

**RAJYA SABHA**

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**\*SUPPLEMENT**

**TO**

**SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE**

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**(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)**

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**Friday, July 26, 2024/ Sravana 04, 1946 (Saka)**

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**GENERAL DISCUSSION ON**

**i. The Union Budget, 2024-25 - Contd.**

**ii. The Budget of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir,  
2024-25 - Contd.**

**SHRI SANJAY SETH:** The Finance Minister has presented a historic budget. This is her seventh budget which is a record. This budget is an important step towards fulfilling our commitment to make India a developed nation by 2047. This budget has important provisions for all sectors, focusing the interests of all sections of the country. Present Government is committed to benefit every citizen through its schemes in all areas. Today, India ranks third in the world in terms of GDP and India's share in global GDP in terms of purchasing power parity is about 10 percent. The size of India's total budget has increased three times in the last decade. Increase in capital expenditure leads to growth in both infrastructure and employment. In the last ten years, Rs 44 lakh crore has been spent on this, whereas in the ten years of the previous Government, only Rs 12.4 lakh crore were spent. This year, Rs 11.1 lakh crore has been allocated for it. Due to the Corona epidemic, the current Government has got the opportunity to work properly for only 8 years. But, even during Corona period, the country's economy was more stable than many countries. The Government has prioritized financial stability, reducing the fiscal deficit to 5.6 percent in 2023-24 and aiming to reduce it further to 4.9 percent in 2024-25. The Government's target is to make the country a 5 trillion economy with inclusive development. It took 60 years after independence for India to become a 1 trillion economy. But the journey from 1 trillion to 3.1 trillion has been completed in the last 10 years, including two years of Corona. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, 3 crore additional houses have been announced in the Union Budget 2024-25. Attention is also being paid to ration, water, electricity, health and solar energy. The Government is giving priority to green energy and infrastructure. Under the Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Yojana, the Government of India is now installing solar panels on the roofs of one crore people's houses. India's real estate sector has improved a lot in recent years with projects being completed on time. Especially after the implementation of RERA law, the security of home buyers has been ensured. This has also promoted investment in the real estate industry. India is currently ranked 36th in the global real estate transparency index.

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**\*This Synopsis is not an authoritative record of the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.**

Foreign institutional investment in the real estate sector in India has tripled between 2017 and 2022 to reach \$26.6 billion and now Modi 3.0 aims to increase the contribution of the real estate sector to GDP from 8 percent to 13 percent by 2025. Foreign investors are also surprised to see the pace of growth of India's stock market. The Sensex is touching new records every day. Our focus on the development of road infrastructure development is unwavering. Due to projects like 'Bharatmala', a network of roads is being laid in every corner of India. These projects not only facilitate traffic but are also playing an important role in economic development and social integration. Today, under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi, the sale of EV vehicles is increasing rapidly in India. If I talk about Uttar Pradesh, it will be the first state in our country where registration fees on EV and hybrid vehicles are completely waived. Record production is also taking place in India in the field of mobile phones and we are exporting to the highest number of 89 countries. I would like to mention the strength of the banking sector. In the financial year 2024, the net profit of our banking sector has crossed Rs 3 lakh crore for the first time. In the 10-year period of the NDA Government, 25 crore people have also been lifted out of poverty. Our goal is to make the youth of India job-creators. Employment and skill development schemes for 4.1 crore youth have been announced in the budget. Apart from this, we have announced an ambitious internship program, under which one crore youth will get opportunities in the top 500 companies in the next five years. In the field of income tax also, provisions have been made to reduce direct taxes and resolve pending cases in dispute. This will benefit crores of people and the money stuck in dispute will also be released. Being a safe Uttar Pradesh has had a direct impact on our economy. This year our economy has grown by 8% compared to last year. We have also taken a big leap in terms of industries.

**DR. FAUZIA KHAN:** Every rupee that the Government spends comes from the pocket of every citizen. Therefore, budget should not become political tools, no matter what the political compulsions are. Maharashtra is the highest revenue giving State so, it does not deserve to be neglected. About 40 tehsils in 19 districts are facing acute drought conditions. In Amravati, where 557 farmers have committed suicide in the last 6 months, the entire Marathwada-Vidarbha department is given only Rs 600 crore for irrigation, for water! The Government needs to grant some funds under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana. This fund can alleviate the despair of lakhs of farmer brothers and bring light into the lives of lakhs of families. There is a Vigilance Commission in the country, which exists. This commission deserves to have much more sharper teeth than the ED and the CBI. If it were so, then bridge collapses, cracks in roads, falling roofs, railway accidents, waterlogging, all this would stop being seen. Legal corruption should be stopped.

**SHRI ARUN SINGH:** This budget is dedicated to the welfare of our poor, there are many things in it for the upliftment of farmers and commitment towards women empowerment is also visible in this budget. There is also simplification in this budget. The total expenditure in this budget is Rs. 48 lakh, 21 thousand crores. Whereas during the time of UPA it was Rs. 16 lakh, 65 thousand crores. During the UPA regime, there was red tapism, there was policy paralysis and there were many scams. At that time, the country was among the top five fragile economies of the world. The country's growth rate was the lowest, inflation was the highest in the country, the country's external debt was very high and the country's financial position was weak. But the result of corruption-free governance under the leadership of the Honorable Prime Minister is that we have presented such a big public welfare budget in the House. The country has become the fifth largest economy of the world. All the important organizations of the world are saying that in 2027, the country

will become the third largest economy of the world. Today, the country's capital expenditure is Rs 11 thousand crore. As a result of that, the network of roads is spreading all around the country, the number of airports has doubled, different type of high-speed trains are running and many infrastructural works are being done.

This government is directly transferring amount to the tune of 60 thousand crore rupees to the farmers' accounts every year. As of now, four crore houses have been built and the announcement has been made to build three crores more houses. In addition to this, a provision has been made in the budget to build one lakh crore houses in urban areas. A provision of Rs one lakh forty-eight thousand crores has been made for the youth for their employment, self-employment, and to provide them with the opportunity to do many kinds of jobs. The youth of the country is praising the hon'ble Prime Minister for this. This government is always committed to women empowerment. A provision of three lakh crore rupees has been made for women empowerment through various schemes. Apart from this, extensive allocation has also been made for rural development and proper arrangement of drinking water. Current account deficit is an indicator of the financial condition of the country. This means how much we are importing and exporting. This shows the prosperity of the country and the capacity of the country's industry. Today in our time this deficit is less than one percent. During Modi ji's regime, under the 'Make in India' campaign, the manufacturing of mobile phones started in India and we have emerged as an exporter instead of an importer. In the case of other electronic products also, we have reached the level of an exporter from an importer. Similarly, we have made remarkable progress in the field of defence products. In the past, many scams and cases of brokerage were reported in the import of defence products. But, now we are moving towards becoming self-reliant in the defence sector and a major exporter. During the last 10 years, inflation has been controlled and it has been almost halved to around 4 percent. Today, in the era of global recession, according to the estimates of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, India is the only major economy which is progressing well and is a ray of hope for the entire world. Foreign direct investment in the country has increased extensively and India ranks fourth in terms of foreign direct investment and foreign exchange reserves. Phone banking transactions in the country have set new global records and due to better economic management and the new bankruptcy law, there has been a massive decline in the level of bad debts. Due to the transparent rules and clear policy of the Government, the growth rate of the country's economy has been between 7 to 8 percent or even above. The interests of the middle class have been taken care of in the country's budget. The number of income tax payers has increased almost three times. The domestic investment has been encouraged in the country and about 15 crores of demat accounts have been opened. Today's India is committed to progress at an unprecedented pace.

*Discussion not concluded.*

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## SPECIAL MENTIONS

### 1. Concern over Challenges faced by Children of Women Prisoners

**DR. FAUZIA KHAN:** As of 31 December 2022, there are 1,537 women in our country who are serving their sentence in various jails along with their 1,764 children. Due to the inhuman conditions of the jail, the mental and physical health of women and their children is adversely affected. Despite the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the childcare centers have been built inside the jail instead of outside the jail. Despite the

comprehensive provisions of The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, the children up to the age of 6 years are not allowed to meet their mothers and guardians on regular basis. Prison Statistics India should collect detailed data on prisoners' children, and Child Welfare Committees must ensure their proper care and medical provision. Prisons must provide a suitable environment for children, with amenities like clothing, healthy meals and health facilities. I request that the Government should establish an independent department focused on crime prevention, probation, and rehabilitation of prisoners and their children, staffed by counselors, social workers, and Probation and Welfare Officers.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

## **2. Demand for Connecting Shahjahanpur NH 24 to Saurikh via Jalalabad, Farrukhabad, Chhibramau through Four-lane to Agra Expressway.**

**SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:** By connecting Shahjahanpur NH24 to Saurikh via Jalalabad, Farrukhabad, Chhibramau through four lanes to Agra Expressway, the distance between Shahjahanpur and Agra will be reduced to 3 hours, which will give commercial momentum to this area and NH24 will become the main route for the general public to travel from Agra Expressway to Shahjahanpur. Shahjahanpur and Agra are commercial cities and tourist centers of Uttar Pradesh, and it is very important to have a smooth route between the two cities. I request the hon'ble Minister for Road Transport to give approval to connect the two cities.

## **3. Demand to give Status of Bhangaram Devi Fair as National Fair**

**SHRIMATI PHULO DEVI NETAM:** The fair of Bhangaram Devi is held in Keshkal, Kondagaon district of Bastar and it is very unique. This fair is also the center of faith of the tribals, especially the Gond tribe. Just as a judge hears a case and gives justice, in the same way, all the gods and goddesses appear in the court of Bhangaram Devi in the fair and details of the work done throughout the year are taken from them. Lakhs of people come to the fair, but due to lack of development of the local area, they have to face problems. I request the government to give the status of National Fair to 'Bhangaram Devi Fair' and make a separate action plan for the development of the area.

*(Dr. John Brittas, Dr. Fauzia Khan, Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham and Shri Haris Beeran associated.)*

## **4. Demand for Conferring Bharat Ratna on Pandit Lakhmi Chand**

**SHRI KRISHAN LAL PANWAR:** Pandit Lakhmi Chand, who is known as the "Surya-Kavi" and referred to as the "Shakespeare of Haryana", has left an indelible mark on the cultural and literary heritage of North India, especially through his contributions to Haryanvi ragini and song. Pandit Lakhmichand's works are deeply connected with the ethos and traditions of Haryana. The poetic brilliance and cultural depth of his works have not only enriched Haryanvi literature but also ensured its preservation and propagation for generations. I humbly request the Government to honour Pandit Lakhmichand with India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna.

## **5. Demand to Protect Traditional Silk Handloom Weavers in the Country particularly in Varanasi and Bhagalpur**

**SHRI A.D. SINGH:** Traditional silk handloom weavers in the country, particularly in eastern UP and Bihar are facing immense difficulties in keeping their heritage alive. In Varanasi and Bhagalpur, the population of weavers community has dwindled drastically. The business from the place has also come down. The Varanasi and Bhagalpur silk is a renowned product in the world and many weavers have got the Government's

Geographical Indication tag. Banarasi and Bhagalpur Silk sarees boast a rich heritage that dates back to centuries. In view of the rising cost of the yarn and low demand, the handloom silk industry is dying. The traditional weavers in many places are opting for some other occupation for their livelihood. The Ministry's help through the National Handloom Development Programme is not enough to sustain the handloom silk industry. These weavers need incentives, subsidies and continuous work. I urge upon the Government to take necessary action.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

#### **6. Concern over Farming losing to be a Source of Subsistence**

**SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:** In our country farming is facing a crisis of sustainability and viability. Over recent decades, millions of farmers have been leaving the sector annually. This shift is driven by several interlinked factors that threaten the economic, social and environmental fabric of Indian agriculture. Socially, farmer distress is evident in high rates of indebtedness and suicides. Despite Government interventions like subsidies and loan waivers, these measures have often fallen short of addressing the systemic issues driving farmer hardships. Farmers are now facing the ever-increasing cost of harvesting inputs like good quality of seeds, fertilisers etc. In cases of crop damages due to vagaries of nature, compensation given to farmers is negligible in comparison to the input costs incurred on cultivation of crops. To address these complex challenges, comprehensive reforms are essential. This includes strengthening MSPs, ensuring fair market access, promoting sustainable farming practices like organic farming and crop diversification etc. I urge that Government policies must focus on revitalizing agriculture as a sustainable and lucrative livelihood option. By supporting smallholder farmers, promoting diversified crops, and enhancing market transparency, we can reclaim our agricultural heritage. I urge the Government to take concrete measures in this regard.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

#### **7. Demand to increase Female Labour Force Participation in Rural and Urban Areas**

**SHRIMATI SANGEETA YADAV:** The labour force participation rate of women in our country is still alarmingly low, which not only hinders women empowerment but also adversely affects family income and well-being. Including women in the labour force in rural areas will not only improve the economic condition of their families but will also strengthen their position in society. For this, it is necessary that the Government further encourage women-centric policies and programmes like development training, women entrepreneurship, promote skills and create safe and conducive workplaces. It is also necessary to conduct financial and digital literacy programmes for women so that they can participate in economic activities independently and with confidence. Therefore, I request the Government to take concrete and effective steps in this direction.

*(Dr. Fauzia Khan and Dr. John Brittas associated.)*

**P. C. MODY,**  
*Secretary-General.*

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