have a multiplier effect. It would increase demand in core industries such as cement, steel, power, etc.

**Since 2014, we have initiated changes in the agriculture sector aimed at empowering the farmer. The crop insurance scheme was changed to make it more farmer-friendly. The PM-KISAN scheme was also brought in.**

has been enlarged to include 22 perishable products. Further, in the Budget, 1,000 more mandis will be integrated with e-NAM.

The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund would be made available to APMCs for augmenting their infrastructure facilities. Substantial investments have been announced in the development of modern fishing harbours and fish landing centres. The government will develop inland fishing harbours and fish-landing centres along the banks of rivers and waterways.

**As you know the Corona pandemic highly affected the business community in India. After the Pandemic the community has taken a sigh of relief for this year's Budget. What is your message for the business community?**

As I had stated in the previous Budget and as the government has shown throughout the last year and

in this Budget, this government stands in support of the country's wealth creators. During COVID, the government offered emergency credit for MSMEs in the form of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme, through

which more than Rs 2 lakh crore of emergency credit has been sanctioned. Apart from that, the government provided Rs 20,000 crore of subordinate debt for stressed MSMEs. One of the biggest benefits for start-ups arising out of the changes made in the Aatmanirbhar package is the change in the definition of MSMEs. One of the major changes announced was that India-registered companies can now hold initial public offerings on notified global exchanges, thus allowing Indian start-ups to now access capital in public and private markets on a global level.

The overall emphasis of the government to reduce its reliance on defence imports creates huge opportunities for Indian companies, including new entrants. The 74% FDI limit also makes it easier for new ventures to raise capital from global investors. The government is also pushing for technological innovation to be the driving force behind the country's national security and defence preparedness, creating opportunities for new companies to establish themselves in this newly opening up field. At a time when India is already a well-established name in the space sector, the

government's decision to allow private participation opens up avenues of cutting-edge innovation and new companies making their mark in the sector.

**After this historic Budget, how do you see economic recovery as well as the much awaited great leap for Indian economy? How Hon'ble PM's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat is set to position Indian economy globally?**

The Indian stock market gave thumbs up to Union Budget 2021, with the BSE benchmark Sensex rising over 2,000 points in intraday trade and NSE Nifty breaching 14,000 levels. Most high-frequency indicators of the economy have not only turned positive, but they have reached levels higher than pre-COVID. GST collections came in at Rs 1.19 lakh crore in January 2021, the highest ever collection. This came on the back of Rs 1.15 lakh crore collected in December 2020, which

itself was the previous highest collection.

India's manufacturing industry started 2021 on a strong note with the Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for January coming in at

**The Indian stock market gave thumbs up to Union Budget 2021, with the BSE benchmark Sensex rising over 2,000 points in intraday trade and NSE Nifty breaching 14,000 levels.**

57.7, the strongest improvement in three months. The Manufacturing PMI in December 2020 and November 2020 came in at 56.4 and 56.3, respectively.

Petroleum consumption in December 2020 stood at 1.85 crore MT, which is about the same level achieved last year. Railway freight traffic grew 8.5% in December 2020 compared to December 2019. UPI payment transactions hit an all-time high of Rs. 4.31 lakh crore in value and 230 crore in volume terms in January 2021. This is nearly double in terms of value and volume compared to January 2020. The Economic Survey estimated growth to be 11% in FY22. The RBI's survey points towards improvement in capacity utilisation in the manufacturing sector to 63.3% in Q2:2020-21 from 47.3% in the preceding quarter. Foreign Direct Investment and Foreign Portfolio Investment to India have surged in recent months, reposing faith in the impressive recovery in the Indian economy.

As a sign of growing international confidence in the Indian economy, the International Monetary Fund has said it projects a 11.5% growth rate for India in calendar year 2021, the only country with double digit growth. ■



# KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF ECONOMIC SURVEY 2020-21

**UNION MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN PRESENTED THE ECONOMIC SURVEY 2020-21 IN THE PARLIAMENT ON 29 JANUARY, 2021. THE KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF ECONOMIC SURVEY 2020-21, WHICH IS DEDICATED TO THE COVID WARRIORS, ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

## STATE OF THE ECONOMY IN 2020-21: A MACRO VIEW

- GDP growth will recover from the temporary shock caused by the pandemic
- V-shaped recovery, as seen in 7.5% decline in GDP in Q2 and recovery across all key economic indicators vis-à-vis the 23.9% GDP contraction in Q1
- COVID-19 pandemic ensued global economic downturn, the most severe one since the Global Financial Crisis
- The lockdowns and social distancing norms brought the already slowing global economy to a standstill
- Global economic output estimated to fall by 3.5% in 2020 (IMF January 2021 estimates)
- India adopted a four-pillar strategy of containment, fiscal, financial, and long-term structural reforms:
- As per the advance estimates by NSO, India's GDP is estimated to grow by (-) 7.7% in FY21 - a robust sequential growth of 23.9% in H2: FY21 over H1: FY21
- India's real GDP to record a 11.0% growth in FY2021-22 and nominal GDP to grow by 15.4% – the highest since independence:
- The recovery in second half of FY2020-21 is expected to be powered by government consumption, estimated to grow at 17% YoY
- Exports expected to decline by 5.8% and imports by 11.3% in the second half of FY21
- India expected to have a Current Account Surplus of 2% of GDP in FY21, a historic high after 17 years
- On supply side, Gross Value Added (GVA) growth pegged at -7.2% in FY21 as against 3.9% in FY20:
- ♦ **Agriculture set to cushion the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Indian economy in FY21 with a growth of 3.4%**
- ♦ **Industry and services estimated to contract by 9.6% and 8.8% respectively during FY21**
- India remained a preferred investment destination in FY 2020-21 with FDI pouring in amidst global asset shifts towards equities and prospects of quicker recovery in emerging economies:

- a. Net FPI inflows recorded an all-time monthly high of US\$ 9.8 billion in November 2020, as investors' risk appetite returned
- Buoyant SENSEX and NIFTY resulted in India's market-cap to GDP ratio crossing 100% for the first time since October 2010
  - India became the fastest country to roll-out 10 lakh vaccines in 6 days and also emerged as a leading supplier of the vaccine to neighbouring countries and Brazil

## HEALTHCARE TAKES CENTRE STAGE

- COVID-19 pandemic emphasized the importance of healthcare sector and its inter-linkages with other sectors - showcased how a health crisis transformed into an economic and social crisis
- India's health infrastructure must be agile so as to respond to pandemics - healthcare policy must not become beholden to 'saliency bias'
- National Health Mission (NHM) played a critical role in mitigating inequity as the access of the poorest to pre-natal/post-natal care and institutional deliveries increased significantly
- Emphasis on NHM in conjunction with Ayushman Bharat should continue
- An increase in public healthcare spending from 1% to 2.5-3% of GDP can decrease the out-of-pocket expenditure from 65% to 35% of overall healthcare spending

## JAY HO! PM'JAY' ADOPTION AND HEALTH OUTCOMES

- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) – the ambitious program launched by Government of India in 2018 to provide healthcare access to the most vulnerable sections demonstrates strong positive effects on healthcare outcomes in a short time
- PM-JAY is being used significantly for high frequency, low cost care such as dialysis and continued during the Covid pandemic and the lockdown.

# INDIAN INDUSTRY HAILS BUDGET 2021-22

The Union Budget 2021-22 was largely welcomed by Indian Industry, which termed it a 'budget for growth'. The two major industry bodies — CII and FICCI — hailed the Union Budget.

## BUDGET LIKE NO OTHER: CII

President of CII, Uday Kotak said, "The Finance Minister delivered on her promise of unveiling a 'Budget Like No Other', adding that she had announced a "raft of prudent measures aimed at rejuvenating government spending towards critical areas of increasing allocation on infrastructure expansion, education, housing and health as India rolls out a vaccine drive to inoculate 1.3 billion people."

## A reassuring Budget: Kiran Mazumdar Shaw

Biocon executive chairperson Kiran Mazumdar Shaw said, "Overall, a reassuring Budget with no negative surprises that has buoyed overall sentiment. Healthcare & well-being has received top priority in this Budget, with more than doubling of the outlay to 2,23,846 crore, including the allocation of 35,400 crore towards COVID-19 vaccination and 64,184 Cr for a new scheme to strengthen the country's primary, secondary and tertiary health infrastructure".

## Emphasis on healthcare will encourage innovation: Adar Poonawalla

Serum Institute of India CEO Adar Poonawalla said,

## OUTSTANDING, CLEAR-HEADED AND GROWTH-ORIENTED BUDGET: FICCI

President, FICCI Uday Shankar said, "Today we saw an outstanding, clear-headed and growth-oriented budget that lays a strong foundation for an Atmanirbhar Bharat. The fact that the government chose growth over fiscal consolidation is indeed heartening. There is a sharp focus on capital expenditure."

"Globally, spending on healthcare infrastructure and vaccines have given countries and their economies the best bang for their buck. Therefore we welcome the FM's emphasis on healthcare spending and immunisation, especially for COVID-19 and the pneumococcal vaccines as this will help India recover rapidly from this pandemic. Hopefully, this will also encourage more innovation and expansion in the sector."

## Budget will help in accomplishing a COVID-19-free country: Krishna Ella

Bharat Biotech CMD Krishna Ella said, "It's a great step and far-reaching budget announcement providing 35,000 crore for COVID-19 vaccination in 2021-22". ■

## BEST BUDGET-DAY REACTION BY THE STOCK MARKET IN LAST 2 DECADES

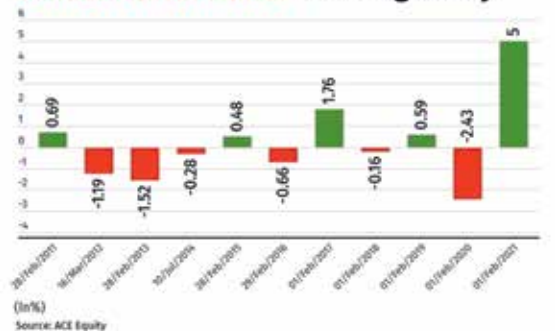
As Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman announced a Budget that is being seen as growth-oriented and balanced, Dalal Street gave a thumbs up. The Sensex rallied 2,300 points, or 5 percent, to 48,600.61 and Nifty gained 646.60 points, or 4.74 percent, at 14,281.20 on the day's session.

This has been the best performance by the stock market on a Budget Day since 1999.

What the market also cheered is the massive front-loading of expenditure for the rest of 2020-21, which will have a positive ripple effect on the economy.

Gains were mainly led by banking, infra, metal and auto stocks. Bank Nifty touched a record high with a gain of 8 percent closing at 33,305.30 on FM measures to clean up the NPAs in the sector. The last time the market rose as much as this time on any Budget Day was in 1999 when the BSE Sensex jumped 5.13 percent. On the Budget Day in 1997, the index had jumped 6.5 percent.

### Sensex Performance on Budget Day



- Causal impact of PM-JAY on health outcomes by undertaking a Difference-in-Difference analysis based on National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-4 (2015-16) and NFHS-5 (2019-20) is following:

## FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS

- India adopted a calibrated approach best suited for a resilient recovery of its economy from COVID-19 pandemic impact, in contrast with a front-loaded large stimulus package adopted by many countries
- Expenditure policy in 2020-21 initially aimed at supporting the vulnerable sections but was re-oriented to boost overall demand and capital spending, once the lockdown was unwound
- Monthly GST collections have crossed the Rs. 1 lakh crore mark consecutively for the last 3 months, reaching its highest levels in December 2020 ever since the introduction of GST

## PRICES AND INFLATION

### RURAL-URBAN DIFFERENCE IN CPI INFLATION SAW A DECLINE IN 2020:

- Since November 2019, CPI-Urban inflation has closed the gap with CPI-Rural inflation
- Food inflation has almost converged now
- Contribution increased to 59% during April-December, 2020, compared to 53.7% during April-December, 2019

## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD MANAGEMENT

- India's Agricultural (and Allied Activities) sector has shown its resilience amid the adversities of COVID-19 induced lockdowns with a growth of 3.4% at constant prices during 2020-21 (first advance estimate)
- 1.5 crore dairy farmers of milk cooperatives and milk producer companies' were targeted to provide Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) as part of Prime Minister's AatmaNirbhar Bharat Package after the budget announcement of February 2020
- As of mid January 2021, a total of 44,673 Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) have been issued to fishers and fish farmers and an additional 4.04 lakh applications from fishers and fish farmers are with the banks at various stages of issuance
- The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana covers over 5.5 crore farmer applications year on year

- Claims worth Rs. 90,000 crore paid, as on 12th January, 2021
- 70 lakh farmers benefitted and claims worth Rs. 8741.30 crores were transferred during COVID-19 lock down period
- An amount of Rs. 18000 crore have been deposited directly in the bank accounts of 9 crore farmer families of the country in December, 2020 in the 7th installment of financial benefit under the PM-KISAN scheme

## PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN ANNA YOJANA:

- 80.96 crore beneficiaries were provided foodgrains above NFSA mandated requirement free of cost till November, 2020.
- Over 200 LMT of foodgrains were provided amounting to a fiscal outgo of over Rs. 75000 Crores
- AatmaNirbhar Bharat Package: 5 kg per person per month for four months (May to August) to approximately 8 crores migrants (excluded under NFSA or state ration card) entailing subsidy of Rs. 3109 crores approximately

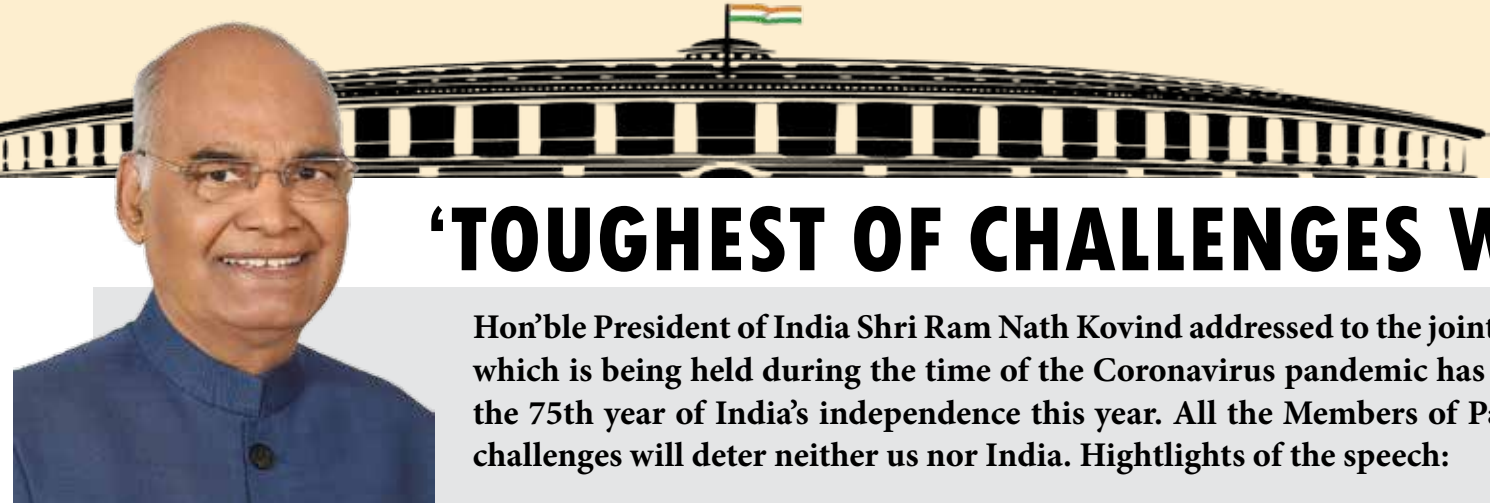
## INDUSTRY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- A strong V-shaped recovery of economic activity further confirmed by IIP data
- The IIP & eight-core index further inched up to pre-COVID levels
- The broad-based recovery in the IIP resulted in a growth of (-) 1.9 % in Nov-2020 as compared to a growth of 2.1 % in Nov-2019 and a nadir of (-) 57.3 % in Apr-2020
- AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan with a stimulus package worth 15 % of India's GDP announced
- India's rank in the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) Index for 2019 has moved upwards to the 63rd position in 2020 from 77th in 2018 as per the Doing Business Report (DBR):
- India has improved its position in 7 out of 10 indicators

## SERVICES SECTOR

- India's services sector contracted by nearly 16 % during H1: FY2020-21, during the COVID-19 pandemic mandated lockdown, owing to its contact-intensive nature. ■





# 'TOUGHEST OF CHALLENGES W

Hon'ble President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind addressed to the joint which is being held during the time of the Coronavirus pandemic has the 75th year of India's independence this year. All the Members of P challenges will deter neither us nor India. Highlights of the speech:

## HEALTHCARE FACILITIES:

- As a result of the efforts of Government, the poor are now able to avail the benefits of healthcare facilities with ease and their expenditure on treatment of diseases is progressively reducing.
- Under the Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, 1.5 crore poor people in the country have received free treatment of up to Rs 5 lakh. As a result, the poor have been able to save over Rs 30,000 crore.
- In order to develop healthcare facilities across the country commensurate expansion in medical education is equally important. In 2014, there were only 387 medical colleges, but today there are 562 medical colleges in the country.
- In the last 6 years, there has been an increase of over 50,000 seats at the under-graduate and post graduate levels in medical education.
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana, the Government has also sanctioned 22 new AIIMS.

## AGRICULTURE:

- Our goal of an Atmanirbhar Bharat will be further strengthened by self-reliance in agriculture. With this idea, the

Government has, over the last 6 years, attempted to bring positive transformation in the 'Seed to Market' system so that Indian agriculture is modernized and also sees growth. In pursuance of these efforts, my Government decided to implement the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee report and increased the MSP to at least 1.5 times of the cost of production.

- My Government accords priority to these small and marginal farmers too. In order to provide expenditure support to these farmers, almost Rs 1,13,000 crore have been directly transferred to their bank accounts under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi.
- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has also benefitted small farmers of this country. Under this scheme in the last 5 years, about Rs 90,000 crore has been paid as compensation to the farmers against a premium of Rs 17,000 crore.
- After extensive consultation the Parliament approved 3 important farm reform bills 7 months ago, namely, The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement

on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill.

## RURAL INFRA:

- Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, construction of 6.42 lakh km of road network has been completed in rural areas of the country.
- Along with roads, internet connectivity is equally important in the rural areas.
- After ensuring electrification of every village, my Government is implementing a mission to connect over 6 lakh villages of the country through optical fiber.

## SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES:

- These small scale industries have immense potential of making India self-reliant.
- This sector accounts for about 50% of India's total exports.
- Several steps have been taken to enhance the role of MSMEs in the mission aimed at developing an Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- Under the MUDRA scheme, more than 25 crore loans have been sanctioned so far, of which nearly 70% have been given to women entrepreneurs.
- Under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - Rashtriya Grameen Ajeevika Mission, more than 7 crore women entrepreneurs have become a part of the network of

# 'WILL DETER NEITHER US NOR INDIA'

at sitting of both Houses of Parliament on 29 January, 2021. He said this joint sitting of Parliament of great significance. It is the beginning of a new year and a new decade. We will also be entering a new millennium. The Parliament present here today embody the conviction held by every Indian that the toughest of

nearly 66 lakh Self Help Groups in the country. These women groups have been provided bank loans worth Rs 3,40,000 crore in the last 6 years.

## LABOUR REFORMS:

- Both Houses of Parliament have taken a decision to bring about a transformation in the lives of the labour force.
- 29 Central labour laws have been amalgamated into 4 Labour Codes.
- States have also displayed initiative in bringing about these labour reforms.

## 'VOCAL FOR LOCAL':

- Government is encouraging public participation in consumption of domestically manufactured goods.
- Today, 'Vocal For Local' has become a people's movement in the country.
- Continuous steps are being taken to improve 'Ease of Doing Business' in India.

## MODERN INFRASTRUCTURE:

- Rapid execution of major infrastructure projects and their completion, even during the coronavirus pandemic, demonstrates our resolve. Be it the submarine optical fibre cable from Chennai to Port Blair, the Atal Tunnel or the Char

Dham Road Project, our country has been forging ahead with developmental work.

- A few days back, sections of the Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors have been dedicated to the nation. Along with promoting industrialization in Eastern India, this freight corridor will also reduce unnecessary delays during transit.
- Government is also working on the 'National Infrastructure Pipeline' worth over Rs 110 lakh crore.
- Along with this, work on 6 new expressways and 18 new access controlled corridors under the 'Bharatmala Pariyojana' is in progress.
- More than 1 crore houses had been sanctioned for the poor in cities, of which about 40 lakh houses have already been constructed.
- Metro rail service has been rolled out in 27 cities.

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF GOVERNMENT:

- More than 2.5 crore free electricity connections were given so that every poor person's house is electrified.
- More than 36 crore LED bulbs were distributed at affordable rates to reduce the electricity bill of poor and middle class families.

- about 9.5 crore people were insured under 'Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana' for a premium of just 90 paise a day so that in case of death of the bread earner, the family may receive some support.
- More than 3.5 crore children were vaccinated under 'Mission Indradhanush'.
- More than 8 crore gas connections were given free of cost under 'Ujjwala Yojana' so that the health of sisters and daughters from poor families is not adversely affected by smoke from the kitchen.
- More than 10 crore toilets were built under 'Swachh Bharat Mission' so that the dignity of sisters and daughters from poor families is maintained and they are not inconvenienced.
- 'Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan Yojana' was started so that poor persons including brothers and sisters engaged as domestic workers, drivers, cobblers, persons ironing clothes, farm hands etc may also get pension.
- More than 41 crore Jan Dhan accounts were opened so that the poor may benefit from the banking system. More than half of these accounts belong to our sisters and daughters from poor families. ■

# MAMATA DIDI DID GREAT INJUSTICE TO FARMERS IN WEST BENGAL: JP NADDA

**B**haratiya Janata Party National President, Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, participated in the party's statewide "Krishak Suraksha Sah-Bhoj" program on February 6 with about three thousand farmers at Shahpur in Malda during his Pravas in West Bengal. Shri Nadda had lunch with thousands of farmers in Shahpur, Malda under the "Krishok Surokha Sah-Bhoj" campaign. Around 35 lakh farmers have associated themselves with the 'Krishak Surakha Abhiyan' so far. This campaign has reached 35,000 villages and around 33,000 Gram Shabhas have been organised. Party will reach 40,000 villages in West Bengal very soon.

On this occasion several senior party officials including BJP State President Shri Dilip Ghosh and others participated in the program. A large number of farmers were present in the program and their enthusiasm was visible. Earlier on reaching Malda, the BJP National President was given a grand welcome.

While addressing the farmers Shri JP Nadda said Mamta Didi has done a lot of injustice with West Bengal. Mamata Didi due to her ego and stubborn nature, did not allow central scheme to be implemented in West Bengal due to which around 70 lakh farmers were deprived from the benefits of this scheme. But, I pledge to you and I assure the farmers of West Bengal that after Bharatiya Janata



Party formed its government in the state, we will work to provide benefits to farmers and ensure that they are not left behind. The party will also work towards increasing their income.

The National President further said BJP has pledged to work for the development of West Bengal. The way farmers have evinced their interest in the Krishak Suraksha campaign and the way they have organised this Saha-Bhoj, their hard work will not go in vain. So far, farmers have got 7 instalments or around Rs 14,000 under the Kisan Samman Nidhi, but around 70 lakh farmers of West Bengal have been deprived of this scheme under Mamata Didi's anti-farmer policies. Mamta Didi has cheated the farmers and has wrecked their trust.

Shri Nadda while criticising the state government said, "Mamata Didi, it's too late for you now. As West Bengal elections are closing in but Mamata Didi has not submitted the list of farmers

along with their bank accounts to the central government yet." Today the sky is filled with slogans of Jai Shree Ram. But, I fail to understand why Mamata Didi is so angry? Had Mamta Didi worked for the upliftment of the farmers in West Bengal, she would not have been facing tough times like now. Mamta Didi, Bharatiya Janata Party will form the government in West Bengal and farmers will get their rightful share.

He further said Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has allocated Rs 1 lakh crore for expanding the farming infrastructure in the country under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Mission. This is being done with the intention that farmers are able to think about their betterment and work in that direction.

The people of West Bengal have made up their mind to say bye-bye to Pisi (Bua) - Bhaipo (nephew). They have decided, to teach a lesson to 'rice robbers' and 'pandal-thieves', Shri Nadda added. ■



## **'BJP WILL END CORRUPTION AND EXPEDITE DEVELOPMENT'**

**A**ddressing a huge public meeting at the AFT grounds in Puducherry on January 31, 2021 during his day long visit to galvanize the party for the polls, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said, "We will win 23 plus seats in the 33-member house in the polls.

Shri JP Nadda said this time the Bharatiya Janata Party will get 23 plus seats in the coming Assembly polls then Corruption will end and development works will start here.

He said the BJP government will take up revival and modernization of textile and sugar mills, disburse pending salaries in public sector undertakings, construct new flyovers and take up railway projects, he said.

Thousands of people in Puducherry have benefited from Centre's schemes such as Swachh Bharat Mission, Jan Dhan Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana and Ayushman Bharat scheme, he said. Accusing the United Progressive Alliance of neglecting the UT of Puducherry he said when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister, the UT was given a grant of 70%.



However, when Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy was a Minister in the UPA government the grant was reduced to 30%. The UPA then waived 5,000 crore loan of Jharkhand but failed to do anything for Puducherry. The region's debt increased substantially, he said. He also criticized the Congress party for not holding the local body elections and assured that after the BJP comes to power, we will hold the civic body polls. ■

## **'BJP WOULD CONTINUE ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH AIADMK IN TAMIL NADU'**

**B**JP National President Shri JP Nadda on 30 January, 2021 made the official announcement of the party's alliance with the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam for the upcoming Assembly elections in Tamilnadu, due in April-May.

The BJP President said that the national party would continue its partnership with the AIADMK in Tamil Nadu for yet another term. "I would like to share with you and declare here that the BJP has decided that in the coming times, the BJP along with the AIADMK and other like-minded parties will contest the elections," Shri Nadda said at a rally in Madurai.

Shri JP Nadda said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi facilitated several projects, such as the defence corridor, while the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance regime "ignored" the state.

He praised Tamil as the world's oldest language, and said that "when the right person assumes the

right place, it leads to right decisions".

"After Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi assumed the top office, a 'safe destiny' was assured for the nation and Tamil Nadu as well. Be it projects like the defence corridor or allocation of funds for Tamil Nadu, the situation changed only after the BJP came to power at the Centre," he said.

The BJP President reminded the people that PM Shri Modi had quoted a couplet from the famous 'Tirukkural' to the soldiers posted at Ladakh, and also cited the PM's 'Yaadum Oorey' reference of Tamil poet Kaniyan Poongundranar in his address at the United Nations General Assembly in 2019.

He added that Tamils had a unique combination of entrepreneurship, economic and cultural ethos.

The BJP National President on a one day visit, also chaired the party's Tamil Nadu core committee meeting earlier in the day in Madurai. ■

# PM MODI GIVING SPECIAL ATTENTION TO KERALA: JP NADDA

**B**haratiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said, “The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been giving special attention and focus to Kerala”.

While addressing a public rally at Thrissur on 03 February, 2021, Shri JP Nadda said 3,000 crore has been spent on a 450 kilometre-long natural gas pipeline from Kerala’s Kochi to Mangaluru under the ‘One Nation, One Grid’ program.

He further said 16,000 crores have been spent for Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL)’s Integrated Refinery Expansion Complex in Kochi. “In terms of infrastructure, I can assure that 12,000 crores will be spent on six mega projects whose foundation stones have been laid,” the BJP President said adding that the six-laning work of several highways and high-level bridge construction has also been undertaken under the leadership of PM Shri Modi.

The Mumbai-Kanyakumari Economic Corridor worth 50,000 crore, an initiative no one could think of, he said. Shri Nadda said the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh was not available when the tragic Sabarimala stampede took place in 2011 but when a fire broke out in Kollam’s Puttingal Temple the PM Modi was at the site within three hours.

“In Kollam, a fire broke out one night and 400 people had to face its wrath. Within three hours, PM Shri Narendra Modi was in Trivandrum, and I was here



as well. He deputed me here for a week, to personally look after the patients and take care,” Shri Nadda said.

Slamming the ruling party, the BJP President said the entire state machinery in Kerala is involved in corruption. “One CM has a love for gold, the other one delivered and derived energy from ‘SOLAR’. It has given a very bad name to Kerala as a state. In both corruption and scam cases,” he added.

Regarding the COVID-19 cases in the state, Shri Nadda said that COVID has been mismanaged in a massive way. “Over half the cases are from Kerala at this time. When India has the highest recovery and lowest fatality rate, Kerala is performing poorly,” he added.

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda arrived in Kerala on 03 February, 2021 for a two-day visit to the state to review the BJP’s election preparations ahead of Assembly polls. ■

## BJP PRESIDENT APPOINTS ELECTION IN-CHARGE FOR 4 STATES

The BJP has made organizational appointments ahead of assembly elections to be held in different states of the country in 2021. BJP National President Shri JP Nadda has announced the names of in-charge and co-incharge of four states.

Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has been made in-charge of Assam, while Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh has been made additional in-charge of Assam. Union Minister for State Shri G. Kishan Reddy has been made in-charge of Tamil Nadu and Dr. VK Singh as co-incharge. Similarly, Union Minister Shri Prahlad Joshi has been made in-charge of Kerala, while Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka Dr. Ashwath Narayan has been made the co-incharge. Apart from these, Union Minister of State Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal has been made in-charge of Puducherry and BJP’s national spokesperson Shri Rajiv Chandrasekhar has been made co-incharge. ■

# BUDGET PUTS INDIA ON PATH TO \$5 TRILLION ECONOMY



AMIT SHAH

**O**ne of the most visible consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic has been for the economies of countries around the world. The immediate impact was akin to a tropical storm suddenly hitting an aircraft in cruise mode from all sides, pushing the plane to a dangerous free fall from thousands of feet in the sky.

In such a situation, the pilot has three choices — wait for the storm to pass by, let the plane crash-land and prepare for the worst damages, or show nimble thinking to find the way through the storm. India, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, chose the third option.

In May last year, at the peak of the pandemic, the PM laid down the broad contours of India's recovery path with a visionary Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) plan. Nine months later, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman's budget for 2021-22 is a resounding exemplification of this vision.

The budget is a tutorial on economic policy-making and structural reforms. The string of mini-budgets under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat package envisioned by the PM laid the foundations for the budget this year which required the deployment of all the fiscal arsenal to win an extremely challenging war.

Emphasis on economic reforms is the hallmark of the Modi

government. The number of reforms introduced in the last six years will easily outnumber reforms taken up by previous governments. India's swift and continuous rise in global ranking of 'ease of doing business' bears testimony to this. The trend continues in this budget too.

The budget stands out on multiple counts. The goal of turning India into a preferred manufacturing destination through Make in India, attracting more investment in the production-linked investment sectors and Vocal for Local need robust backing and lowering logistics and transaction cost.

To this effect, the budget has set aside considerable funds for infrastructure such as roads, railways, metro railways, National Rail Plan for India – 2030, metro rails in Tier 1 and Tier 2 cities and operational management of major ports on a public-private-partnership basis.

Infrastructure has received pointed attention. A new development finance institution, called the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development, will accelerate project financing. Investment in such projects has a strong positive multiplier effect.

## 'CAPEX IN 2021-22 AT 2.5% OF GDP'

The proposed capital expenditure of 5.5 lakh crore for 2021-22 amounts to 2.5% of the gross domestic product (GDP) — and 3.4% if we include allocation for capital expenditure for states and autonomous bodies.

The government's heavy lifting

for infrastructure projects will help create employment, besides pushing growth in intermediate industries such as steel and cement. The budget also addresses the issue of infrastructure financing by asset monetisation and foreign participation through infrastructure investment trusts and real estate investment trusts. The national monetisation pipeline will establish the required strategy with the national infrastructure pipeline.

## NPA CLEAN-UP

The budget also makes a bold reformist statement and shows a plucky drive to push growth. A new asset reconstruction company and an asset management company will be set up to clean up non-performing assets in the banking sector. This will enhance credit flow into the corporate sector, as removing troubled assets will relieve pressure on capital for banks.

India has been one of the most attractive destinations for global investors in recent years.

This trend continued even during the pandemic as India received \$28.1 billion by way of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the second quarter of 2020-21, the highest among all major global economies.

The budget has proposed an increase in the FDI limit in insurance companies to 74% from the present 49%, recognising the importance of core equity capital in the financial sector and providing a further boost to FDI inflow.

Various acts governing different segments of the financial market will be consolidated under a single



Securities Markets Code, which will modernise and strengthen the financial infrastructure. The budget has proposed to create an institutional structure to address liquidity concerns in the secondary corporate bond market that has arisen due to Covid-19. Decriminalisation of LLP Act 2008, redefining small companies and easing restrictions on one-person companies, and launch of MCA21 Version 3.0 with additional modules and mechanisms for faster resolution of disputes are some of the important decisions towards removing restrictions on doing business.

## **FOCUS ON DISINVESTMENT**

The Modi government strongly believes that the government's job is not to do business but to function as a catalyst for businesses. Keeping this in mind, this budget lays down sharp guidelines for disinvestment. Central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) have been classified into strategic and non-strategic sectors. The government will move cautiously with regard to disinvestment in strategic sectors such as atomic energy, space, defence, telecommunications, power, petroleum and banking, but CPSEs in non-strategic sectors will either be privatised or closed. The new policy framework will certainly help the government meet its disinvestment targets.

In many ways, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are the lifeblood of India's manufacturing sector. MSMEs account for more than 30% of India's GDP, 45% of the manufacturing sector and 25%

of the employment. The budget has provided 15,700 crore to MSMEs, and has proposed changes like increasing duty on steel screws, plastic builder wares and prawn feed to benefit them.

Promotion of startups is one of the main highlights of the Modi government and several steps have been taken in this direction, including broadening the definition of startup, simplifying regulations, income tax exemptions and provision of a 10,000 crore fund through the Small Industries Development Bank of India.

In addition, Startup India Seed Fund Scheme has been set up with a corpus of 945 crore, aimed

**Agriculture is at the core of India's socio-economic being. Over the last six years, the Modi government has walked the talk on raising farm incomes and remains committed to the avowed goal of doubling farm incomes.**

at providing financial assistance for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialisation. This budget has given further impetus to startups by extending eligibility for availing tax holiday and capital gains exemption till March 31, 2022.

## **HEALTH IMMEDIATE PRIORITY**

The budget also identifies the immediate priority: health. It takes a holistic approach with sharp focus on strengthening three areas — preventive, curative and well-being. The budget outlay for health and well-being, at 2.24 lakh crore, is 137%

more than the budget estimates of 2020-21. Another 35,000 crore has been set aside for the Covid-19 vaccination programme this year. A new centrally sponsored scheme, PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana, with an outlay of about 64,180 crore, will develop capacities of primary, secondary and tertiary care health systems, strengthen existing national institutions and create new institutions.

Agriculture is at the core of India's socio-economic being. Over the last six years, the Modi government has walked the talk on raising farm incomes and remains committed to the avowed goal of doubling farm incomes. In addition, the budget has something for everyone and it will continue to facilitate PM Modi's resolve to provide housing, toilets, LPG, electricity, clean water and food security to every citizen of India.

One of the keystones of this budget is the transparency in the macro fiscal numbers. There is no rise in income tax rates. Most importantly, the budget has rationalised the fiscal deficit numbers and the off-balance sheet borrowings. Bringing in this complex piece of fiscal policy reform that has been long overdue is an extremely courageous and bold move of finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman. This budget marks an inflection point in India's fiscal policy architecture that will be remembered for years to come. Despite the current odds, the budget creates the right policy environment for our \$5 trillion GDP goal on the strong foundation of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

**(The writer is the Union Home Minister, Government of India)**

# MODI GOVT. WILL TAKE EVERY STEP WHICH IS BENEFICIAL FOR DISADVANTAGED SECTIONS: ANURAG THAKUR

**In the era of global epidemic, many challenges were faced by the whole world. How will the country meet those challenges through this budget?**

This was such a big challenge before the world that due to the Covid-19 epidemic, many countries of the world were confused about what should be the priority? Some considered the economic activities as a priority and did not put lockdown. The condition of those countries is in front of you. And some countries did lockdown but still could not save many lives. But India at the same time put lockdown and extended its capabilities under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, and we faced this challenges bravely, and this is the reason we have lowest mortality rate among the countries.

**India has made a remarkable achievement by producing 'Made in India' vaccines, A provision of Rs 35 thousand crore has been made in the budget for vaccination, an unprecedented increase of 137% has been made in this budget in the health sector. How much positive impact will this have on the country?**

Our first priority was to save the life of every Indian, to increase our strength and to make an effort to develop a vaccine. Earlier we did not even have a single PPE kit, but we tried to produce them instead of importing it. On the other hand, at

Modi government will take every step which is beneficial for the farmers, laborers and the disadvantaged sections for inclusive development, says Minister of State for Finance, Shri Anurag Thakur in an interview with Ramakant Pandey for Kamal Sandesh. Here, we are publishing excerpts of the interview for our esteemed readers:



the testing lab front, we had started with a single testing lab, but today we have more than 2,400 lab operational. Today, we can do more than 12 lakh tests per day. So Covid has taught us a lot. Our first challenge was 'Jaan hai to jahan hai' and second 'Jaan bhi jahan bhi' we worked on both the mantras. The biggest success is that we are now exporting PPE kits today and have developed not one but two Covid vaccines and successfully placed with those select countries of the world which have developed the vaccine. We are also delivering the Covid vaccine to more than 100 countries. On the other hand, by providing funds to the medium-small-micro industries and by taking a lot of steps, we have ensured that the businesses did not stop, there was no any bigger job cuts and we also kept the Indian economy moving forward. We have also given 20% additional amount of 3,00,000 crore rupees through banks without any guarantee. Many such revolutionary steps were taken which benefited the economy as well as our industry.

**There has been talk of six**

**pillars in the budget. Under this, an unprecedented decision has also been taken for infrastructure. How this step will benefit our country?**

Certainly, today the economy needs investment, the positive environment is created only when the government invests. The government has increased the expenditure by about 35% to Rs. 1,18,000 crores in roads, Rs. 1,10,000 crores for railways, Rs. 50,110 crores for Jal Jeevan Mission, Rs. 2,23,000 crores for health that too with 137% increase, for laborers 73,000 crore rupees allocated for MNREGA, 65,000 crore rupees in Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana, a provision has been made to buy 20,000 buses to strengthen the automobile sector, so that the poor man gets the benefit of traveling in good buses, and doubling the number of metro train. All these will ensure that people will get good facilities, will also generate employment opportunities and the economy will also get required acceleration. So surely this is the only way out, if we go by the past experiences

globally, then it is quite evident that even when we faced the disaster like situation 500 years ago, even then the King or Maharaja used to spend so that the people get money and get employment. Even today, it becomes the responsibility of the government to spend more so that employment opportunities is generated and this will also encourage private sector to invest more. And even in the Covid era we have received considerable amount of FDI. We have some schemes in 10 sector which will provide employment and will receive good investment. We have talked about the Mega Textile Park, it will also generate employment. So the main goal of the government is to focus on the areas which can generate employment. And now we can see an upward trend and India can become a leader.

**Under the inclusive development for aspirational India, many schemes have been made for the farmers, labourers and the underprivileged, how will this be implemented?**

The government will take every step which is beneficial for the farmers, labourers and the disadvantaged sections for inclusive development. For this, many schemes have been prepared which will be implemented by almost every ministry. For SC-ST, there has been an increase of about 5% in every ministry, when combined with all the ministries, it becomes much more. The government has made comprehensive plans to promote

youth in all areas. During Covid, every section of the society has been given some benefit such as those hotels which come in small scale industries were given additional assistance of 20%. Bankruptcy limit was raised from one lakh to one crore and budget arrangements have been made to establish cold storage chains in the country. Today, we will spend to build a self-reliant India. This is such a transparent budget in which something has been done for everyone and the future of India

**The IMF said that India's growth rate will be 11.5%, RBI said it will be more than 10.5%. So the organizations of the world have kept the growth rate of India in double digit, it is a good thing in itself.**

is also being seen in this budget. Capital expenditure in India as a country in the global epidemic has received a lot of attention. This will create more jobs, our objective is "Borrow, Built, Monetize and Repay".

**How will the goal of Self-reliant India be achieved through this budget under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi?**

If you look at international organizations, the IMF said that India's growth rate will be 11.5%, RBI said it will be more than 10.5%. So the organizations of the world have kept the growth rate of India in double digit, it is a good thing in itself. Because the steps we have taken after the declarations of self-reliant India, whether it is

for the power sector, coal sector, agriculture, defense production, space sector or mining, all these steps show the result soon. Even we have not seen so much reforms in 90s that we have done during the disaster. PM Shri Modi saw the opportunities in the disaster and gave a boost to the Indian economy. That is why GST collection has been more than one lakh crore in the last 4 months and in January it was about 1 lakh 20 thousand crore. That is why countries around the world say that there has been a V-shaped recovery in India, the main reason was that India won the battle against Covid. All the work that has been done so far, whatever steps have been taken to bring the economy back was a haunting task which people had not even imagined.

It takes time for any economy to grow like you saw India took only 5 years to become the sixth economy from the 11th economy in the world. In the same way our efforts were continuing, but the whole year was spoiled due to this global disaster. It takes time for any major economy to bounce back, but the steps we have taken have seen the rapid recovery. It was a good budget, that's why the stock market increased by more than 2200 points on the first day and by 1200 points on the second day, and now the market has trending over 50,000 mark. All this shows that the sentiments in the market is good and investment also increases after taking these steps. This budget will be a strong step moving towards a self-reliant India under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. ■

## ‘WHEREVER POSSIBLE, MAKE CONTRIBUTION TO CLEANLINESS’

**Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 31st January addressed his 20th episode of ‘Mann Ki Baat 2.0’. He said that the beginning of this year marked the completion of almost one year of our battle against Corona. He added that vaccination programme in India is turning out as exemplary to the world. We are publishing Highlights of the address for our esteemed readers:**

- When I express Mann Ki Baat; it feels like I am present amongst you as a member of your family.
- This month, there has been very good news from the cricket pitch too. Our cricket team, after initial setbacks made a grand comeback, winning the series in Australia. The hard work and teamwork of our players is inspirational. Amidst all this, the country was saddened by the insult to the Tricolor on the 26th of January in Delhi. We have to infuse times to come with new hope and novelty. Last year, we displayed exemplary patience and courage. This year too, we have to work hard to attain our resolves. We have to take our country forward at a faster pace.
- Just as India’s fight against Corona became an example, our vaccination Programme too is turning out to be exemplary to the world. Today, India is undertaking the world’s biggest Covid Vaccine Programme.
- Friends, the Made in India vaccine is, of course, a symbol of India’s self-reliance; it is also a symbol of her self-pride.
- Friends, an example of how protection of environment can open avenues of income was seen in Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh too. For centuries a type of paper called ‘Mon Shugu’ is made in this hilly region of Arunachal Pradesh. The locals here make this paper from the bark of a plant named Shugu Sheng, hence trees do not have to be cut to make this paper. Besides, no chemical is used in making this paper, thus, this paper is safe for the environment and for health too.
- I have seen news from Kerala that makes us realize our responsibilities. In Kottayam of Kerala there is an elderly divyang, N.S Rajappan Sahab. Due to paralysis, Rajappan is incapable of walking, but this has not affected his commitment to cleanliness. For the past several years he has been going by boat in Vembanad lake and taking out the plastic bottles thrown into the lake. Think, how great Rajappan ji’s thought is! Taking inspiration from Rajappan ji, we too should, wherever possible, make our contribution to cleanliness.
- Just a few days ago I watched a video. That video was of Sarmuddin, a painter from Naya Pingla village in West Midnapore, West Bengal. He was expressing happiness that his painting based on Ramayana had sold for two lakh rupees. This brought great happiness to his fellow villagers too. After watching this video, I was curious to know more about it. In this very context, I came to know about a very good initiative related to West Bengal, which, I would definitely like to share with you.
- Thousands of kilometers from India, across many oceans and continents, lies a country - Chile. It takes a lot of time to reach Chile from India. However, the fragrance of Indian culture has been there for a long time. Another significant aspect is that Yoga is extremely popular there. You will be pleased to know that there are more than 30 Yoga schools in Santiago, the capital of Chile. The International Day of Yoga is also celebrated with great fervor in Chile. ■





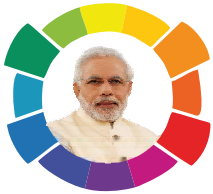
# INDIA CELEBRATES 72<sup>nd</sup> REPUBLIC DAY

India showcased its military might and cultural heritage as it celebrated the 72nd republic day. The Republic Day parade ceremony commenced with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visiting the National War Memorial and with President of India Shri Ramnath Kovind hoisting the Tricolour. Rafale fighter jets took part in the Republic Day flypast for the first time and the armed forces showcasing T-90 tanks, the Samvijay electronic warfare system, Sukhoi-30 MKI fighter jets, among others. Total 32 tableaux — 17 from states and union territories, six from the Defence Ministry and nine from

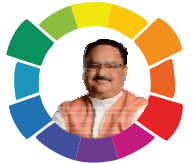
other Union Ministries and paramilitary forces — depicting the nation's rich cultural heritage, economic progress and defence prowess rolled down the Rajpath at the Republic Day parade. The display of cultural tableaux begins at Republic Day parade with Ladakh leading. It's the first-ever tableau of the Union Territory of Ladakh. Designed after the theme 'Ayodhya: Cultural Heritage of Uttar Pradesh', the tableau of Uttar Pradesh also displays Ram



Mandir which received applause from most of the guest present at rajpath. A 122-member proud contingent of the Bangladesh armed forces also marched on Rajpath for the first time. ■



**BECOME PART OF A VIBRANT IDEOLOGICAL MOVEMENT  
BECOME PROUD MEMBER OF 'KAMAL SANDESH'**



## SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS

Name : .....

Address : .....

Pin : .....

Phone : ..... Mobile : (1)..... (2).....

E-mail : .....

<b>SUBSCRIPTION TYPE</b>	One Year	₹350/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Life Time (English or Hindi)	₹3000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Three Years	₹1000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Life Time (English+Hindi)	₹5000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>

### (DETAIL OF THE PAYMENT)

Cheque/Draft No. : ..... Date : ..... Bank : .....

Note : \* DD/Cheque will be made in favour of "Kamal Sandesh"  
\* Money order and Cash accepted with details

(Subscriber's Signature)



**SEND YOUR DD/CHEQUE ON THIS ADDRESS**

Dr. Mookerji Smruti Nyas, PP-66, Subramania Bharati Marg, New Delhi-110003  
Ph.: 011-23381428 Fax: 011-23387887 E-mail: kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

**KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE**



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressing the World Economic Forum's Davos Dialogue via video conferencing, in New Delhi



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paying homage to the martyrs at the National War Memorial, on the occasion of the 72nd Republic Day Parade 2021, in New Delhi



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressing at the inauguration of the 'Chauri Chaura' Centenary Celebrations, at Chauri Chaura, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh through video conferencing, in New Delhi



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the foundation stone laying ceremony of several infrastructure projects, in Assam. Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal is also seen.





**NOW**  
**KAMAL SANDESH E-MAGAZINE**  
 IS AVAILABLE ONLINE  
**WWW.KAMALSANDESH.ORG**  
 BECOME PART OF A VIBRANT IDEOLOGICAL MOVEMENT

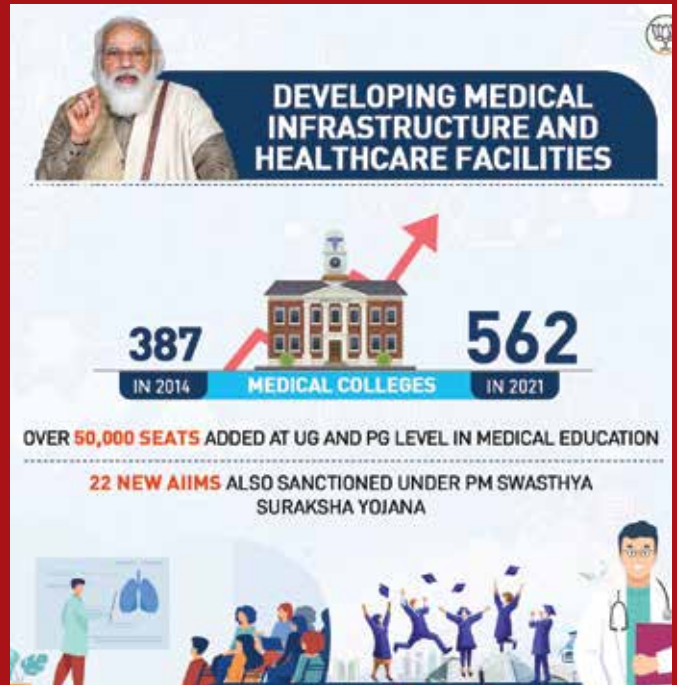
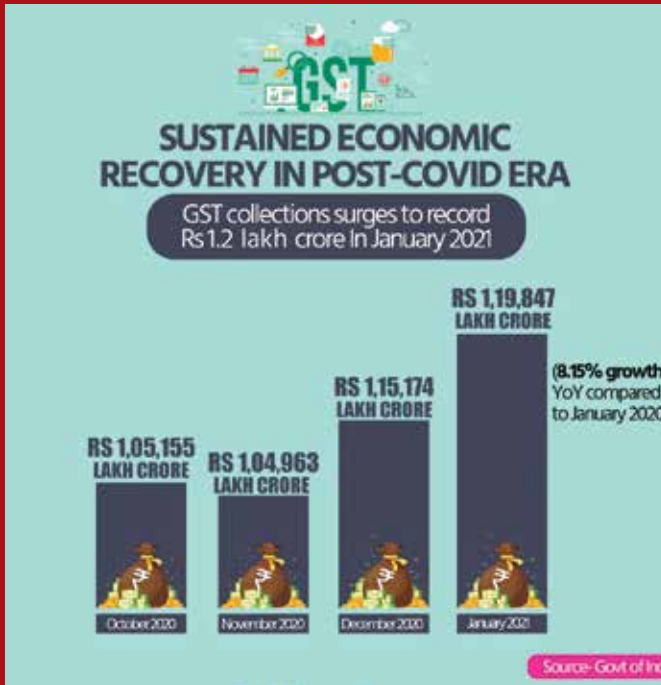
@KAMAL.SANDESH

@KAMALSANDESH

KAMAL.SANDESH

KAMALSANDESHLIVE

Date of Posting : (i) 27-28 Adv. Month (ii) 12-13 Same Month  
 Office of Posting : Lodhi Road H.O. New Delhi "REGISTERED"  
 36 Pages with Cover  
 RNI No. DELENG/2006/16838  
 DL(S)-17/3265/2021-23  
 Licence to Post without Prepayment  
 Licence No. U(S)-42/2018-20



**UNION Budget 2021-22**  
 #AatmanirbharBharatKaBudget

**EASING TAXATION FOR CITIZENS**

- Senior citizens (75 years and above) earning from pension and interest exempted from filing returns
- Income Tax Appellate Tribunal to be made faceless
- Increase in limit for tax audit for persons who carry out 95% of their transactions digitally



PHOTOGRAPHER: AJAY KUMAR SINGH