

A field day for digital infra, accelerator for agri startups

TEAM TOI

Bringing farmers to the core of the government's "inclusive growth" agenda and proposing to leverage technology, investment and huge farm credits to fulfil it, the Budget on Wednesday provided for setting up of digital public infrastructure for agriculture and creating an accelerator fund for agri startups in rural areas among other initiatives for the sector.

The digital infra will be an open source to enable farmer-centric solutions such as crop planning and health, improved access to farm inputs, credit and insurance, help for crop estimation, market intelligence and support for growth of the industry. "The fund will aim at bringing innovative and affordable solutions for challenges faced by farmers. It will also bring in modern technologies to transform agricultural practices," said FM Nirmala Sitharaman.

She also announced a nearly 11% hike in the agriculture credit target to Rs 20 lakh crore for the next fiscal with focus on animal husbandry,



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dairy and fisheries.

The Budget also provides for taking other measures ranging from enhancing productivity of cotton, promoting disease-free horticulture at an investment of Rs 2,200 crore, and creating a cooperative-based economic development model to make India a global hub for millets, in sync with the country's enhanced focus on these climate-resilient nutri-cereals in the International Year of Millets.

"With the plan of setting up the world's largest decentralised storage capacity, farmers associated with cooperative societies will be able to get

the fair price for their produce by selling it at appropriate time. This will play an important role in the PM's resolve to increase income of farmers," said home and cooperation minister Amit Shah. Shah also lauded the proposal for keeping the cooperative societies of the manufacturing sector formed till March 31, 2024 in the 15% tax net only.

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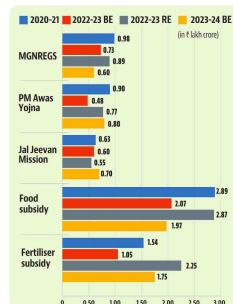
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...Give a fillip to welfare schemes and the agriculture sector?



Improving the quality of life has taken priority over providing income relief. Counter-cyclical components such as food and fertiliser subsidies and MGNREGS spending have been brought down significantly. The cumulative reduction in total subsidy and MGNREGS allocation between 2022-23 (RE) and 2023-24 (BE) is ₹1.76 lakh crore. Entitlements under the PM-KISAN scheme have not been increased. This means that in real terms they are significantly lower than what they were when the programme was announced in 2019.

On the other hand, the government's (at the moment) flagship Jal Jeevan Mission scheme has seen an increase of ₹5,000 crore to ₹70,000 crore. Similarly, the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna will continue to see a significant allocation of ₹79,500 crore. Both of these schemes have allocations larger than MGNREGS. These schemes will not just enhance the quality of life of but also the political traction for the government with the beneficiaries, whose numbers run into tens of millions now.

To be sure, agriculture is one sector where the Budget has said more in terms of intent rather than monetary allocations. The attention given to the newly established ministry of cooperatives in the Budget speech suggests that the government has done a quick rethink on its agenda of pushing formalisation within the rural economy after it had to take back the farm laws due to popular protests. Rather than outsourcing this task to big capital, which was perhaps the biggest reason for backlash against the farm laws, the new



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approach seems to bank on expansion and "disciplining" of cooperatives in the rural economy. The speech talks about things such as setting up "large producer enterprises or collectives with each having several thousand members and managed professionally", adopting a "cluster-based and value chain approach through Public Private Partnerships (PPP)" to enhance the productivity of extra-long staple cotton and "a plan to set up massive decentralised storage

capacity". These are all objectives that the farm laws hoped to achieve via the corporate sector route. The fact that the ministry of cooperation is bringing model laws and preparing a computerised database of primary agriculture cooperative societies, underlines the government's plans to push the agenda of improving compliance in the cooperative sector. Its economic benefits notwithstanding, this also comes with a realpolitik advantage. Agricultural cooperatives are a critical source of financial might of opposition parties in some key states.

What will be the net impact of the Budget on agriculture and rural economy? If the reduction in food subsidy sees a concomitant reduction in government procurement and MGNREGS allocations are closer to the estimated numbers, rural incomes might come under squeeze. It is important to note that spending on welfare schemes such as housing and tap water does not boost incomes and therefore consumption spending. This might generate headwinds to rural demand.

Perhaps the in-built insurance the government might have factored is the assumption that cereal prices will continue to maintain the existing high inflation trajectory and a moderation in non-food prices will soften the budgetary squeeze by a slightly favourable movement in the terms of trade for agriculture. All this scenario building will depend a lot on the performance of this year's monsoon, which is becoming more and more unpredictable with the worsening climate crisis.



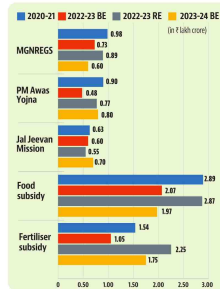
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Surendra P Gangan

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Disputed tax waived for Maha's coop sugar sector, sops for agricultural credit societies

Surendra P Gangan

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MUMBAI: The budget presented by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Parliament on Wednesday had no major announcements for poll-bound Mumbai but it could benefit the rural economy in Maharashtra.

The announcement of modernisation of primary agricultural credit societies (PACS) and the respite from the disputed income tax pending with sugar factories is expected to give a boost to the agriculture and cooperation sectors in Maharashtra. More than 21,000 PACS in the state will benefit, as they will now get the status of multipurpose societies, while 72 cooperative sugar factories will get their disputed income-tax totalling Rs 10,500 crore set aside.

Though the outlay for Maharashtra will be known only after

the fine print of the budget is released, the announcements for the agriculture and cooperation sectors have been well received. PACS play a key role in boosting the rural economy in the cooperation sector, and the Centre's decision to enable them to become multipurpose societies and modernise, fund and handhold them to help them spread their wings will benefit the rural economy. Maharashtra has over 21,000 PACS, of which 12,000 are being computerised in the first phase. With the additional funding, the farmers dependent on these are expected to greatly benefit.

"The computerisation and the direct monitoring by the district central cooperative banks will help weed out the financial irregularities that are synonymous with these societies," said an official from the cooperation department. "The PACS that are in good financial health have

been active in other auxiliary sectors like processing, operation of petrol pumps and warehousing. With the central assistance announced in the budget, all PACS will now be able to resort to these activities and help in strengthening them financially. This will also help the cooperative sector to get rid of private money lenders who exploit farmers."

Deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnis said, "The decision related to the PACS will give the cooperative movement strength at the rural level. They can now take up 20 types of schemes, including those related to cold storage and automobiles."

The central government's decision to treat the disputed profit of sugarcane factories as FRP expenditure instead of profit will give a major respite to cooperative sugar factories. The cooperative sugar sector is the backbone of the rural econ-

omy in western and some other parts of Maharashtra.

"The dues were raised by the income-tax department, treating the difference between procurement price fixed by the government and that actually paid by the sugar factories as profit," said sugar commissioner Shekhar Gaikwad.

"The disputed amount pending since 1970 from about 72 cooperative sugar factories amounts to Rs 10,500 crore, interest included. The central government decision announced in the budget will help clear the account books of the factories."

Both decisions of the centre are being seen as politically significant ahead of the local body polls expected to be conducted in the next few months. "Both will have a significant impact on the cooperative sector, which is the stronghold of the Congress and NCP," a BJP leader said.

Shah welcomes 'unprecedented' decisions for cooperative sector

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

FROM RAISING outlay of the Ministry of Cooperation and tax relief for cooperatives to set up "massive" decentralised storage capacity — these are among the key announcements for the cooperative sector made in the Union Budget 2023-24.

In her budget speech, Sitharaman said, "For farmers, especially small and marginal farmers, and other marginalised sections, the government is promoting cooperative-based economic development model. A new Ministry of Cooperation was formed with a mandate to realise the vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhhi'. To realise this vision, the government has already initiated computerisation of 63,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) with an investment of Rs 2,516 crore. In consultation with all stakeholders and states, model bye-laws for PACS were formulated enabling them to become multipurpose PACS. A national cooperative database is being prepared for country-wide mapping of cooperative societies."

"With this backdrop, we will implement a plan to set up massive decentralised storage capacity. It will help farmers store their produce and realise remunerative



PM Narendra Modi with Union Ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari and others during presentation of the Union Budget in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday. PTI

prices through sale at appropriate times," Sitharaman said.

The Finance Minister also announced tax reliefs for the cooperative sector. An allocation of Rs 1,149.38 crore has been made for 2023-24, which is higher than the BE of Rs 900 crore in 2022-23 but lower than the current year's revised estimates of Rs 1,624.74 crore.

In his remarks on Budget 2023-24, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "This budget will make cooperatives the pivot of development of the rural economy. The government has brought the world's largest food storage scheme in the cooperative sector - storage capacity."

Minister of Home and Cooperation Amit Shah called the decisions "unprecedented", saying, "With the plan of setting up the world's largest decentralised storage capacity, farmers associated with cooperative societies will be able to get fair prices." Shah said that in the next 5 years, the government will also establish new multipurpose cooperative societies, primary fisheries societies and dairy cooperative societies in every panchayat.

Shah also welcomed the announcement, in which sugar cooperatives have been given the facility to show the payments made to farmers before 2016-17 in their expenditure.



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Cooperative manufacturing units get sops

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NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that new cooperatives that commence manufacturing activities before March 31, 2024, shall get the benefit of a lower tax rate of 15%, as is presently available to new manufacturing companies.

“Secondly, I propose to provide an opportunity to sugar cooperatives to claim payments made to sugarcane farmers for the period prior to assessment year 2016-17 as expenditure. This is expected to provide them with a relief of almost ₹10,000 crore,” the Minister said.

TDS raised

She announced a higher limit of ₹2 lakh per member for cash deposits to and loans in cash by Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) and Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs) adding that a higher limit of ₹3 crore for tax deducted at source (TDS) on cash withdrawal is being provided to cooperative societies.

She said for small and marginal farmers, and other marginalised sections, the government is promot-

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‘Decentralised storage’

“With this backdrop, we will implement a plan to set up massive decentralised storage capacity.

This will help farmers store their produce and realise remunerative prices through sale at appropriate times.

The government will also facilitate setting up of a large number of multipurpose cooperative societies, primary fishery societies and dairy cooperative societies in uncovered panchayats and villages in the next five years,” she said.

Lauding the efforts, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said on Twitter that the decentralised storage capacity will play an important role in Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s resolve to increase the income of farmers.





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Lauding the efforts, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said on Twitter that the decentralised storage capacity will play an important role in Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s resolve to increase the income of farmers.





Publication

The Hindu

Language

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Kolkata

Journalist

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Page no

4

Cooperative manufacturing units get sops

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that new cooperatives that commence manufacturing activities before March 31, 2024, shall get the benefit of a lower tax rate of 15%, as is presently available to new manufacturing companies.

“Secondly, I propose to provide an opportunity to sugar cooperatives to claim payments made to sugarcane farmers for the period prior to assessment year 2016-17 as expenditure. This is expected to provide them with a relief of almost ₹10,000 crore,” the Minister said.

TDS raised

She announced a higher limit of ₹2 lakh per member for cash deposits to and loans in cash by Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) and Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs) adding that a higher limit of ₹3 crore for tax deducted at source (TDS) on cash withdrawal is being provided to cooperative societies.

She said for small and marginal farmers, and other marginalised sections, the government is promot-



ing cooperative-based economic development model. The government has already initiated computerisation of 63,000 PACS with an investment of ₹2,516 crore. In consultation with all stakeholders and States, model bye-laws for PACS were formulated enabling them to become multipurpose PACS. A national cooperative database is being prepared for countrywide mapping of cooperative societies.

‘Decentralised storage’

“With this backdrop, we will implement a plan to set up massive decentralised storage capacity.

This will help farmers store their produce and realise remunerative prices through sale at appropriate times.

The government will also facilitate setting up of a large number of multipurpose cooperative societies, primary fishery societies and dairy cooperative societies in uncovered panchayats and villages in the next five years,” she said.

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PTI
12

Farm credit target raised by 11% to ₹20 lakh-cr

Govt to launch new sub-scheme of PM Matsya Sampada Yojana with an investment of ₹6,000 crore

New Delhi, Feb. 1: The government on Wednesday announced an 11 per cent hike in agriculture credit target to ₹20 lakh crore for the next fiscal with focus on animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries, a move aimed at providing higher farm loans at a subsidised rates to the farming community. Among other big ticket announcements for agriculture and allied sector, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman — in her budget speech — said the government will launch a new sub-scheme of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana with an investment of ₹6,000 crore to improve value chain efficiencies and expand the fishery market.

Customs duty on key inputs for domestic manufacturing of shrimp feed will also be reduced to promote export of marine products, she said.

BIG PUSH FOR ANNADATA

₹20 lakh crore agricultural credit for animal husbandry, dairy, and fisheries

₹6,000 crore targeted investment for new sub-scheme of PM Matsya Sampada Yojana to help fishermen, fish vendors to improve value chain and expand the market.

₹2,516 crore investments for computerisation of 63,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)

Massive decentralised storage capacity to be set up to help farmers store their produce.

■ Agriculture accelerator fund to nurture start-ups in rural areas and build an open-source, digital public agriculture infrastructure

■ Indian Institute of Millet Research in Hyderabad to be upgraded as a centre of excellence, terming millets as "Shree Anna"



For adoption of natural farming, the PM said the government will facilitate 1 crore farmers for this purpose and will also set up 10,000 Bio-Input Resource Centres for creat-

ing a national-level distributed micro-fertiliser and pesticide manufacturing network.

That apart, the government will launch an Atmanirbhar Clean Plant

Program to boost availability of disease-free, quality planting material for high value horticultural crops with an outlay of ₹2,200 crore, she said.

To encourage agri-start-

ups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas, the FM said the government will set up an agriculture accelerator fund (AAF). A digital public infrastructure for agriculture will also be built to enable inclusive, farmer-centric solutions.

To make India a global hub for millets, also called "Shree Anna", the FM said, Hyderabad-based Indian Institute of Millet Research will be supported as the Centre of Excellence for sharing best practices, research and technologies at the international level.

India is the largest producer and second largest exporter of millets in the world. The country grows several types of millets such as jowar, ragi, bajra, kuttu, randana, kangri, kutki, kodo, cheena, and sama. These have a number of health benefits, and have been an integral part

of our food for centuries. I acknowledge with pride the huge service done by small farmers in contributing to the health of fellow citizens by growing these 'Shree Anna', she added.

Ms Sitharaman said: "The agriculture credit target will be increased to ₹20 lakh crore with focus on animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries." The agricultural credit target is Rs 18 lakh crore for the current 2022-23 fiscal. The government has been increasing the credit target for the farm sector every year.

Commenting on the budget, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said small farmers across the country will benefit from the Budget 2023-24 in which the emphasis has been laid on promoting modern agricultural technologies. —PTI

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6

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— PTI

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1, 2

Amrit Kaal 1st Budget to fulfil dreams: Modi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday hailed the Union Budget as the first Budget of "Amrit Kaal" that will "fulfil dreams of the aspirational society, farmers and middle class".

In his first reaction to the Budget, Modi said the first Budget of the "Amrit Kaal" provides the foundation to fulfil the resolve for a developed India while giving priority to deprived sections of society as well. The Prime Minister said it will fulfil dreams of the aspirational society, farmers and middle class.

The middle class is a big force to fulfil dreams of a prosperous and developed India and our Government has taken many decisions to empower it, he said. "Our Government that always stood with the middle class has given huge tax relief to them," Modi said.

The Prime Minister congratulated Sitharaman and her team for a "historic" Budget.

Citing the Budget proposals, Modi said success of digital payments has to be replicated in the agriculture sector and a scheme has been brought



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during presentation of the Union Budget 2023-24 in the Lok Sabha in New Delhi on Wednesday

PTI

for laying down digital infrastructure for it. It will make cooperatives pivot of development of rural economy, he said. Modi called the traditional artisans such as carpenters, iron smiths, goldsmiths, potters, sculptors and many others as the creators of the nation.

"For the first time, the country has come up with many schemes as a tribute to the hard work and creation of these people. Arrangements have been made for training, credit and market support to them.

Continued on Page 2



Amrit Kaal 1st...

From Page1

The Prime Minister emphasised that miracles can be performed if women self-help groups, which is a sector with extreme potential, are further strengthened.

Underlining that a new dimension has been added to women self-help groups in the new Budget with the introduction of a special savings scheme, the Prime Minister said it will strengthen women especially the homemaker from common families.

This Budget, the Prime Minister said, will make co-operatives a fulcrum of development of the rural economy.

The Government, he said, has come up with the world's largest food storage scheme in the co-operative sector. An ambitious scheme to form new primary co-operatives has also been announced in the Budget, Modi said.

This will expand the area of milk and fish production along with farming, and farmers, animal husbandry and fishermen will get better prices for their produce, he said.

Noting that the world is celebrating the International Year of Millets, Modi said there are many types of millets in India with multiple names.

The Prime Minister said special recognition of millets is necessary when it is reaching households all over the world. "This superfood has been given a new identity of 'Shree-Anna', Modi said, as he underlined that small farmers and tribal farmers of the country will get economic support. This Budget, the Prime Minister said, will give an unprecedented-

ed expansion to green growth, green economy, green infrastructure, and green jobs, for a sustainable future.

"In the Budget, we have laid a lot of emphasis on technology and the new economy. Aspirational India of today wants modern infrastructure in every field like road, rail, metro, port, and waterways.

Compared to 2014, investment in infrastructure has increased by more than 400 per cent," Modi said. The Prime Minister said the unprecedented investment of Rs 10 lakh crores on infrastructure will give new energy and speed to India's development.

He asserted that these investments will create new employment opportunities for the youth, thereby providing new income opportunities to a large section of the population.

In his remarks, the Prime Minister also touched upon the ease of doing business which is taken forward through the campaign of credit support and reforms for industries.

"An additional loan guarantee of Rs 2 lakh crore has been arranged for MSMEs," he said, noting that increasing the limit of presumptive tax will help MSMEs to grow.

He also said a new arrangement has been made for timely payments by big companies to MSMEs. "I once again congratulate Nirmala ji and her entire team for this all-encompassing budget that would give speed to building a developed India," Modi said.

The Prime Minister said in general that this year's Budget infused new energy to India's development trajectory.

PM terms Union Budget 'historic', says it gives priority to deprived

Calls traditional artisans creators of the nation

MPOST BUREAU

NEW DELHI: Terming the Union Budget "historic", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said the first Budget in 'Amrit Kaal' has established a strong base to fulfil the resolve of a developed India and dreams of the aspirational society, including the poor and the middle class.

In his first reaction to the Budget for the 2023-24 fiscal, Modi said in order to empower the middle class, the government has taken many significant decisions in the past years that have ensured ease of living.

The Prime Minister underlined the potential of the middle class in realising the dreams of a developed India.

Modi also highlighted the reduction in tax rates as well as the simplification, transparency and speeding up of processes. "Our government that always stood with the middle class has given huge tax relief to them," Modi said. He said the first Budget in 'Amrit Kaal' has established a strong base to fulfil the aspirations and resolve of a developed India.

He said this Budget gives priority to the deprived and strives to fulfil the dreams of the aspirational society — the poor, villages and the middle class.

The Prime Minister congratulated Sitharaman and her team for a "historic" Budget.

Modi called the traditional artisans such as carpenters, iron smiths, goldsmiths, potters, sculptors and many others



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks on the Union Budget 2023-24 via video conferencing, in New Delhi, on Wednesday PTI

the creators of the nation.

"For the first time, the country has come up with many schemes as a tribute to the hard work and creation of these people. Arrangements have been made for training, credit and market support to them. PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman, that is, PM ViKaS will bring a big change in the lives of crores of 'Vishwakarmas'," Modi said.

He said for the women living in the cities to villages, employed to homemakers, the government has taken significant steps such as the Jal Jeevan Mission, Ujjwala Yojana and PM Awas Yojana etc., that will further empower the welfare of women.

He emphasised that miracles can be performed if women Self-Help Groups, which is a

sector with extreme potential, are further strengthened.

Underlining that a new dimension has been added to women Self-Help Groups in the new Budget with the introduction of a special savings scheme, the PM said it will strengthen women, especially the homemaker from common families.

This Budget, the Prime Minister said, will make cooperatives a fulcrum of development of the rural economy. The government, he said, has come up with the world's largest food storage scheme in the co-operative sector.

An ambitious scheme to form new primary co-operatives has also been announced in the Budget, Modi said.

This will expand the area of milk and fish production along with farming, and farmers, ani-

mal husbandry and fishermen will get better prices for their produce, he said.

Emphasising the need to replicate the success of digital payments in the agriculture sector, the PM said this Budget comes with a big plan for digital agriculture infrastructure.

Noting that the world is celebrating the International Year of Millets, Modi said there are many types of millets in India with multiple names.

The Prime Minister said special recognition of millets is necessary when it is reaching households all over the world.

"This superfood has been given a new identity of 'Shree-Anna', Modi said, as he underlined that small farmers and tribal farmers of the country will get economic support.

Continued on P4

Highlights

» "Our government that always stood with the middle class has given huge tax relief to them," Modi said. He said the first Budget in 'Amrit Kaal' has established a strong base to fulfil the aspirations and resolve of a developed India

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PM

This Budget, Modi said, will give an unprecedented expansion to green growth, green economy, green infrastructure, and green jobs, for a sustainable future.

“In the Budget, we have laid a lot of emphasis on technology and the new economy. Aspirational India of today wants modern infrastructure in every field like road, rail, Metro, port, and waterways. Compared to 2014, investment in infrastructure has increased by more than 400 per cent,” Modi said.

The Prime Minister said the unprecedented investment of Rs 10 lakh crores on infrastructure will give new energy and speed to India’s development.

He asserted that these investments will create new employment opportunities for the youth, thereby providing new income opportunities to a large section of the population.

In his remarks, he also touched upon the ease of doing business which is taken forward through the campaign of credit support and reforms for industries.

WITH AGENCY INPUTS



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Millennium Post

Language

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Journalist

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Page no

10

Cooperation Ministry gets Budget outlay of ₹1,150.38 crore

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: To promote the cooperative sector, the government on Wednesday announced a slew of measures, including a concessional tax of 15 per cent to promote new societies focusing on manufacturing and a higher limit of Rs 3 crore for TDS on cash withdrawal.

For the Cooperation Ministry, the government made a total budget outlay of Rs 1,150.38 crore for 2023-24, lower than the revised estimate of Rs 1,624.74 crore for 2022-23.

In her budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a higher limit of Rs 2 lakh per member for cash deposits and loans in cash by Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies (PACS) and Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks.

The government also provided an opportunity to sugar cooperatives to claim payments made to cane growers for the period prior to the assessment year 2016-17 as expenditure. This is expected to provide them with a relief of almost Rs 10,000 crore.

These measures come amid the government promoting a cooperative-based economic development model

These measures come amid the government promoting a cooperative-based economic development model, especially for small and marginal farmers, and other marginalised sections.

To realise the vision of Saha-kar Se Samridhi, Sitharaman said the government has already initiated computerisation of 63,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) with an investment of Rs 2,516 crore.

In consultation with all stakeholders and states, model bye-laws for PACS were formulated enabling them to become multipurpose PACS. A national cooperative database is being prepared for country-wide mapping of cooperative societies.

"With this backdrop, we will implement a plan to set up massive decentralised storage capac-

ity," Sitharaman said, adding that this will help farmers store their produce and realize remunerative prices through sale at appropriate times.

The government will also facilitate setting up of a large number of multipurpose cooperative societies, primary fishery societies and dairy cooperative societies in uncovered panchayats and villages in the next five years, she said.

In order to promote the growth of manufacturing in cooperative sector, the finance minister said a new cooperative society formed on or after April 2023, which commences manufacturing or production by March 2024 and do not avail of any specified incentive or deduction, is proposed to be allowed an option to pay tax at a concessional rate of 15 per cent similar to what is available to new manufacturing companies.

Another major relief is that the government will amend section 269SS and 269T of the Companies Act to ensure there is no penalty for cash loan/transactions against primary co-operatives in cash less than Rs 2 lakh.



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Date	02/02/2023	Page no	7

'AMRIT KAAL'

PM calls Budget historic step for developed India

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ New Delhi

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Wednesday described the Budget proposals presented in Parliament on Wednesday as "historic," saying the first Budget in 'Amrit Kaal' has established a strong base to fulfill the resolve of a developed India and dreams of the aspirational society, including the poor and the middle class.

"It is aimed at ease of living and empowering the middle class. It is for a sustainable future as it encourages green energy, growth and green infrastructure," the PM said.

Emphasising that the Budget proposals were people-centric, he said, "The Centre has taken steps to make lives of women in rural and urban areas easy. Women's self-help groups will further enhance them. The special savings scheme will further empower women in households," said the PM.

This Budget, the PM said, will make cooperatives a fulcrum of development of the rural economy. The government, he said, has come up with the world's largest food storage scheme in the co-operative sector. "In the budget, we have laid a lot of emphasis on technology. Aspirational India wants modern infrastructure in every field like road, rail, metro, port, and waterways. Compared to 2014, investment in infrastructure has increased by more than 400 per cent," Modi said.



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Sandip Das

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3

A leg-up for cooperatives

SANDIP DAS

A CONCESSIONAL TAX of 15% to promote new societies focusing on manufacturing, a higher limit of ₹3 crore for TDS on cash withdrawal, and the creation of decentralised storage capacities, were announced in Budget FY24. The finance minister said that a new cooperative society (formed after April 1, 2023) which commences manufacturing by March 31, 2024, and does not avail of any specified incentive or deduction, will be allowed to pay tax at a concessional rate of 15%.

The budget has provided an opportunity to the sugar cooperatives to claim the payments made to cane farmers for the period prior to the assessment year 2016-17 as expenditure. This is expected to provide sugar cooperatives a relief of almost ₹10,000 crore. The government will amend the relevant section of the Companies Act to ensure cash-loans or transactions in cash, amounting to less than ₹2 lakh, don't attract penalties for primary cooperatives. The finance minister also announced to set up 'massive' decentralised storage capacity, to help farmers store their produce and realise remunerative prices by selling the commodity at an appropriate time. "Decentralisation of warehousing capacity will play an

WAY FORWARD

15% concessional tax to promote manufacturing cooperative societies



Set up multipurpose cooperative societies in the fishery, dairy sectors in villages over 5 years



Decentralised storage capacity to help farmers realise better prices

important role in rationalising the balance between demand and supply," Arun Raste, MD & CEO, NCDEX (the commodities exchange), said. The government has initiated computerisation of 63,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) with an investment of ₹2,516 crore. "The decision to computerise PACS will enable inclusive, farmer-centric solutions and help improve access to farm inputs and credit," Sanjay Gupta, MD, CEO, National Commodities Management Services, said. As per ministry of cooperation data, cooperatives account for a fifth of agricultural loans disbursed, 35% of fertiliser distribution, 25% of soil nutrients production, and a fifth of the fisheries business.

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Sanjeeb Mukherjee
4

FULCRUM OF DEVELOPMENT

BIG BOOST FOR AGRI DIGITAL INFRA, COOPERATIVES, ORGANIC FARMING

Rural housing gets huge fund outlay for completion of projects ahead of 2024 elections

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 1 February

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's last full Budget before the Lok Sabha elections in 2024 had a big focus on completing 29.5 million rural houses, apart from announcements on digitising agriculture, pushing organic and natural farming, and boosting the activities of cooperatives.

However, commentators said they would do little to boost demand in the rural sector, which has been languishing since the start of the fiscal year due to high inflation.

The allocation for the rural jobs scheme (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, or MGNREGA) was slashed by 33 per cent in Budget Estimates (BE) of 2023-24 (FY24), against the Revised Estimates (RE) of 2022-23 (FY23) and it was also almost 18 per cent down from the BE of FY23.

However, the official explanation is that being a demand-driven scheme, the MGNREGA Budget is always increased by the end of the fiscal year.

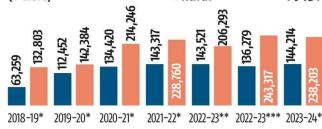
"Merely ₹60,000 crore has been allocated for the MGNREGA in FY24, which will effectively mean that around 100 million active job card-holding families have the provision to work on an average of 20 days this year, against their entitlement of 100 days. There are 170 million registered workers in MGNREGA... This is pathetic and shocking," said Debmalya Nandy, member, NREGA Sangharsh Morcha.

For the nascent Ministry of Cooperation, headed by Home Minister Amit Shah, the Budget did have a lot of positives. These included extending the benefit of a low 15 per cent tax



INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Agriculture and rural spends (₹ crore)



Agriculture sector budget includes PM Kisan disbursements *Actuals **Budget Estimates (BE) ***Revised Estimates #Percentage increase between 2018-19 and 2023-24 (BE) Source: Budget papers

rate to manufacturing cooperatives that start business before March 2024, which is on the lines of the one given to companies, apart from allowing sugar cooperatives to show cane payment made to farmers before 2016-17 as business expenditure. The latter, according to some sources, will straightaway lead to a benefit of around ₹10,000 crore to sugar cooperatives, a sizeable chunk of whom are in Maharashtra,

where the BJP is the ruling party.

In terms of sectoral allocation, the documents show for agriculture and allied activities, the Budget allocated ₹1.44 trillion, which was 5.9 per cent more than the RE of FY23. And for the rural sector, the Budget allocated ₹2.38 trillion, which was 2.1 per cent less than the RE of FY23.

Meanwhile, under the rural housing scheme

THE MAIN DRIVERS

11% Hike in farm credit target to ₹20 trillion for FY24, with focus on animal husbandry, dairy, fisheries

₹6,000 crore Targeted investment of sub-scheme under PM Matsya Sampada Yojana to boost the seafood industry, improve post-harvest management and marketing, and help expand markets for fishermen and SME vendors

₹2,000 crore Outlay for Atmanirbhar Glean Plant Programme to produce high-quality and disease-free material for horticulture crops

10 million Farmers to adopt natural farming in the next 3 years; boosting yield of long-staple cotton

PM PRANAM To incentivise states and UTs to promote alternative fertilisers and balanced use of chemical fertilisers

called the PMAY-G (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Grameen), of the targeted 29.5 million houses to be built by March 2024, till December 15, 25 million were sanctioned and 21.1 million have been constructed.

The Budget allocated for the rural housing scheme around ₹55,000 crore, which is among the highest in recent years, while the urban component of the scheme got ₹25,103 crore, the documents show. The BE for rural housing in FY23 was just ₹20,000 crore.



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16

PM SPEAK

GROUNDWORK FOR 2047: MODI

1st Budget of 'Amrit Kaal' is 'historic',
meant for the aspirational, PM says

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 1 February

Terming it "historic", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said the first Budget in "Amrit Kaal" had established a strong base to fulfil the resolve of a developed India and dreams of the aspirational, including the poor and the middle income-group.

In his first reaction to the Budget 2023-24, Modi said in order to empower the middle-income groups, the government had taken many significant decisions in the past years that ensured ease of living.

He underlined the potential of the middle-income groups in realising the dreams of 2047, and also highlighted the reduction in tax rates as well as the simplification, transparency and speeding up of processes. "Our government, which always stood with the middle class, has given huge tax relief to them," Modi said.

The prime minister congratulated Sitharaman and her team for a "historic" Budget.

Modi called the traditional artisans such as carpenters, iron smiths, goldsmiths, potters, sculptors and many others as the creators of the nation.

"For the first time, the country has come up with many schemes as a tribute to the hard work and creation of these people. Arrangements have been made for training, credit and market support to them. PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman, that is, PM VIK-aS, will bring a big change in the lives of crores of 'Vishwa-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks with the media on the Parliament's premises on Wednesday

REUTERS

karmas," Modi said.

He said the government had taken important steps such as Jal Jeevan Mission, Ujjwala Yojana and PM Awas Yojana that will further empower women. Miracles can be performed if women self-help groups, a sector with extreme potential, are further strengthened, he added.

This Budget, the PM said, will make cooperatives a fulcrum of development of the rural economy. The government, he said, has come up with the world's largest food storage scheme in the co-operative sector, and an ambitious scheme to form new primary co-operatives had also been announced in the Budget.

Emphasising the need to replicate the success of digital payments in agriculture, Modi said this Budget came with a big plan for digital agri infrastructure. Noting that the world was celebrating the International Year of Millets,

he said there were many types of millets in India and their recognition was warranted.

"This superfood has been given a new identity of 'Shree-Anna'," Modi said, underlining that it would provide economic support for small farmers and tribal farmers.

This Budget, Modi said, will give an unprecedented expansion to green growth, green economy, green infrastructure, and green jobs, for a sustainable future. "In the Budget, we have laid a lot of emphasis on technology and the new economy. The aspirational India of today wants modern infrastructure in every field like road, rail, metro, port, and waterways. Compared to 2014, investment in infrastructure has increased by more than 400 per cent."

The unprecedented investment of ₹10 trillion on infrastructure will give new energy and speed to India's development, the PM said.



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1, 15

Budget Envisages PM's Vision of Amrit Kaal



By Invite

AMIT SHAH

Union Home Minister &
Minister of Cooperation

The resolve to see India as a global superpower during the 'Amrit Kaal' is no castle in the air, as it might sound to naysayers. It is a goal, envisioned by visionary Prime Mini-

ster Narendra Modi, with a formidable foundational basis and a meticulously designed roadmap to achieve the same. The budget tabled in Parliament on Wednesday on the advent of Amrit Kaal reaffirms this point beyond any doubt.

India today finds its place among the global leaders as the fifth largest economy in the world, surpassing Great Britain and is likely to ascend to the third place by 2035. In the last nine years, India's per capita income and the size of its economy have almost doubled. On account of this growth trajectory, the International Monetary Fund marks India as a bright spot on a

dark horizon. It has also pencilled in India's FY23 growth at more than 6%, which is the highest among major economies of the world. Despite the war and the residual effects of the pandemic, India is among the few economies with the lowest rate of inflation.

However, this feat – unusual for a still-emerging economy – took immense courage and countless sleepless nights on the part of the prime minister.

In a rather counter-intuitive move during the peak of the pandemic, Modi took an audacious decision to stick to his reform-for-growth agenda.

Atmanirbhar Bharat Push ►► 15



Atmanirbhar Bharat Push

►► From Page 1

It was a time when major economies threw the growth agenda under the bus to tackle the raging pandemic. India remoulded its dreams to fit into the new dimension and charted its path thereon with the Atmanirbhar Bharat push while managing the pandemic deftly.

This was dovetailed with the efforts made by the regime to get rid of corruption, improve the health of the banking sector, get rid of policy paralysis, promote accountability and transparency in policy-making, etc., in a bid to create a conducive business ecosystem.

The move paid off in the post-pandemic era as foreign footloose capital flocked to the Indian stock markets, abandoning the otherwise lucrative capital markets. The buoyant tax collection after the pandemic is another marker of the resilience of the economy. As on date, India garners ₹1.49 lakh crore per month as GST.

India leaped ahead in one after another global rankings, surpassing nations mightier in economic prowess. It clocked more than 70 billion digital payments in 2022, which is the highest in the world. Boosting of air connectivity made India the world's third-largest aviation industry. Railways being taken to remotest areas like Kashmir and Northeast made business in the Indian economy more luring by decreasing the landing cost of products substantially.

The new spreadsheet is to be seen in a continuum of earlier budgets that provided the economy with its much-appreciated resilience. It is aimed at pulling massive investments and businesses by introducing a slew of disruptive measures.

The budget pumps in major capital investment of ₹10 lakh crore, increasing the outlay by 33%, which will fast-track the implementation of government programmes such as Bharatmala, Gati Shakti, Parvatmala and Sagarmala. The highest ever capital outlay of ₹2.4 lakh crore for railways will help Indian Railways increase its modal share and connectivity to remote areas. Similarly, 100 transport infrastructure projects have been identified for end-to-end connectivity for ports, coal, steel, and fertiliser sectors. The proposed revamping of 50 airports, heliports, and advanced landing grounds will enhance air connectivity to remote areas.

In a rather disruptive move, the budget also ushers in

an initiative of green growth. The major parts of this reform comprise incentivisation of alternative fertilisers, the proposal of 500 new waste-to-wealth plants, mangrove plantations along the coastline, and promotion of battery storage systems. Standing true to the Modi government's principle of growth with responsibility, the budget provided for an outlay of ₹35,000 crore to achieve energy transition and net-zero objectives, listing green growth among the seven priorities of the government. Mission Green Hydrogen, which is hailed as one of the game-changing initiatives of the government in enhancing India's soft power in the global scenario, gets an allocation of ₹19,700 crore, leading to a further boost to the economy and generating employment opportunities.

Keeping up the pace that India has already gained in the digital economy, the budget also pushes for the new economy by way of building digital public infrastructure for farmers, decrease of custom duties on the import of lithium-ion batteries from 21% to 13%, commodities except for textiles and agriculture, and certain inputs for mobile phones. These moves will add a multiplier effect on already acquired gains in the new economy. The cutting of import duty on lab-grown diamonds throws open a new door of opportunities for India by way of creating jobs and capital. In addition to it, the extension of tax benefits to startups till 2024 will prove to be a turning point for India's innovation ecosystem.

The innovation ecosystem gets further assistance as the budget also envisages the launch of a unified Skill India digital platform, which will focus on formal skilling as per demands, provide access to entrepreneurship schemes, and also link job seekers with employers, including MSMEs.

The budget also provides a big relief to middle-class taxpayers and lifts the threshold of income tax from ₹5 lakh a year to ₹7 lakh a year. The changes in income-tax slabs and reduction of surcharge across all segments will benefit the taxpayers.

Abiding by the guiding principle of 'Sahakar Se Samridhi', several steps have been taken to promote the co-operative sector. The budget sets the aim of setting up a national database for cooperatives to ensure better policymaking for the sector. It also provides for the creation of decentralised storage, which will be the world's lar-

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The decision to cap TDS on cash withdrawal to ₹3 crore, providing a higher limit of ₹2 lakh per member for cash deposits and loans in cash by PACS and primary co-operative agriculture and rural development banks will enthuse the sector. These moves will help the cooperative sector contribute to national growth.

PM Modi's pragmatic and persuasive foreign policy and his diplomatic acumen make India's prospects in the global arena stand tall. India currently has 12 FTAs and the India-UAE CEPA is the latest one. We are working on several other deals. PM Modi's initiatives are leading to the restoration of the global supply chain in which India is likely to become a major player.

The Amrit Kaal budget takes quantum leaps, enabling seamless growth through governance by initiating a global mission for millets, launching a dedicated mission for particularly vulnerable tribal groups, and recruiting more teachers for 740 Ekalavya model schools. This includes establishing 157 new nursing colleges, research initiatives in pharma, and a mission to eliminate sickle cell anaemia.

Located in the middle of the broad principle of 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas', it disrupts the rural economy by setting up a ₹20 lakh-crore agricultural credit system for animal husbandry, dairy, and fisheries sectors, along with an allocation of ₹6,000 crore in PM Matsya Sampada Yojana and ₹2,200 crore in Bagwani Yojana. These will not only boost rural economy but also create employment opportunities.

One of the most encouraging aspects of the budget is that it ticks all the boxes of growth and welfare while keeping the fiscal deficit as low as 5.9% of GDP. It proves the fiscal health of the economy and also clearly indicates that with this inbuilt power of the economy, India will sail to its goal of becoming a global superpower in the Amrit Kaal.

I congratulate Prime Minister Narendra Modi and finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman for furthering an all-inclusive vision through this budget, which will not only lead India through the path of growth but also welfare catering to the needs of both citizenry and business.



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Budget Envisages PM's Vision of Amrit Kaal



By Invite

AMIT SHAH

Union Home Minister &
Minister of Cooperation

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Tax Incentives to Give a Leg Up to Coop Sector

Team ET

To support an inclusive growth model and incentivise the bottom of the pyramid, the finance minister unveiled new tax benefits for cooperative bodies, and investments in their technology infrastructure. The budget announcement comes weeks after the Cabinet relaxed rules for cooperatives to participate in India's growth story.

Nirmala Sitharaman announced that new cooperatives that commence manufacturing activities till March 31, 2024 would be taxed at a flat 15% — the low rate available to new manufacturing companies — from the current rate of up to 30% plus surcharge. Sugar cooperatives will be able to claim as expenditure their payments to sugarcane farmers for the period prior to assessment year 2016–17. “This is expected to provide them with nearly ₹10,000 crore in reli-

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The budget also proposes to cap the limit at ₹2 lakh per member for cash deposits and loans in cash by primary agricultural cooperative societies (PACS), and primary cooperative agriculture and rural development banks. Cooperative societies have been provided a higher limit of ₹3 crore for tax deducted at source on cash withdrawals, against ₹1 crore now.

The government has already initiated computerisation of 63,000 PACS with an investment of ₹2,516 crore, in addition to setting up a national cooperative database and preparing a country-wide map of cooperative societies. Also, model by-laws have been formulated for such cooperatives to become multipurpose PACS.

The finance minister's measures come three weeks after the Cabinet approved the setting up of a national-level multi-state cooperative organic society under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002.



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₹968cr Digitisation Boost to Connect, Drive Agriculture Coops

Cooperative Effort

Govt to facilitate setting up of multipurpose coop societies, primary fishery societies, and dairy cooperative societies in uncovered panchayats and villages

New coops commencing manufacturing by March 31, 2024 will get the benefit of a lower tax rate of 15%

Higher limit of ₹2 lakh per member for cash deposit and loans in cash by PACS and primary cooperative agricultural and rural development banks

In a relief to sugar cooperative mills, the claims for payments made to farmers prior to AY16 will be considered as 'expenditure'

Team ET

The government proposes to spend ₹1,150.38 crore on the cooperatives sector in FY24, with ₹968 crore earmarked for computerisation of some 63,000 primary cooperative agriculture societies (PCAS).

The total cost for computerisation of PCAS is estimated at ₹2,516 crore. The scheme aims to computerise PCAS, leading to an increase in its efficiency, profitability, transparency and accountability.

"The budget further makes provision to set up decentralised storage capacity so that farmers can store their produce and realise remunerative prices to sell at an appropriate time," read a statement issued by the cooperative ministry. "The government will facilitate setting up of a large number of multipurpose cooperatives societies, primary fishery societies, and dairy cooperative societies in uncovered panchayats and villages in the next five years."

The announcement comes close on the heels of the Cabinet decision to set up three new cooperative societies to boost organic farming, seeds and exports, with the aim to push up farm income.

As per the budget announcement, new cooperatives commencing manufacturing by March 31, 2024 will get the benefit of a lower tax rate of 15%, while higher limit of ₹2 lakh per member has been

earmarked for cash deposit and loans in cash by PACS and primary cooperative agricultural and rural development banks. A higher limit of ₹3 crore for TDS on cash withdrawal has been provided to cooperative societies, the statement said.

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in her budget speech that a national cooperative database for countrywide mapping of cooperative societies will be created for better implementation of the proposed national policy on cooperatives.

"Setting up of cooperatives will ensure that there is no distress sale of farm products and farmers get better price for their produce," Jayen Mehta, incharge managing director of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF).

In a relief to sugar cooperative mills, the claims for payments made to sugar farmers prior to assessment year 2016-17 will be considered as 'expenditure'. This is likely to provide a relief of about ₹10,000 crore to the sugar cooperatives, according to the ministry of cooperation. The department was taken out from the agriculture ministry and created into a separate ministry by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in July 2021.



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‘India will have world’s largest decentralised farm storage capacity’

Prabhudatta Mishra
New Delhi

With the Budget announcement to set up decentralised storage capacity, Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has said that India will have the world’s largest decentralised storage capacity in the cooperative sector which will help farmers store their produce and sell at the right time to get a fair price.

“This will play an important role in (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi’s resolve to increase the income of farmers,” Shah said. In the next five years, the government will facilitate the establishment of new multipurpose cooperative societies, primary fisheries societies and dairy cooperative societies in every panchayat, he added.

AMENDING ACT

In her Budget speech, Sitharaman announced a higher limit of ₹2 lakh per member for cash deposits and loans in cash by Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies (PACS) and Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs).

New cooperative societies that are formed on or after April 2023 are proposed to be allowed an option to pay tax at a concessional



Union Cooperation Minister
Amit Shah PTI

rate of 15 per cent similar to what is available to new manufacturing companies, she announced, as such a step will promote growth of manufacturing in cooperative sector.

She also said Sections 269SS and 269T of the Companies Act will be amended to ensure that there is no penalty for cash loan/transactions against primary co-operatives for cash less than ₹2 lakh, which was a major demand of the cooperative unions. Sitharaman also agreed to increase the threshold limit for co-operatives to withdraw cash without TDS. “It is proposed to en-

able co-operatives to withdraw cash up to ₹3 crore in a year without being subjected to TDS on such withdrawal,” she said.

With an estimated relief of about ₹10,000 crore, the government has allowed sugar cooperatives to claim payments made to cane growers for the period prior to the assessment year 2016-17 as expenditure.

Shah said the cooperative movement will get new direction and momentum. “Today, the unprecedented decisions taken in the Budget to strengthen the cooperative sector are a symbol of this resolution,” he said.

HIKE IN OUTLAY

Though the Cooperation Ministry has received lower allocation of ₹1,150.38 crore for 2023-24, from ₹1,624.74 crore for 2022-23 (RE) due to discontinuation of some schemes previously run by Agriculture Ministry, the outlay for computerisation of PACS has been hiked to ₹968 crore for the next fiscal from ₹350 crore this year (RE).

To realise the vision of ‘Sahakar Se Samridhi’, Sitharaman said the government has already initiated computerisation of 63,000 PACS with an investment of ₹2,516 crore.

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तीन साल में एक करोड़ किसान प्राकृतिक खेती से जोड़े जाएंगे



- अगले 3 वर्षों में सरकार 1 करोड़ किसानों को प्राकृतिक खेती अपनाने के लिए सहायता देगी। इसके लिए राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर वितरित सूक्ष्म-उर्वरक और कीटनाशक विनिर्माण नेटवर्क बनाते हुए 10,000 बायो इनपुट रिसोर्स केन्द्र स्थापित किए जाएंगे।
- सहकार से समृद्धि कार्यक्रम चलाया जाएगा। इसके जरिये 63,000 एग्री सोसाइटी का कंप्यूटरीकरण होगा।

विकसित भारत के सपने को साकार करेगा अमृतकाल का पहला बजट : पीएम मोदी

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने बुधवार को पेश किए गए अमृत काल के पहले आम बजट को देश के विकास को गति देने वाला और विकसित भारत के सपने को साकार करने वाला बताया।

पीएम मोदी ने वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण की सराहना करते हुए कहा, वंचितों को प्राथमिकता देने वाले इस बजट से रोजगार के बड़े अवसर पैदा होंगे। साथ ही यह आकांक्षी समाज, गांव, गरीब, किसान और मध्य वर्ग के सपने भी पूरा करेगा। इस बजट को खास बताते हुए

पीएम ने उम्मीद जताई कि इससे देश के विकास को नई गति मिलेगी। पीएम ने कहा कि बजट में एमएसएमई, कृषि, शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य सहित सभी क्षेत्रों और वर्गों का ध्यान रखा गया है। इससे हमारे करोड़ों विश्वकर्माओं के जीवन में बदलाव आएगा।

पीएम मोदी ने बजट में बुनियादी क्षेत्र में निवेश पर 400 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी को अहम बताया। उन्होंने कहा, इस क्षेत्र में करीब 10 लाख करोड़ का निवेश होगा। यह निवेश युवाओं के साथ देश की एक बड़ी आबादी के लिए रोजगार और आय के नए अवसर पैदा करेगा।



मध्य वर्ग के साथ : पीएम मोदी ने कहा कि मध्य वर्ग के साथ खड़ी हमारी सरकार ने क्यों में भारी राहत दी है।

कहा, बजट में गांव, गरीब, किसान और मध्य वर्ग को प्राथमिकता

श्रीअन्न से बदलेगी अन्नदाताओं की तकदीर
मोदी ने वित्त मंत्री की ओर से मोटे अनाज को श्रीअन्न के नाम से दी गई नई पहचान की भी बर्चा की। उन्होंने कहा कि श्रीअन्न दुनिया में बहुत लोकप्रिय हो रहा है। इसका लाभ हमारे देश के छोटे किसानों, छोटी जीत वाले आदिवासियों और वंचित वर्ग को होगा।



किसानों की तरफकी सरकार की नीतियों के केंद्र में है। यह बजट सहकारिता को ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था को धुरी बनाएगा। बजट में इसके लिए महत्वाकांक्षी योजना की घोषणा की गई है। - नरेंद्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

• गांव

कृषि कर्ज के लिए 1.5 लाख करोड़ बढ़ा, मनरेगा बजट घटा

इस बार बजट में मनरेगा को आवंटित राशि 73 हजार करोड़ रुपए से घटाकर 60 हजार करोड़ रुपए कर दी गई। पीएम सिंचाई योजना का बजट भी 12,954 करोड़ रुपए से घटकर 10,787 करोड़ रुपए हो गया है। सरकार ने इस बार एग्रीकल्चर क्रेडिट



20 लाख करोड़ का दिया है जो पिछले साल 18.5 लाख करोड़ रुपए था। यानी इस बार डेढ़ लाख करोड़ का इजाफा हुआ। अभी 58% लोग गांवों में कर्जदार हैं। ऐसे में सरकार को तय करना होगा कि किसान को उसकी आवश्यकताओं के हिसाब से ही कर्ज मिले। गोबरन योजना के तहत देश भर में 500 केंद्र खोले जाएंगे। बायोगैस के 75 नए केंद्र भी खुलेंगे। बजट में इस बार अगले 3 साल में प्राकृतिक खेती से 1 करोड़ किसानों को जोड़ने का लक्ष्य रखा गया है। 10 हजार बायो सेंटर भी खोले जाएंगे। कपास के उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए पीपीपी मॉडल अपनाया जाएगा। आत्मनिर्भर हॉर्टीकल्चर क्लीन प्लांट प्रोग्राम लॉन्च होगा। गुणवत्तापूर्ण बागवानी फसलों के लिए 2200 करोड़ रुपए खर्च होंगे।

को-ऑपरेटिव विकास मॉडल शुरू किया जाएगा

■ पीएम मत्स्य संपदा योजना में 6 हजार करोड़ रुपए दिए जाएंगे।

■ कृषि-स्टार्टअप प्रोत्साहन के लिए 'कृषि त्वरक कोष' बनेगा। 5 साल में 500 करोड़ रु. देंगे।

■ 3 साल में 1 करोड़ लोगों को नेचुरल फार्मिंग से जोड़ेंगे।

■ किसानों के लिए सहकार से समृद्धि प्रोग्राम चलेगा। 63 हजार एग्री सोसाइटी को कंप्यूटराइज्ड किया जाएगा।

गृह मंत्री बोले- अमृतकाल की मजबूत आधारशिला रखने वाला है यह बजट

भास्कर न्यूज | नई दिल्ली

केंद्रीय गृह व सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने बुधवार को आम बजट 2023-24 को "सर्वसमावेशी और दूरदर्शी" करार दिया और कहा कि यह आत्मनिर्भर भारत के संकल्प को और गति देगा। वित्त मंत्री द्वारा बजट पेश किए जाने के बाद शाह ने सिलसिलेवार ट्वीट में कहा, "मोदी



सरकार द्वारा लाया गया बजट-2023 अमृतकाल की मजबूत आधारशिला रखने वाला बजट है।"

पूँजीगत व्यय में 33 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि करते हुए उसे 10 लाख करोड़ रुपये करना और राजकोषीय घाटे को 5.9 प्रतिशत रखे जाने के लक्ष्य की सराहना करते हुए शाह ने कहा कि यह केंद्र सरकार की सशक्त बुनियादी ढांचे और मजबूत अर्थव्यवस्था वाले नये भारत बनाने की दूरदर्शिता को दर्शाता है। मध्यम व वित्तनभोगी वर्ग को कर में राहत देने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र

मोदी का आभार जताते हुए केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री ने कहा कि इस "अभूतपूर्व बदलाव" से मध्यम वर्ग को बहुत लाभ होगा। उन्होंने युवाओं को किताबें उपलब्ध कराने के लिए नेशनल डिजिटल लाइब्रेरी स्थापित करने के निर्णय का भी स्वागत किया। कृषि ऋण को बढ़ा कर 20 लाख करोड़ रुपये किए जाने का उल्लेख करते हुए शाह ने कहा कि युवा उद्यमियों द्वारा कृषि-स्टार्टअप को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए एग्रीकल्चर एक्सीलेटर फंड बनाया जाएगा।

विकसित भारत के निर्माण को गति देने वाला बजट

- पीएम बोले-गरीब, मध्यमवर्ग, किसानों के सपनों को करेगा पूरा
- आधी आबादी का थोड़ा सहयोग भी कर सकता है चमत्कार



आम बजट 2023-24 पर संबोधित करते प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ● प्रेटर

नीलू रंजन ● नई दिल्ली

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने अमृतकाल के पहले बजट को सर्वस्पर्शी और विकसित भारत के निर्माण को गति देने वाला बताया है। उनके अनुसार बजट गांव-गरीब, किसान, मध्यमवर्ग समेत सभी आकांक्षी वर्गों के सपने को पूरा करने का काम करेगा। वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण और उनकी टीम को बधाई देते हुए प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने देशवासियों से समर्थ भारत के निर्माण में जुट जाने की अपील की।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने कहा कि यह बहुत बड़े वर्ग को विकास की मुख्यधारा से जोड़ने में सफल होगा, जो अभी तक पीछे छूट गए

हैं। इस सिलसिले में उन्होंने देश की आधी आबादी (महिलाओं) का जिक्र किया। स्वयं सहायता समूहों के जरिये उत्पादकता से महिलाओं को जोड़ने की कोशिश का उल्लेख करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि आर्थिकी को महिलाओं का थोड़ा सा बल भी चमत्कार कर सकता है। इसी तरह से शिल्पकारों के सदियों पुराने हुनर को भुनाने में अभी तक सफलता नहीं मिली थी। बजट में विश्वकर्मा समाज के लोगों की ट्रेनिंग, टेक्नोलॉजी, क्रेडिट और मार्केट-सपोर्ट न सिर्फ करोड़ों लोगों के जीवन में बदलाव लाने में सफल होगा, बल्कि उनका कौशल विकास की गति को भी शक्ति देगा।

शेष >> पेज 16



विकसित भारत के निर्माण...

देश की बड़ी आबादी आज भी खेती पर निर्भर है, लेकिन कम उत्पादकता और बाजार तक पहुँच के अभाव में करोड़ों किसानों की स्थिति दयनीय बनी हुई है। पीएम ने कहा कि छोटे किसानों और अधिकांशतः आदिवासी समाज द्वारा उगाए जा रहे मिलेट (मोटे अनाजों) की योजनाओं से उन्हें आर्थिक संबल मिलेगा। अंतरराष्ट्रीय मिलेट वर्ष मनाए जाने से देश के साथ-साथ विदेश में इसकी लोकप्रियता बढ़ी है। बजट में इसे श्री-अन्न के रूप में नई पहचान मिली है। इसी तरह से डिजिटल एग्रीकल्चर इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर की योजना डिजिटल पेमेंट की तरह कृषि क्षेत्र में बड़ा परिवर्तन ला सकती है। पीएम के अनुसार, सहकारिता ग्रामीण आर्थिकी के विकास की नई धुरी के रूप में सामने आ रही है। सहकारिता के माध्यम से बनने वाली अन्न भंडारण योजना किसानों को फसल सुरक्षित रखने में मददगार साबित होगी।

मध्यमवर्ग भारत के विकास में बहुत बड़ी शक्ति: मोदी के अनुसार, बजट सिर्फ आकांक्षी वर्गों के सपने को ही पूरा नहीं करेगा, बल्कि सतत विकास के रास्ते पर भविष्य के भारत के निर्माण का भी काम करेगा। इसके लिए ग्रीन ग्रोथ, ग्रीन इकोनमी, ग्रीन इनर्जी, ग्रीन इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर और ग्रीन जाब पर विशेष जोर दिया गया है। 10 लाख करोड़ के खर्च से भारत में अत्याधुनिक इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर तैयार करने में मदद मिलेगी।



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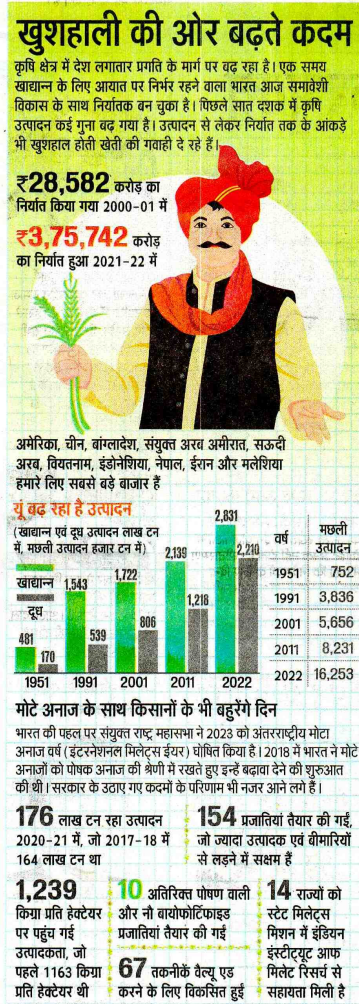
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बात पते की

बजट में अन्नदाता पर खास ध्यान दिया गया है। खेती को सुविधाजनक बनाने के साथ ही किसानों की कमाई में वृद्धि के लिए सरकार ने ग्रीन एग्रीकल्चर, मिलेट्स, एग्री क्रेडिट, डिजिटल तकनीक से खेती, पशुपालन, मछली पालन और सहकार से समृद्धि पर फोकस रखा है। सरकार ने पशुपालकों और मछलीपालन करने वाले किसानों के लिए भी कई कदम उठाए हैं। कर्ज देने की रफ्तार बढ़ाने और बहुउद्देश्यीय सहकारी सोसायटियों को बढ़ावा देने की घोषणा की है। डिजिटल पब्लिक इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर तैयार किए जाने से किसानों को खेती संबंधित योजना बनाने, ऋण लेने, बीमा और फसलों के उत्पादन की आसानी से जानकारी मिल सकेगी। इतना ही नहीं किसान बाजार में अपनी फसल को अच्छी कीमत पर बेच सकेगा।

छूटे गांवों में भी जलेगी सहकारिता की मशाल

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली: देश के छूटे गांवों में सहकारिता की मशाल जलाने के लिए आम बजट में विशेष प्रविधान किया गया है। वित्तमंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने अपने बजट भाषण में कहा कि सहकारी समितियां गांव-गांव अनाज भंडारण के लिए गोदाम बनाएंगी। इससे जहां किसानों को उचित समय पर अपनी उपज बेचने की सहूलियत मिलेगी, वहीं गोदामों के किराये से सहकारी समितियों को अतिरिक्त आमदनी होगी। इससे सहकारी समितियां आर्थिक रूप से मजबूत बनेंगी। देश में 63,000 प्राथमिक कृषि ऋण सोसायटियां (पैक्स) हैं,



जिनके कंप्यूटराइजेशन पर 2516 करोड़ रुपये व्यय होंगे। सहकारी क्षेत्र के सभी पक्षकारों व राज्यों के साथ विचार-विमर्श कर पैक्स के लिए माडल बायलाज तैयार किए गए हैं, जिससे वो मल्टी स्टेट को-ऑपरेटिव सोसायटी बनने में सक्षम हो जाएंगी। अगले पांच

वर्षों में सरकार हर पंचायत में नई मल्टी स्टेट सहकारी समितियां, प्राथमिक मत्स्य समितियां और डेरी सहकारी समितियां स्थापना करने में सुविधा होगी। इसके लिए देश की सभी सहकारी समितियों का डाटाबेस तैयार किया जा रहा है, जिससे सहकारी समितियों के बारे

में उचित फैसला लिया जा सकेगा। किसानों के साथ वंचित क्षेत्रों के लोगों के हितों के मद्देनजर सरकार सहकारिता आधारित विकास माडल को प्रोत्साहित कर रही है। सहकार से समृद्धि का विजन हासिल करने के लिए सरकार ने अलग मंत्रालय का गठन किया है। वर्ष 2002 के दो दशक बाद नई राष्ट्रीय सहकारिता नीति तैयार की जा रही है। इसके लिए विशेषज्ञ समिति भी गठित की गई है। सरकार ने सहकारी क्षेत्र को नई ऊंचाइयों पर पहुंचाने के लिए ही राष्ट्रीय स्तर की तीन नई मल्टी स्टेट को-ऑपरेटिव समिति के गठन का फैसला किया है।



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विकसित भारत के निर्माण की मजबूत नींव : मोदी

भरोसा

नई दिल्ली, एएनएस। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने आवाजों के अनुकूल के दौरान देश के विकास के लिए आम बजट को प्रतिबद्धता के साथ देते हुए कहा कि यह विकसित भारत के 'विश्व स्तर' को पूरा करने के लिए एक मजबूत नींव रखेगा। इससे विकास को बढ़ावा मिलेगा और किसानों व मध्यम वर्ग के सपने भी कानोई दृढ़ रूप से साकार होंगे।

संघ के दोनों सदस्यों ने वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण की ओर से वित्त वर्ष 2023-24 का आम बजट पेश किए जाने के बाद प्रधानमंत्री ने एक वीडियो संदेश में कहा कि यह

बजट विकास को बढ़ावा देता है। यह 'संवर्धन' और 'विकास' के निर्माण को बढ़ावा देता है। बजट में मध्यम वरग का ध्यान रखा गया है। प्रधानमंत्री ने बजट में पीएम विरकर्म कोशल सम्मान योजना (पीएम-किसान) का उल्लेख करते हुए कहा कि सरकार ऐसे क्षेत्रों और योजनाओं को बढ़ावा देगी जो समाज के विकास को बढ़ावा देंगी। इससे उनके जीवन में बड़ा बदलाव आएगा।

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के उपाध्यक्ष जस्टिस एनएल लॉन्ग ने कहा कि यह बजट में 'विकास' और 'संवर्धन' के लिए नीतियों को बढ़ावा देगा। प्रधानमंत्री ने विज्ञान, लेन-देन, सार्वजनिक

सामान्य परिवार की महिलाएं सशक्त होंगी

मोदी ने कहा कि ग्रामीण और शहरी महिलाओं के जीवन स्तर में सुधार लाने के लिए भी बजट में कई बड़े कदम उठाए गए हैं। इससे महिलाओं को आर्थिक रूप से सशक्त करने में मदद मिलेगी। महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाने के लिए 'महिला सम्मान' बजट में शामिल किया गया है। इससे उनके जीवन में बड़ा बदलाव आएगा।

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के उपाध्यक्ष जस्टिस एनएल लॉन्ग ने कहा कि यह बजट में 'विकास' और 'संवर्धन' के लिए नीतियों को बढ़ावा देगा। प्रधानमंत्री ने विज्ञान, लेन-देन, सार्वजनिक



नई दिल्ली में बुधवार को पेश किए गए बजट पर सोलने प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी। • एएनएस

एनकेएचए ईआरएनए के लिए एक बड़ी योजना साईं गई है। 'अवसर' को सुनिश्चित' के साथ-साथ उद्योगों के लिए क्रेडिट सपोर्ट और सुधार के अभियान को भी आगे बढ़ाया गया है।

ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था की धुरी बनेगी सहकारिता

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि बजट सहकारिता को ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था के विकास की धुरी बनाया। सरकार ने सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी अन्न भंडारण योजना तैयार की है। बजट में रूर प्रौद्योगिकी सहकारिता बनाने की योजना का भी ऐलान हुआ है। इससे क्षेत्रों के साथ-साथ दूर और मजबूत उद्योग के क्षेत्र का विस्तार होगा और किसानों, पशुपालकों और मछुआरों को अपने उत्पाद की बेहतर कीमत मिलेगी।

एनकेएचए ईआरएनए के लिए एक बड़ी योजना साईं गई है। 'अवसर' को सुनिश्चित' के साथ-साथ उद्योगों के लिए क्रेडिट सपोर्ट और सुधार के अभियान को भी आगे बढ़ाया गया है।

हर वर्ग का ख्याल

मिलेट को 'श्री-अन्न' की नई पहचान

मोदी अन्न का वर्ष मनाने के लिए ग्रामीणों को नए तरीके से सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी अन्न भंडारण योजना तैयार की है। बजट में रूर प्रौद्योगिकी सहकारिता बनाने की योजना का भी ऐलान हुआ है। इससे क्षेत्रों के साथ-साथ दूर और मजबूत उद्योग के क्षेत्र का विस्तार होगा और किसानों, पशुपालकों और मछुआरों को अपने उत्पाद की बेहतर कीमत मिलेगी।

एनकेएचए ईआरएनए के लिए एक बड़ी योजना साईं गई है। 'अवसर' को सुनिश्चित' के साथ-साथ उद्योगों के लिए क्रेडिट सपोर्ट और सुधार के अभियान को भी आगे बढ़ाया गया है।

रोजगार के नए अवसर पैदा होंगे

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि आकाशी भारत आज 'संकट, रूर, मोदी' बंदगाह, उल्लेखनीय रूप से आधुनिक दुनिया की दावा कहता है। 2014 की तुलना में अवसरों में निवेश पर 400 फीसदी से ज्यादा की वृद्धि की गई है। दुनिया की विकास पर दुर्लभ वया 10 लाख करोड़ किया गया है, जिससे विकास की नई ऊर्जा और गति मिलेगी। यह निवेश सुनिश्चित के लिए रोजगार के नए अवसर पैदा करेगा।

एनकेएचए ईआरएनए के लिए एक बड़ी योजना साईं गई है। 'अवसर' को सुनिश्चित' के साथ-साथ उद्योगों के लिए क्रेडिट सपोर्ट और सुधार के अभियान को भी आगे बढ़ाया गया है।

मध्यम वर्ग को बड़ी राहत

मोदी ने कहा कि समृद्ध और विकसित भारत के सपने को पूरा करने के लिए मध्यम वर्ग को बड़ी राहत दी गई है। समाज के हर वर्ग को सशक्त बनाने के लिए सरकार ने बड़ी राहत दी गई है। साथ ही कर प्रक्रिया को भी आसान बनाया गया है।



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आम बजट 2023-24 को 'ऐतिहासिक' करार देते हुए प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने कहा

विकसित भारत के संकल्प को मिला आधार

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली, 1 फरवरी।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने बुधवार को आम बजट 2023-24 को 'ऐतिहासिक' करार देते हुए कहा कि 'अमृत काल' के पहले बजट ने विकसित भारत के संकल्प और गरीबों एवं मध्यम वर्ग सहित आकांक्षी समाज के सपनों को पूरा करने के लिए एक मजबूत आधार स्थापित किया है। वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने बुधवार को आम बजट पेश करते हुए व्यक्तिगत आयकर छूट सीमा बढ़ा दी, छोटी बचत पर रियायत दी और पिछले एक दशक में पूंजीगत खर्च में सबसे बड़ी वृद्धि की घोषणा की।

वित्त वर्ष 2023-24 के बजट पर अपनी पहली प्रतिक्रिया में मोदी ने कहा कि मध्यम वर्ग को सशक्त बनाने के लिए सरकार ने पिछले वर्षों में कई महत्वपूर्ण फैसले लिए हैं, जिससे जीवन की सुगमता सुनिश्चित हुई है। प्रधानमंत्री ने 2047 के सपनों को साकार करने में मध्यम वर्ग की क्षमता को रेखांकित किया। मोदी ने कर की दरों



बजट पर अपनी पहली प्रतिक्रिया में मोदी ने कहा कि मध्यम वर्ग को सशक्त बनाने के लिए सरकार ने पिछले वर्षों में कई महत्वपूर्ण फैसले लिए हैं, जिससे जीवन की सुगमता सुनिश्चित हुई है।

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि यह बजट वंचितों को वरीयता देता है, यह आज के आकांक्षी समाज, गांव, गरीब, किसान, मध्यम वर्ग, सभी के सपनों को पूरा करेगा।

में कमी के साथ-साथ प्रक्रियाओं के सरलीकरण, पारदर्शिता और गति पर भी प्रकाश डाला।

उन्होंने कहा कि मध्यम वर्ग को सशक्त बनाने के लिए हमारी सरकार ने बीते वर्षों में अनेकों निर्णय लिए हैं। जीवन जीने की सुगमता को सुनिश्चित किया है। कर की दर को कम किया है और कर प्रक्रिया को आसान बनाया है। हमेशा मध्यम वर्ग के साथ खड़ी रहने वाली हमारी सरकार ने मध्यम वर्ग को कर में बड़ी राहत दी है। संसद के दोनों सदन में वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण द्वारा आम बजट पेश किए जाने के बाद

एक वीडियो संदेश में प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि वह बजट वंचितों को वरीयता देता है, यह आज के आकांक्षी समाज, गांव, गरीब, किसान, मध्यम वर्ग, सभी के सपनों को पूरा करेगा। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि वह इस 'सर्वस्यशील' और विकसित भारत के निर्माण को गति देने वाले बजट के लिए वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण और उनकी टीम को बधाई देते हैं। मोदी ने कहा कि सरकार ऐसे मेहनत और सृजन करने वाली के लिए बजट में पहली बार योजना लेकर आई है जिससे उनके जीवन में बहुत बड़ा बदलाव आएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि गांव

से लेकर शहर तक में रहने वाली हमारी महिलाओं के जीवन स्तर में बदलाव लाने के लिए कई बड़े कदम उठाए गए हैं, उन्हें अब और ताकत के साथ आगे बढ़ाया जाएगा। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि 'महिला सम्मान बचत प्रमाणपत्र' योजना अब जन धन खातों के बाद एक विशेष बचत योजना के रूप में आई है और यह सामान्य परिवार की महिलाओं को बहुत बड़ी ताकत देने वाली है। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार ने सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी अन्न भंडारण योजना बनाई है। बजट में नए ग्रामीण सहकारिता बनाने की एक महत्वाकांक्षी योजना का भी ऐलान हुआ है। उन्होंने कहा कि आकांक्षी भारत आज सड़क, रेल, मेट्रो, बंदरगाह, जलमार्ग हर क्षेत्र में आधुनिक अवसंरचना चाहता है इसलिए 2014 की तुलना में अवसंरचना में निवेश पर 400 फीसद से ज्यादा की वृद्धि की गई है। उन्होंने कहा कि इस बार बजट में बुनियादी ढांचा विकास पर पूंजीगत व्यय 10 लाख करोड़ रुपए किया गया है और यह 'अभूतपूर्व' निवेश भारत के विकास को नई ऊर्जा और तेज गति देगा।



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बजट पर किसने क्या कहा...

मजबूत आधारशिला रखने वाला

केंद्रीय गृह व सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने बुधवार को आम बजट 2023-24 को "सर्वसमावेशी और दूरदर्शी" करार दिया और कहा कि यह आत्मनिर्भर भारत के संकल्प को और गति देगा। वित्त मंत्री द्वारा बजट पेश किए जाने के बाद शाह ने सिलसिलेवार ट्वीट में कहा, "मोदी सरकार द्वारा लाया गया बजट-2023 अमृतकाल की मजबूत आधारशिला रखने वाला बजट है।" मध्यम व वेतनभोगी वर्ग को कर में राहत देने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी का आभार जताते हुए केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री ने कहा कि इस "अभूतपूर्व बदलाव" से मध्यम वर्ग को बहुत लाभ होगा। उन्होंने युवाओं को किताबें उपलब्ध कराने के लिए नेशनल डिजिटल लाइब्रेरी स्थापित करने के निर्णय का भी स्वागत किया।



5 हजार अरब डालर की अर्थव्यवस्था बनेगा भारत

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने बुधवार को कहा कि वित्त वर्ष 2023-24 का केंद्रीय बजट किसानों, महिलाओं, हाशिए पर पड़े वर्गों एवं मध्यम वर्ग को सहायता प्रदान करने की प्राथमिकता के साथ विकास एवं कल्याण पर केंद्रित है। इसके साथ ही रक्षामंत्री सिंह ने कहा कि बजट के प्रस्तावों से देश को कुछ वर्षों के भीतर ही पांच ट्रिलियन (पांच हजार अरब) डॉलर की अर्थव्यवस्था और विश्व की शीर्ष तीन अर्थव्यवस्थाओं में से एक बनने के लक्ष्य को पूरा करने में मदद मिलेगी।



देश के विकास को समर्पित बजट

भाजपा के अध्यक्ष जे पी नड्डा ने बुधवार को संसद में पेश केंद्रीय बजट 2023-24 को "लोक कल्याणकारी" और देश के विकास के प्रति समर्पित "दूरदर्शी" बजट बताया और कहा कि यह गांव, गरीबों और किसानों को सशक्त व सक्षम बनाएगा। बजट पर अपनी प्रतिक्रिया देते हुए भाजपा अध्यक्ष ने एक बयान में कहा कि यह बजट आदिवासियों, दलितों, पिछड़ों, शोषितों, वंचितों, दिव्यांगजनों, आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़े तथा मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों को सशक्त और सक्षम बनाने वाला बजट है।



'नए भारत' की समृद्धि का संकल्प

उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ ने केंद्रीय बजट का स्वागत करते हुए कहा कि आम बजट 'नए भारत' की समृद्धि का संकल्प है और अंत्योदय का विजन है। बजट गांव, गरीब, किसान, नौजवान व महिलाओं समेत समाज के हर वर्ग को आशाओं और राष्ट्र के समग्र उत्थान की अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करने वाला है। निःसंदेह, यह बजट भारत को आर्थिक महाशक्ति बनाने की दिशा में मील का पत्थर साबित होगा।



चुनाव को ध्यान में रखकर बनाया बजट

कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे ने बुधवार को आरोप लगाया कि मोदी सरकार का बजट भाजपा पर जनता के लगातार गिरते विश्वास का सबूत है तथा इसे सिर्फ चुनाव को ध्यान में रखकर बनाया गया है। बजट में महंगाई, बेरोजगारी और किसानों के संदर्भ में कोई समाधान ढूँढने का प्रयास नहीं हुआ है। खरगे ने ट्वीट किया, "मोदी सरकार का बजट भाजपा के प्रति जनता के लगातार गिरते विश्वास का सबूत है। ये केवल चुनाव को ध्यान में रखकर बनाया गया बजट है, देश को ध्यान में रखकर नहीं। इस बजट में भयंकर बेरोजगारी का हल ढूँढने की कोई भी कोशिश नहीं की गई है।"



काम कम वायदे ज्यादा वाला बजट

कांग्रेस महासचिव जयराम रमेश ने ट्वीट किया, "पिछले साल के बजट ने कृषि, स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, मनरेगा और अनुसूचित जातियों के लिए कल्याण से जुड़े आवंटन को लेकर वाहवाही बटोरी थी। आज वास्तविकता सर्वविदित है। वास्तविक खर्च बजट के मुकाबले काफी कम है।" उन्होंने दावा किया, "यह 'हेडलाइन मैनजमेंट' के लिए मोदी की 'ओपेड' रणनीति-ओवर प्रॉमिस, अंडर डिलिवर' (वादे ज्यादा, कम काम) है।"



जन विरोधी बजट, बढ़ेगी बेरोजगारी

पश्चिम बंगाल की मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी ने केंद्रीय बजट को "जनविरोधी" करार देते हुए बुधवार को कहा कि इसमें गरीबों का ध्यान नहीं रखा गया। यह केंद्रीय बजट भविष्यवादी नहीं है, और पूरी तरह से अवसरवादी, जनविरोधी तथा गरीब विरोधी है। यह केवल एक वर्ग के लोगों को लाभान्वित करेगा। यह बजट देश की बेरोजगारी के मुद्दे को हल करने में मदद नहीं करेगा। इसे 2024 के लोकसभा चुनाव को ध्यान में रखते हुए तैयार किया गया है।"



स्तुति गान वाला बजट : मनोज झा आरक्षी लांसद मनोज झा ने कहा कि मैंने वित्त मंत्री को कई बार कहा है कि जब भी बजट बनाए तो वह अनुसूचित 39 को देखें। उन्होंने कहा कि तबबानन से आरक्षी मूंद कर स्तुति गान वाला बजट बनाते हैं तो कुछ खरीद नहीं लेना। मनोज झा ने आरोप लगाया कि वित्त मंत्री ने तंत्राभार के लिए गोल-गोल बातें कीं। उन्होंने कहा कि ये बजट लाख लोगों को लाख लाख तह से बनाया गया बजट है।

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सरकार 'सहकार से समृद्धि' के मंत्र पर चल रही है

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : केन्द्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने कहा है कि मोदी सरकार 'सहकार से समृद्धि' के मंत्र पर चल सहकारिता के माध्यम से करोड़ों लोगों के जीवन स्तर को ऊपर उठाने के लिए संकल्पित भाव से कार्य कर रही है। दूसरी तरफ प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने भी कहा कि ये बजट, सहकारिता को ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था के विकास की धुरी बनाएगा। सरकार ने को-ऑपरेटिव सेक्टर में दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी अन्न भंडारण योजना बनाई है। अपने

ट्वीट्स में अमित शाह ने कहा कि आज बजट में सहकारिता क्षेत्र को सशक्त करने के लिए किये गए अभूतपूर्व निर्णय इसी संकल्प का प्रतीक हैं। बजट में विश्व की सबसे बड़ी विकेन्द्रीकृत भंडारण क्षमता स्थापित करने की योजना से सहकारी समितियों से जुड़े किसान अपनी उपज का भंडारण कर उसे उचित समय पर बेच कर अपनी उपज का



उचित मूल्य प्राप्त कर पाएंगे। यह किसानों के आय बढ़ाने के मोदी जी के संकल्प में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका अदा करेगा। केन्द्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री ने कहा कि साथ ही अगले 5 वर्षों में सरकार हर पंचायत में नई बहुउद्देशीय सहकारी समितियों, प्राथमिक मत्स्य समितियों और डेयरी सहकारी समितियों की स्थापना की सुविधा प्रदान करेगी। इससे सहकारिता आन्दोलन को नई दिशा और गति प्राप्त होगी, जिससे यह क्षेत्र और

अधिक सशक्त होगा। श्री अमित शाह ने कहा कि 31 मार्च 2024 तक बनने वाली मैन्युफैक्चरिंग क्षेत्र की सहकारी समितियों को सिर्फ 15 फीसदी टैक्स के दायरे में रखने पर मोदी जी का आभार। नकद निकासी पर टीडीएस की अधिकतम सीमा 3 करोड़ रुपये करने, द्वारा नकद जमा व ऋण के लिए प्रति सदस्य 2 लाख रुपये की सीमा प्रदान करने का निर्णय सरहनीय है। केन्द्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री ने यह भी कहा कि सहकारी क्षेत्र के लिए एक और महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय लिया गया है।

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बजट वंचितों को वरीयता देता है

सर्वस्पर्शी और विकसित
भारत के निर्माण को गति
देने वाले

बजट में प्रधानमंत्री
विश्वकर्मा कौशल सम्मान
योजना

बजट में "डिजिटल
एग्रीकल्चर इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर"

'महिला सम्मान बचत
प्रमाणपत्र' योजना

बजट विकसित भारत की मजबूत नींव तैयार करेगा

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने बुधवार को आम बजट 2023-24 को "ऐतिहासिक" करार देते हुए कहा कि यह विकसित भारत के "विशाल संकल्प" को पूरा करने के लिए एक मजबूत नींव का निर्माण करेगा। संसद के दोनों सदनों में वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण द्वारा आम बजट पेश किए जाने के बाद एक वीडियो संदेश में प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा, "यह बजट वंचितों को वरीयता देता है, यह आज के आकांक्षी समाज, गांव, गरीब, किसान, मध्यम वर्ग, सभी के सपनों को पूरा करेगा।" प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि वह इस "सर्वस्पर्शी और

विकसित भारत के निर्माण को गति देने वाले" बजट के लिए वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण और उनकी टीम को बधाई देते हैं।

बजट में प्रधानमंत्री विश्वकर्मा कौशल सम्मान योजना (पीएम-विकास) के प्रावधान का उल्लेख करते हुए मोदी ने कहा कि सरकार ऐसे मेहनत और सृजन करने वालों के लिए बजट में पहली बार योजना लेकर आई है जिससे उनके जीवन में बहुत बड़ा बदलाव आएगा। उन्होंने कहा, "गांव से लेकर शहर तक में रहने वाली हमारी महिलाओं के जीवन स्तर में बदलाव लाने



के लिए कई बड़े कदम उठाए गए हैं, उन्हें अब और ताकत के साथ आगे बढ़ाया जाएगा।" प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि महिला स्व-सहायता समूहों के सर्वांगीण विकास के लिए बजट में की गई पहल उन्हें एक

नया आयाम देगी। उन्होंने कहा कि 'महिला सम्मान बचत प्रमाणपत्र' योजना अब जन धन खातों के बाद एक विशेष बचत योजना के रूप में आई है और यह सामान्य परिवार की महिलाओं को बहुत बड़ी ताकत देने वाली है। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि यह बजट सहकारिता को ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था के विकास की पूरी बनाएगा।

उन्होंने कहा, "सरकार ने सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी अन्न भंडारण योजना बनाई है। बजट में नए प्रादमरी सहकारिता बनाने की एक महत्वाकांक्षी योजना का भी ऐलान हुआ है।

कोआपरेटिव क्षेत्र को टैक्स में मिली राहत

■ पिछले साल के मुकाबले आवंटन में हुई है कटौती

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)।

सहकारिता क्षेत्र को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सरकार ने बुधवार को कई उपायों की घोषणा की जिसमें विनिर्माण पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने वाली नई सोसायटी पर 15 प्रतिशत की रियायती दर से कर लगाने तथा नकद निकासी पर टीडीएस के लिए तीन करोड़ रुपए की ऊपरी सीमा तय करना भी शामिल है।

सरकार ने साहकारिता मंत्रालय के लिए वित्त वर्ष 2023-24 में 1,150.38 करोड़ रुपए का कुल बजट परिव्यय निर्धारित किया है। हालांकि यह राशि वित्त वर्ष 2022-23 के संशोधित अनुमान 1,624.74 करोड़ रुपए से कम है। वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने अपने बजट भाषण में प्राथमिक कृषि सहकारी समितियों (पैक्स) और प्राथमिक सहकारी कृषि एवं ग्रामीण विकास बैंकों द्वारा नकद जमा और नकद में ऋण के लिए प्रति सदस्य दो लाख रुपए की उच्च सीमा तय करने की घोषणा की।

सरकार ने चीनी सहकारी समितियों को आकलन वर्ष 2016-17 से पहले की अवधि के लिए गन्ना किसानों को किए गए भुगतान को व्यय के रूप में दावा करने का

मौका भी दे दिया है। इससे उन्हें लगभग 10,000 करोड़ रुपए की राहत मिलने की उम्मीद है।

सीतारमण ने कहा, 'उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार अगले पांच वर्षों में व्यवस्था से बाहर रही पंचायतों और गांवों में बड़ी संख्या में बहुउद्देशीय सहकारी समितियों, प्राथमिक मत्स्य समितियों और डेयरी सहकारी समितियों की स्थापना में मदद देगी।

साहकारी क्षेत्र में विनिर्माण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अप्रैल 2023 या उसके बाद बनने वाली एक नई सहकारी समिति, जो मार्च 2024 तक विनिर्माण या उत्पादन शुरू करती है और किसी भी निर्दिष्ट प्रोत्साहन या कटौती का लाभ नहीं उठाती है, उन्हें 15 प्रतिशत की रियायती दर पर कर भुगतान का विकल्प अपनाने की अनुमति होगी। सरकार ने सहकारी समितियों के लिए टीडीएस के बिना

नकदी निकालने की सीमा भी बढ़ा दी है। वित्त मंत्री ने कहा, 'इस तरह की निकासी पर टीडीएस के बिना सहकारी समितियों को एक वर्ष में 3 करोड़ रुपए तक की नकदी निकालने में सक्षम बनाने का प्रस्ताव है।'



■ विनिर्माण पर ध्यान देने वाली समितियों पर सिर्फ 15 फीसद की रियायती दर पर लगेगा टैक्स
■ सहकारी समितियों के लिए टीडीएस के बिना नकदी निकालने की सीमा तीन करोड़ रुपए की गई
■ अगले पांच वर्षों में व्यवस्था से बाहर होने वाली पंचायतों और गांवों में बड़ी संख्या में सहकारी समितियां खुलेंगी

बजट से पूरा होगा हर वर्ग का सपना : मोदी

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने बुधवार को आम बजट 2023-24 को 'ऐतिहासिक' करार देते हुए कहा कि यह विकसित भारत के 'विराट संकल्प' को पूरा करने के लिए एक मजबूत नींव का निर्माण करेगा। साथ ही बजट से हर वर्ग का सपना पूरा होगा।

संसद के दोनों सदनों में वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण द्वारा आम बजट पेश किए जाने के बाद एक वीडियो संदेश में प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा, 'यह बजट वंचितों को वरीयता देता है, यह आज के आकांक्षी समाज, गांव, गरीब, किसान, मध्यम वर्ग, सभी के सपनों को पूरा करेगा।' प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि वह इस 'सर्वस्पर्शी' और विकसित भारत के निर्माण को गति देने वाले बजट के लिए वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण और उनकी टीम को बधाई देते हैं। बजट में प्रधानमंत्री विश्वकर्मा कौशल सम्मान योजना (पीएम-विकास) के प्रावधान का उल्लेख करते हुए मोदी ने कहा कि सरकार ऐसे मेहनत और सृजन करने वालों के लिए बजट में पहली बार योजना

लेकर आई है जिससे उनके जीवन में बहुत बड़ा बदलाव आएगा। उन्होंने कहा, गांव से लेकर शहर तक में रहने वाली हमारी महिलाओं के जीवन स्तर में बदलाव लाने के लिए कई बड़े कदम उठाए गए हैं, उन्हें अब और ताकत के साथ आगे बढ़ाया जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि 'महिला सम्मान बचत प्रमाणपत्र' योजना अब जन धन खातों के बाद एक विशेष बचत योजना के रूप में आई है और यह सामान्य परिवार की महिलाओं को बहुत बड़ी ताकत देने वाली है। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि यह बजट सहकारिता को ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था के विकास की धुरी बनाएगा। उन्होंने कहा, सरकार ने सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी अन्न भंडारण योजना बनाई है।

मोटे अनाज का वर्ष मनाए जाने का जिक्र करते हुए कहा कि यह अब घर-घर में पहुंच रहा है और पूरी दुनिया में लोकप्रिय हो रहा है तथा इसका सर्वाधिक लाभ भारत के छोटे किसानों को मिलेगा। उन्होंने कहा, 'इसकी एक नई पहचान, विशेष पहचान



आवश्यक है। इसलिए अब इस सुपर-फूड को श्री-अन्न की नई पहचान दी गई है। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि यह बजट टिकाऊ भविष्य के लिए हरित वृद्धि, हरित अर्थव्यवस्था, हरित ऊर्जा, हरित अवसंरचना और हरित नौकरी को अभूतपूर्व विस्तार देगा। उन्होंने कहा कि बजट में प्रौद्योगिकी और नई इकोनामी पर बहुत अधिक बल दिया है।

उन्होंने कहा कि इस बार बजट में बुनियादी ढांचा विकास पर पूंजीगत व्यय 10 लाख करोड़ रुपए किया गया है और यह 'अभूतपूर्व' निवेश भारत के विकास को नई ऊर्जा और तेज गति देगा। उन्होंने कहा, 'यह निवेश युवाओं के लिए रोजगार के नए अवसर पैदा करेगा। एक बहुत बड़ी आबादी को आय के नए अवसर उपलब्ध कराएगा।' प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि इस बजट में 'व्यवसाय की सुगमता' के साथ-साथ उद्योगों के लिए क्रेडिट सपोर्ट और रिफॉर्म के अभियान को आगे बढ़ाया गया है। मोदी ने कहा कि समृद्ध और विकसित भारत के सपनों को पूरा करने के लिए मध्यम मार्ग एक बहुत बड़ी ताकत है। उन्होंने कहा, 'मध्यम वर्ग को सशक्त बनाने के लिए हमारी सरकार ने बीते वर्षों में अनेकों निर्णय लिए हैं। जीवन जीने की सुगमता को सुनिश्चित किया है। कर की दर को कम किया है और कर प्रक्रिया को आसान बनाया है। हमेशा मध्यम वर्ग के साथ खड़ी रहने वाली हमारी सरकार ने मध्यम वर्ग को कर में बड़ी राहत दी है।'
