



FINER

News & Views



2016-17

BUDGET



Our motto is to serve you the best



**SUPER
SHEET**



**CORRUGATED & PLAIN FIBRE CEMENT SHEETS
AND GALVANISED STEEL SHEETS & COILS**



Assam Roofing Limited

BONDA, NARANGI, GUWAHATI - 781 026

Ph: (0361) 2640213/243/678, 2641313

Fax : (0361) 2640226

Visit us : www.assamroof.com

E - mail: info@assamroof.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



09

KEY FEATURES OF BUDGET 2016-17



18

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RAILWAY BUDGET 2016-17



FINER ACTIVITIES

03

ASSAM CHIEF MINISTER TARUN GOGOI PRESENTS
RS 33,687.43 CR INTERIM BUDGET

24

RS. 1,090 CR DEFICIT BUDGET FOR
MEGHALAYA

25

RS 747CR DEFICIT BUDGET IN
MANIPUR

26

ARUNACHAL PRADESH
CHIEF MINISTER KALIKHO PUL PRESENTS
RS. 367.58 CRORE DEFICIT BUDGET

27

NAGALAND CHIEF MINISTER TR ZELIANG PRESENTS
BUDGET FOR 2016-17

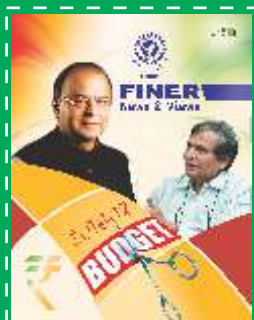
28

MIZORAM Finance Minister presents
regular budget of over Rs 8000 crore

29

RS.15, 246.52 CRORE TAX-FREE
DEFICIT BUDGET IN TRIPURA

30



Rajeev Agarwal
Editor
FINER News & Views

Rajeev Agarwal
Director, FINER



P. J. Baruah
Advisor
FINER News & Views

P. J. Baruah
Executive Editor
The Assam Tribune



Indrani Chaudhury
Member
FINER News & Views

Indrani Chaudhury
Dy. Director General
FINER

Assisted by :
FINER Secretariat

Published by :
FEDERATION OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE OF
NORTH EASTERN REGION



Chairman Message

Dear Readers,

Notwithstanding the impact of the 7th Pay commission, one rank one pension (OROP) outgo and global economic slow down, Finance Minister must be given credit for presenting an all inclusive (SABKA BUDGET) balanced and growth oriented Budget with a focus on Rural and Agriculture sector on the one hand and infrastructure on the other.

The FM appears to go all out, without diluting fiscal prudence in ensuring 100% rural electrification; connecting all the villages through Road connectivity and improving the vital infrastructure needs of the Country.

Tax reforms has been one of the priorities in the Budget, and a number of Tax reforms measures for unearthing black money and concealed income have been initiated. Not only various economic parameters have been achieved, the current fiscal deficit (3.9%) for 2016-17 at 3.5%, revenue deficit at 2.5%, the FM has found resources for the unprecedented allocation for Rural economic upliftment at 2.87 Lacs cr with a quantum jump of 228%.

The FM has rightly resisted populist measures and moved towards consolidation by way of innovative thought process in the Budget making.

The remarkable performance of coal and power sector augurs well. The issue before the Real estate has also been addressed by giving sops particularly to those providing affordable housing needs.

As the outlay of rural sector has been sustainably enhanced and the economy of North East States is largely rural centric economy, we can expect quantum jump in resource allotments to North East States for economic development.

As a whole the Budget is a good one based on realistic projections, keeping in mind the need of all sectors of the society in general and particularly the rural, farming sector and the people living below the poverty line.

Keeping in view the various odds; revenue growth in 2015-16 below the target and impact of the 7th Pay Commission burden looming large, Railway Budget 2016-17, is an attempt to put the Railways back on track, with focus on long term measures. Though there is no clarity with regards to projected generation of additional non tariff revenue, fortunately there are no negatives and populist measure in the Railway Budget.

As the long term and mid term measures which were put in place in the last Railway Budget are kept intact, its quite challenging for the Railway Minister to come out with a reasonably good budget. Focus on Rail connectivity in the North East Region is reiterated, which would be welcomed by the people of the Region. Announcement of 44 new projects and increased outlays for improving the Infrastructure augur well not only for the Railways but also for the Indian Economy as well.

While the Union Budget & Railway Budget 2016-17 are good on intent, challenges lies ahead in implementation.

With regards,

R.S. Joshi
Chairman



LIVE VIEWING OF UNION BUDGET 2016-17

Notwithstanding the impact of the 7th Pay commission, one rank one pension outgo and global economic slow down, Finance Minister must be given credit for presenting a all inclusive (SABKA BUDGET) balanced and growth oriented Budget with a focus on Rural and Agriculture sector on the one hand and infrastructure on the other hand.

The FM appears to go all out, without diluting fiscal prudence in ensuring 100% rural electrification; connecting all the villages through Road connectivity and improving the vital infrastructure needs of the Country.

Tax reforms has been one of the priorities in the Budget, waived by number of Tax reforms measures for unearthing black money and concealed income have been initiated. Not only various economic parameters have been achieved, the current fiscal deficit (3.9%) for 2016-17 at 3.5%, revenue deficit at 2.5%, the FM has found resources

for the unprecedented allocation for Rural economic upliftment at 2.87 cr with a quantum jump of 228%.

The FM has rightly resisted populist measures and move towards consolidation by way of innovative thought process in the Budget making.

The remarkable performance of call and power sector augurs well. The issue before the Real estate has also assuaged by giving sops particularly to those providing affordable housing measures.

As the outlay of rural sector has been sustainably enhanced and the economy of North East States is largely rural economy, we can expect quantum jump in resource allotments to North East States for economic development.

As a whole the Budget is good one based on realistic projection, keeping in mind the need of all sector of the society in general and particularly the rural, farming sector and the people living below the poverty level.

RAILWAY BUDGET 2016-17 : FINER'S REACTION

Keeping in view the various odds; revenue growth in 2015-16 below the target and set up of the 7th Pay Committee burden looming large, Railway Budget 2016-17, is an attempt to put the Railways back on track, with focus on long term measures. Though there is no clarity with regards to projected generation of additional non tariff revenue, fortunately there are no negatives and populist measure in the Budget.

As the long term and mid term which was put in place in his last budget, are kept intact, its quite challenging for the Railway Minister to come out with a reasonably good budget. Focus on Rail connectivity in the North East Region is reiterated, which would be welcomed by the people of the Region. Announcement of 44 new projects increased outlays for improving the Infrastructure augur well not only for the Railways but also for the Indian Economy as well.

While the Railway Budget 2016-17 is a good on intent, challenges lies ahead in its implementation.



MEETING ON TAX AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, 2016

ORGANIZED BY
THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF INCOME TAX, NER

Held on 11th March, 2016 at Guwahati

NE bets big on Budget, hopes for revival of industrial policy

Trade Body Wants Time-Bound Plan For Region's Growth

Nareish.Mitra@timesgroup.com

Guwahati: Industry bodies in the northeast have high expectations from this year's Budget, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi having referred to the region as Ashtalakshmi.

The term Ashtalakshmi ('eight Lakshmis'), referring to eight manifestations of the goddess of wealth, was used by Modi to refer to the eight

PROGRESS PLAN

northeastern states. Ministers in Modi's government, during their visits to the region, have also said the region's development and progress were high on the NDA government's agenda.

Industry representatives said they wanted a concrete, time-bound and sustainable action plan for the region's growth. Among other demands, restoration of the now-suspended North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007, is high on the list of expecta-

AID FOR ASHTALAKSHMI?



> Restoration of North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007, is high on the list of expectations

> Industry bodies want the NEIIPP to be restored with five years' expansion period to make up for missed opportunities

> The NE requires Rs 1,00,000 crore to tap potential in connectivity, infrastructure, power, agriculture, tourism, health and education, among other sectors

Our expectations are high as this government has spelt out many development schemes for the northeast. Now, we want to see if the Centre's development thrust is backed by sufficient budgetary allocation

RS JOSHI, FINER CHAIRMAN

tions. They wanted the NEIIPP to be restored with five years' expansion period to make up for missed opportunities.

The Union Budget for 2016-17 will be presented by finance minister Arun Jaitley on Monday.

"Our expectations are high as this government has spelt out many development schemes for the northeast. Now, we want to see if the Centre's development thrust

is backed by sufficient budgetary allocation and implemented on the ground. We will be happy if the Centre restores NEIIPP, 2007," said chairman of Federation of Industry and Commerce of North Eastern Region (FINER) RS Joshi.

The FINER, one of the leading industry bodies of the region, has been spearheading a campaign for the restoration of NEIIPP, 2007.

In December 2014, the Centre suspended new registration under NEIIPP, 2007, triggering panic among prospective investors. Last year, it issued a notification on availing of excise duty exemption under NEIIPP, raising hopes among industry bodies that the policy would be revived.

Last month, Union minister of state for commerce and industry Nirmala Sitharaman said a new industry promotion scheme for the northeast was being considered by the Union finance ministry. She said the NEIIPP was an open-ended scheme with no limit on the number of proposals to be accepted from industries and had resulted in uneven sectoral growth.

Last month, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry estimated that the northeast would require an investment of Rs 1,00,000 crore to tap potential in connectivity, infrastructure, power, agriculture, tourism, health and education, among others.

The Times of India : 25 Feb, 2016

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2016

CITY

Political parties unhappy, industry bodies upbeat

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Feb 25: Political parties and non-political outfits in the State came out strongly against the Railway Budget presented in Parliament today and accused the NDA regime in the Centre of once again ignoring the needs and expectations of Assam and the North Eastern region.

"There is nothing specific for the North East in the Railway Budget presented by Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu. Only cosmetic announcements have been made in the Budget," Assam Rail Passengers' Association (ARPA) general secretary Dipankar Sharma said.

He said that whatever investments for projects have been announced is mostly for ongoing projects.

"When railway infrastructure and services in the region are in such pathetic state, we had expected much more in the Budget. But our hopes have been belied. No new trains have been announced. The Rs 1,789-crore alternative broad gauge line from New Bongaigaon to Agartala has been pending before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for years. There is no mention about the long-standing demand to bifurcate the North Eastern Railway (NER) zone by removing the areas falling in West Bengal and Bihar from it and making the NER responsible only for the North Eastern states," Sharma said.

Regarding the Railway Minister's decision not to increase passenger fares and freight, Sharma said, "That is no doubt a relief but maybe it has been done only because of the forthcoming Assembly polls in some states. They can hike the rates once the polls are over."

Sharma said that even as the government is talking about bullet trains and other initiatives in other parts of the country, nothing concrete has been announced for double-tracking of rail lines.

"How long will the government continue only surveys for double-tracking? When will it become a reality? What about a second railway bridge at Saraighat or expansion of local and suburban services in Guwahati or another passenger terminal in New Guwahati? These are old demands of the people of the region. And yet there is no mention of such projects in the Budget," he said.

NF Railway Mazdoor Union said the Budget has belied the hope of the people of Assam and North Eastern states.

"It is over-packed with progress for the western sector of the country which is already developed, and has grossly deprived the North Eastern region despite all assurances of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his whole team... NF Railway Mazdoor Union expresses its strong resentment over the deprivation perpetrated in the al-

ready deprived region," Union general secretary Rajul Dasgupta said. Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) named the Budget as a "disappointment" for the people of Assam. APCC president Anjan Dutta said that people of the State had high expectations from the Railway Budget but their hopes have been belied.

"There is nothing in the Budget specifically for development of the rail infrastructure in Assam. The government, which is talking of bullet trains, has not announced anything new for Assam. They (BJP) are only trying to take credit for the Lumding-Silchar broad gauge project which was started by the UPA government," Dutta said.

He added, "Whatever the BJP leaders from Assam may say, today's Rail Budget has proved that for the BJP-led government is a government which merely gives slogans and try to sell dreams."

Communist Party of India (Marxist) termed the Railway Budget as an attempt by the Central government to open the doors to further privatisation of the public services. CPI(M) Assam State Committee secretary Deben Bhattacharya said the Budget has "poured cold water on the hopes of the people of Assam."

"There is no focus on double-tracking, electrification, second rail

bridge at Saraighat, improvement of passenger amenities, development of facilities at railway station, introduction of DEMU and other things which are longstanding demands of the people of Assam," he said.

Assam Jatiyatabadi Yuba Chatra Parishad (AJYCP) termed the Budget as betrayal of Assam and burnt copies of the document in the city. The outfit said that the Budget has continued with the tradition of depriving Assam and the North East and no effort has been made to address the needs of the region.

However, industry bodies have welcomed the Budget.

Ranjit Bartha, Chairman FIC-NE North East Advisory Council, said, "It is a pragmatic budget and we compliment the initiatives towards

improving the quality of travel experience, and employment generation apart from the initiatives for better management of water, waste and energy efficiency. The continued initiatives towards improving connectivity in the North East will be critical for development of the region. The decision to work with State Governments to develop tourist trains is also welcome and I hope the states in the region, particularly Assam, will be able to take advantage of this."

He added, "However, we would have liked to hear announcement of

a firm timeline for implementation of key projects like connectivity to all state capitals, the Jiribam-Imphal-Moreh railway line and the proposed trans-Asian railway line."

FINER Chairman RS Joshi said "while the Railway Budget 2016-17 is a good on intent, challenges lie ahead in its implementation."

"Keeping in view the various odds, revenue growth in 2015-16 below the target and set-up of the 7th Pay Commission burden looming large, the Railway Budget 2016-17 is an attempt to put the Railways back on track, with focus on long-term measures. Though there is no clarity with regard to projected generation of additional non-tariff revenue, fortunately there are no negatives and populist measures in the Budget," he said.

Joshi added, "As the long-term and mid-term measures put in place in his last Budget are kept intact, it is quite challenging for the Railway Minister to come out with a reasonably good Budget. Focus on rail connectivity in the North East is rewarded which would be welcomed by the people of the region. The announcement of 44 new projects increased outlays for improving the infrastructure augurs well not only for the Railways but also for the Indian economy."

NFR General Manager HK Jaggi said the "Budget has a positive outcome for the zone"

The Assam Tribune : 26 Feb, 2016

Trade bodies welcome
connectivity promise
Say Rail Links Crucial For Region

Karishkumar@mcgrou.com

"The East Budgets will be an attempt to put the rail ways back on track, with a focus on long-term maintenance. Though there is uncertainty on projected generation of additional non-fuel revenue, fortunately there are no negatives and populist measures will be used," Fiber chairman RSJain said.

It's a very positive budget for the AEC," says an AEC spokesman. "It's a very positive budget for the AEC."

Chairman of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)'s northeast advisory committee. Banerjee said that

There was need for such a system as the number of trains and railway traffic in the region have increased. The Gandhinagar railway station in Kumbhara Junction is under immediate programme to accommodate train on its limitations. The terminal at Gandhinagar will significantly ease railway congestion, Jagan said.

The SPR officials said the railway was currently engaged in multiple projects to improve connectivity in the region. By 2020, all eight stations of the region will be enhanced, he added.

The Federation of Industries and Commerce of North East England's head-

Though there is nothing specific for the people of the northeast, there are certain points which are good. The enhancement of a ticketing system is a major positive for travellers like me

Pradip Chakrabarti WIPRO



The Budget puts the railway back on track, with a focus on long-term challenges. Though there is no clarity with regards to projected generation of additional non-tariff revenue, fortunately there are no negatives

and product measures
its model from Oulson

Keith Bartholomew, Chairman of FTA.

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL



The chairman for railway projects for the region is high. We have got a new world-class railway terminal at Agartala on the north bank of the Brahmaputra. The terminal will also have a train maintenance facility

THE JOURNAL OF THE

The Times of India
26 Feb. 2016

কার্যকরীকরণ প্রত্যাহন আছে : কাইনাব

অসহন যেন বাঙালী লিপিকর্মে ব্যবহৃত বর্ণমালা এখন হালি হয়েছে। অসহনকে কাজে লাগিয়ে বুলি কোটা প্রভৃতি হালি এই ক্ষেত্রে ব্যর্থ হিশ সেবা গোটা নই। অসহন ব্যবহৃত কোটা লেখকের শিল্প আর কলিতা থেকে অনেকটা উদ্ধারিত। অসহনকে লক্ষ্যে উদ্দেশ্য ভাল-বলি কার্যকরীকরণ প্রত্যাহন আছে।

Dainik Assam
28 Feb. 2016

Assam political parties, barring BJP, disappointed; trade bodies hail focus on connectivity

NE feels bypassed by rail budget

PANKAJ SARMA AND
SALIL BOHA

Guwahati, Feb. 25: All major political parties of Assam, barring the BJP, unanimously trashed the Union railway budget, which proposed a world-class station and coach repair facilities and a project worth Rs 517cr proposed at Agartala on the north bank, about 20km from Guwahati.

All Northeast state capitals to be brought under broad gauge network by 2020.

Total outlay for projects under NE Railway in 2016-17 is Rs 8340cr. The average increase in outlay during 2014-2018 over 2009-13 is 151%.

Electrification from Kalbar to Bongaigaon likely to be completed by March 2018.

Rs 550cr sanctioned to RPF for Bioghar bridge works in a year.

World's first bi-vacuum level developed by the Indian Railways in Dibrugarh-Siliguri Express.

The Assam state committee of the CPN and the Students' Federation of India also will be down with the latter saying the reason to launch is an unmet budget.

BJP vice-president Vinay Kumar Saxena, however, welcomed the budget.

GAINS & LOSSES



Guwahati railway station. Photo by IIT Patna

WHAT NORTHEAST GOT

A world class railway station with integrated coach maintenance facilities and a project worth Rs 517cr proposed at Agartala on the north bank, about 20km from Guwahati.

All Northeast state capitals to be brought under broad gauge network by 2020.

Total outlay for projects under NE Railway in 2016-17 is Rs 8340cr. The average increase in outlay during 2014-2018 over 2009-13 is 151%.

Electrification from Kalbar to Bongaigaon likely to be completed by March 2018.

Rs 550cr sanctioned to RPF for Bioghar bridge works in a year.

World's first bi-vacuum level developed by the Indian Railways in Dibrugarh-Siliguri Express.

WHAT ASSAM WANTED

Double tracking of railway line from Guwahati to Tezpur.

Electrification of railway track in the state.

Introduction of super-fast daily express trains with limited stops outside Assam from Dibrugarh-Guwahati to Mumbai-Pune in the west.

Yellow Chennai-Bangalore-Mysore-Vijayawada in the south and Amritsar-Jammu in the north.

A Shatabdi Express from Silchar to Guwahati and a Rajdhani Express from Silchar to New Delhi.

A railway line from Silchar to Bongaigaon via Tezpur with a railway bridge over Brahmaputra.

A railway bridge parallel to straight bridge in Guwahati.

Concessional fare for poor students of Assam travelling to Delhi and other metros for higher studies.

Trade chambers in the Northeast, Federation of Industry and Commerce of Northeastern Region (FNEICR) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) welcomed the budget.

The NE Railway, however, would have been welcome. The NE Railway, however, would have been welcome. The NE Railway, however, would have been welcome.

It has been the highest so far. Moreover, the Union railway minister has proposed a world-class railway station at Agartala on the north bank with integrated coach maintenance facilities. Work on the Rs 517-cr project will start early next year and will be completed by 2020.

The Telegraph : 26 Feb. 2016

KEY FEATURES OF BUDGET 2016-17

INTRODUCTION

- ❖ Growth of Economy accelerated to 7.6% in 2015-16.
- ❖ India hailed as a 'bright spot' amidst a slowing global economy by IMF.
- ❖ Robust growth achieved despite very unfavourable global conditions and two consecutive years shortfall in monsoon by 13%
- ❖ Foreign exchange reserves touched highest ever level of about 350 billion US dollars.
- ❖ Despite increased devolution to States by 55% as a result of the 14th Finance Commission award, plan expenditure increased at RE stage in 2015-16 in contrast to earlier years.

CHALLENGES IN 2016-17

- ❖ Risks of further global slowdown and turbulence.
- ❖ Additional fiscal burden due to 7th Central Pay Commission recommendations and OROP.

ROADMAP & PRIORITIES

- ❖ 'Transform India' to have a significant impact on economy and lives of people.

Government to focus on -

- Ensuring macro-economic stability and prudent fiscal management.
- boosting on domestic demand
- continuing with the pace of economic reforms and policy initiatives to change the lives of our people for the better.
- ❖ Focus on enhancing expenditure in priority areas of - farm and rural sector, social sector, infrastructure sector employment generation and recapitalisation of the banks.
- ❖ Focus on Vulnerable sections through:
 - Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
 - New health insurance scheme to protect against hospitalisation expenditure
 - Facility of cooking gas connection for BPL families
- ❖ Continue with the ongoing reform programme and ensure passage of the Goods and Service Tax bill and Insolvency and Bankruptcy law
- ❖ Undertake important reforms by:
 - Giving a statutory backing to AADHAR platform to ensure benefits reach the deserving.
 - Freeing the transport sector from constraints and restrictions
 - Incentivising gas discovery and exploration by providing calibrated marketing freedom
 - Enactment of a comprehensive law to deal with resolution of financial firms
 - Provide legal framework for dispute resolution and re-negotiations in PPP projects and public utility contracts
 - undertake important banking sector reforms and public listing of general insurance companies undertake significant changes in FDI policy.



AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' WELFARE

- ❖ Allocation for Agriculture and Farmers' welfare is Rs. 35,984 crore
- ❖ 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana' to be implemented in mission mode. 28.5 lakh hectares will be brought under irrigation.
- ❖ Implementation of 89 irrigation projects under AIBP, which are languishing for a long time, will be fast tracked
- ❖ A dedicated Long Term Irrigation Fund will be created in NABARD with an initial corpus of about Rs. 20,000 crore
- ❖ Programme for sustainable management of ground water resources with an estimated cost of Rs. 6,000 crore will be implemented through multilateral funding
- ❖ 5 lakh farm ponds and dug wells in rain fed areas and 10 lakh compost pits for production of organic manure will be taken up under MGNREGA
- ❖ Soil Health Card scheme will cover all 14 crore farm holdings by March 2017.
- ❖ 2,000 model retail outlets of Fertilizer companies will be provided with soil and seed testing facilities during the next three years
- ❖ Promote organic farming through '*Parmparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana*' and '*Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region*'.
- ❖ Unified Agricultural Marketing ePlatform to provide a common emarket platform for wholesale markets
- ❖ Allocation under *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana* increased to Rs. 19,000 crore. Will connect remaining 65,000 eligible habitations by 2019.
- ❖ To reduce the burden of loan repayment on farmers, a provision of Rs. 15,000 crore has been made in the BE 2016-17 towards interest subvention
- ❖ Allocation under Prime Minister Fasal Bima Yojana Rs. 5,500 crore.
- ❖ Rs. 850 crore for four dairying projects - '*Pashudhan Sanjivani*', '*Nakul Swasthya Patra*', '*E-Pashudhan Haat*' and National Genomic Centre for indigenous breeds

RURAL SECTOR

- ❖ Allocation for rural sector - Rs. 87,765 crore.
- ❖ Rs. 2.87 lakh crore will be given as Grant in Aid to Gram Panchayats and Municipalities as per the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission
- ❖ Every block under drought and rural distress will be taken up as an intensive Block under the *Deen DayalAntyodaya Mission*
- ❖ A sum of Rs. 38,500 crore allocated for

MGNREGS.

- ❖ 300 Rurban Clusters will be developed under the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission
- ❖ 100% village electrification by 1st May, 2018.
- ❖ District Level Committees under Chairmanship of senior most Lok Sabha MP from the district for monitoring and implementation of designated Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.
- ❖ Priority allocation from Centrally Sponsored Schemes to be made to reward villages that have become free from open defecation.
- ❖ A new Digital Literacy Mission Scheme for rural India to cover around 6 crore additional household within the next 3 years.
- ❖ National Land Record Modernisation Programme has been revamped.
- ❖ New scheme *Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan* proposed with allocation of Rs. 655 crore.

SOCIAL SECTOR INCLUDING HEALTH CARE

- ❖ Allocation for social sector including education and health care Rs. 1,51,581 crore.
- ❖ Rs. 2,000 crore allocated for initial cost of providing LPG connections to BPL families.
- ❖ New health protection scheme will provide health cover up to Rs. One lakh per family. For senior citizens an additional top-up package up to Rs. 30,000 will be provided.
- ❖ 3,000 Stores under Prime Minister's *Jan Aushadhi Yojana* will be opened during 2016-17.
- ❖ '*National Dialysis Services Programme*' to be started under National Health Mission through PPP mode
- ❖ "*Stand Up India Scheme*" to facilitate at least two projects per bank branch. This will benefit at least 2.5 lakh entrepreneurs.
- ❖ National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub to be set up in partnership with industry associations
- ❖ Allocation of Rs. 100 crore each for celebrating the Birth Centenary of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay and the 350th Birth Anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh.



EDUCATION, SKILLS AND JOB CREATION

- ❖ 62 new *Navodaya Vidyalayas* will be opened
- ❖ *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* to increasing focus on quality of education
- ❖ Regulatory architecture to be provided to ten public and ten private institutions to emerge as world-class Teaching and Research Institutions
- ❖ Higher Education Financing Agency to be set-up with initial capital base of Rs. 1000 Crores
- ❖ Digital Depository for School Leaving Certificates, College Degrees, Academic Awards and Mark sheets to be set-up.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

- ❖ Allocation for skill development Rs. 1804. Crore.
- ✦ 1500 Multi Skill Training Institutes to be set-up.
- ❖ National Board for Skill Development Certification to be setup in partnership with the industry and academia
- ❖ Entrepreneurship Education and Training through Massive Open Online Courses

JOB CREATION

- ❖ Govt will pay contribution of 8.33% for of all new employees enrolling in EPFO for the first three years of their employment. Budget provision of Rs. 1000 crore for this scheme.
- ❖ Deduction under Section 80JJAA of the Income Tax Act will be available to all assesses who are subject to statutory audit under the Act
- ❖ 100 Model Career Centres to operational by the end of 2016-17 under National Career Service.
- ❖ Model Shops and Establishments Bill to be circulated to States.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND INVESTMENT

- ❖ Total investment in the road sector, including PMGSY allocation, would be Rs. 97,000 crore during 2016-17.
- ❖ India's highest ever kilometres of new highways were awarded in 2015. To approve nearly 10,000 kms of National Highways in 2016-17.
- ❖ Allocation of Rs. 55,000 crore in the Budget for Roads. Additional Rs. 15,000 crore to be raised by NHAI through bonds.
- ❖ Total outlay for infrastructure - Rs. 2,21,246 crore.
- ❖ Amendments to be made in Motor Vehicles Act to open up the road transport sector in the passenger segment
- ❖ Action plan for revival of unserved and

underserved airports to be drawn up in partnership with State Governments.

- ❖ To provide calibrated marketing freedom in order to incentivise gas production from deep-water, ultra deep-water and high pressure-high temperature areas
- ❖ Comprehensive plan, spanning next 15 to 20 years, to augment the investment in nuclear power generation to be drawn up.
- ❖ Steps to re-vitalize PPP5:
- Public Utility (Resolution of Disputes) Bill will be introduced during 2016-17
- Guidelines for renegotiation of PPP Concession Agreements will be issued
- New credit rating system for infrastructure projects to be introduced
- ❖ Reforms in FDI policy in the areas of Insurance and Pension, Asset Reconstruction Companies, Stock Exchanges.
- ❖ 100% FDI to be allowed through FIPB route in marketing of food products produced and manufactured in India.
- ❖ A new policy for management of Government investment in Public Sector Enterprises, including disinvestment and strategic sale, approved.

FINANCIAL SECTOR REFORMS

- ❖ A comprehensive Code on Resolution of Financial Firms to be introduced.
- ❖ Statutory basis for a Monetary Policy framework and a Monetary Policy Committee through the Finance Bill 2016.
- ❖ A Financial Data Management Centre to be set up.
- ❖ RBI to facilitate retail participation in Government securities.
- ❖ New derivative products will be developed by SEBI in the Commodity Derivatives market.
- ❖ Amendments in the SARFAESI Act 2002 to enable the sponsor of an ARC to hold up to 100% stake in the ARC and permit non institutional investors to invest in Securitization Receipts.
- ❖ Comprehensive Central Legislation to be brought to deal with the menace of illicit deposit taking schemes.
- ❖ Increasing members and benches of the Securities Appellate Tribunal.
- ❖ Allocation of Rs. 25,000 crore towards recapitalisation of Public Sector Banks.
- ❖ Target of amount sanctioned under *Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana* increased to Rs. 1,80,000 crore.
- ❖ General Insurance Companies owned by the Government to be listed in the stock exchanges.



GOVERNANCE AND EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

- ❖ A Task Force has been constituted for rationalisation of human resources in various Ministries.
- ❖ Comprehensive review and rationalisation of Autonomous Bodies.
- ❖ Bill for Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services by using the *Aadhar* framework to be introduced.
- ❖ Introduce DBT on pilot basis for fertilizer.
- ❖ Automation facilities will be provided in 3 lakh fair price shops by March 2017.
- ❖ Amendments in Companies Act to improve enabling environment for start-ups.
- ❖ Price Stabilisation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 900 crore to help maintain stable prices of Pulses.
- ❖ "*Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat*" programme will be launched to link States and Districts in an annual programme that connects people through exchanges in areas of language, trade, culture, travel and tourism.

FISCAL DISCIPLINE

- ❖ Fiscal deficit in RE 2015-16 and BE 2016-17 retained at 3.9% and 3.5%.
- ❖ Revenue Deficit target from 2.8% to 2.5% in RE 2015-16
- ❖ Total expenditure projected at Rs. 19.78 lakh crore
- ❖ Plan expenditure pegged at Rs. 5.50 lakh crore under Plan, increase of 15.3%
- ❖ Non-Plan expenditure kept at Rs. 14.28 lakh crores
- ❖ Special emphasis to sectors such as agriculture, irrigation, social sector including health, women and child development, welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, minorities,

infrastructure.

- ❖ Mobilisation of additional finances to the extent of 31,300 crore by NHAI, PFC, REC, IREDA, NABARD and Inland Water Authority by raising Bonds.
- ❖ Plan /Non-Plan classification to be done away with from 2017-18.
- ❖ Every new scheme sanctioned will have a sunset date and outcome review.
- ❖ Rationalised and restructured more than 1500 Central Plan Schemes into about 300 Central Sector and 30 Centrally Sponsored Schemes.
- ❖ Committee to review the implementation of the FRBM Act.

RELIEF TO SMALL TAX PAYERS

- ❖ Raise the ceiling of tax rebate under section 87A from Rs. 2000 to Rs. 5000 to lessen tax burden on individuals with income upto Rs. 5 lacs.
- ❖ Increase the limit of deduction of rent paid under section 80GG from Rs. 24000 per annum to Rs. 60000, to provide relief to those who live in rented houses.

BOOST EMPLOYMENT AND GROWTH

- ❖ Increase the turnover limit under Presumptive taxation scheme under section 44AD of the Income Tax Act to Rs. 2 crores to bring big relief to a large number of assesseees in the MSME category.
- ❖ Extend the presumptive taxation scheme with profit deemed to be 50%, to professionals with gross receipts up to Rs. 50 lakh.
- ❖ Phasing out deduction under Income Tax:
 - Accelerated depreciation wherever provided in IT Act will be limited to maximum 40% from 1.4.2017
 - Benefit of deductions for Research would be limited to 150% from 1.4.2017 and 100% from 1.4.2020
 - Benefit of section 10AA to new SEZ units will be available to those units which commence activity before 31.3.2020.
 - The weighted deduction under section 35CCD for skill development will continue up to 1.4.2020
- ❖ Corporate Tax rate proposals:
 - New manufacturing companies incorporated on or after 1.3.2016 to be given an option to be taxed at 25% + surcharge and cess provided they do not claim profit linked or investment linked deductions and do not avail of investment allowance and accelerated depreciation.
 - Lower the corporate tax rate for the next financial year for relatively small enterprises i.e companies with turnover not exceeding Rs. 5 crore (in the financial year ending March 2015), to 29% plus surcharge and cess.

- ❖ 100% deduction of profits for 3 out of 5 years for startups setup during April, 2016 to March, 2019. MAT will apply in such cases.
- ❖ 10% rate of tax on income from worldwide exploitation of patents developed and registered in India by a resident.
- ❖ Complete pass through of income-tax to securitization trusts including trusts of ARCs. Securitisation trusts required to deduct tax at source.
- ❖ Period for getting benefit of long term capital gain regime in case of unlisted companies is proposed to be reduced from three to two years.
- ❖ Non-banking financial companies shall be eligible for deduction to the extent of 5% of its income in respect of provision for bad and doubtful debts.
- ❖ Determination of residency of foreign company on the basis of Place of Effective Management (POEM) is proposed to be deferred by one year.
- ❖ Commitment to implement General Anti Avoidance Rules (GAAR) from 1.4.2017.
- ❖ Exemption of service tax on services provided under Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushalya Yojana and services provided by Assessing Bodies empanelled by Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.
- ❖ Exemption of Service tax on general insurance services provided under 'Niramaya' Health Insurance Scheme launched by National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability.
- ❖ Basic custom and excise duty on refrigerated containers reduced to 5% and 6%.

MAKE IN INDIA

- ❖ Changes in customs and excise duty rates on certain inputs to reduce costs and improve competitiveness of domestic industry in sectors like Information technology hardware, capital goods, defence production, textiles, mineral fuels & mineral oils, chemicals & petrochemicals, paper, paperboard & newsprint, Maintenance repair and overhauling [MRO] of aircrafts and ship repair.

MOVING TOWARDS A PENSIONED SOCIETY

- ❖ Withdrawal up to 40% of the corpus at the time of retirement to be tax exempt in the case of National Pension Scheme (NPS). Annuity fund which goes to legal heir will not be taxable.
- ❖ In case of superannuation funds and recognized provident funds, including EPF, the same norm of 40% of corpus to be tax free will apply in

respect of corpus created out of contributions made on or from 1.4.2016.

- ❖ Limit for contribution of employer in recognized Provident and Superannuation Fund of Rs. 1.5 lakh per annum for taking tax benefit. Exemption from service tax for Annuity services provided by NPS and Services provided by EPFO to employees.
- ❖ Reduce service tax on Single premium Annuity (Insurance) Policies from 3.5% to 1.4% of the premium paid in certain cases.

PROMOTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- ❖ 100% deduction for profits to an undertaking in housing project for flats upto 30 sq. metres in four metro cities and 60 sq. metres in other cities, approved during June 2016 to March 2019 and completed in three years. MAT to apply.
- ❖ Deduction for additional interest of 50,000 per annum for loans up to Rs. 35 Iakh sanctioned in 2016-17 for first time home buyers, where house cost does not exceed Rs. 50 lakh.
- ❖ Distribution made out of income of SPV to the REITs and INVITs having specified shareholding will not be subjected to Dividend Distribution Tax, in respect of dividend distributed after the specified date.
- ❖ Exemption from service tax on construction of affordable houses up to 60 square metres under any scheme of the Central or State Government including PPP Schemes.
- ❖ Extend excise duty exemption, presently available to Concrete Mix manufactured at site for use in construction work to Ready Mix Concrete.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION FOR AGRICULTURE, RURAL ECONOMY AND CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

- ❖ Additional tax at the rate of 10% of gross amount of dividend will be payable by the recipients receiving dividend in excess of Rs. 10 Iakh per annum.
- ❖ Surcharge to be raised from 12% to 15% on persons, other than companies, firms and cooperative societies having income above Rs. 1 crore.
- ❖ Tax to be deducted at source at the rate of 1 % on purchase of luxury cars exceeding value of Rs. ten lakh and purchase of goods and services in cash exceeding two lakh.
- ❖ Securities Transaction tax in case of 'Options' is proposed to be increased from .017% to .05%.
- ❖ Equalization levy of 6% of gross amount for payment made to non- residents exceeding Rs. 1 Iakh a year in case of B2B transactions.
- ❖ Krishi Kalyan Cess, @ 0.5% on all taxable services, w.e.f. 1 June 2016. Proceeds would be

Exclusively used for financing initiatives for improvement of agriculture and welfare of farmers. Input tax credit of this cess will be available for payment of this cess.

- ❖ Infrastructure cess, of 1% on small petrol, LPG, CNG cars, 2.5% on diesel cars of certain capacity and 4% on other higher engine capacity vehicles and SUVs. No credit of this cess will be available nor credit of any other tax or duty be utilized for paying this cess.
- ❖ Excise duty of '1% without input tax credit or 12.5% with input tax credit' on articles of jewellery [excluding silver jewellery, other than studded with diamonds and some other precious stones], with a higher exemption and eligibility limits of Rs. 6 crores and Rs. 12 crores respectively,
- ❖ Excise on readymade garments with retail price of Rs. 1000 or more raised to 2% without input tax credit or 12.5% with input tax credit.
- ❖ 'Clean Energy Cess' levied on coal, lignite and peat renamed to 'Clean Environment Cess' and rate increased from Rs. 200 per tonne to Rs. 400 per tonne.
- ❖ Excise duties on various tobacco products other than beedi raised by about 10 to 15%.
- ❖ Assignment of right to use the spectrum and its transfers has been deducted as a service leviable to service tax and not sale of intangible goods.

PROVIDING CERTAINTY IN TAXATION

- ❖ Committed to providing a stable and predictable taxation regime and reduce black money.
- ❖ Domestic taxpayers can declare undisclosed income or such income represented in the form of any asset by paying tax at 30%, and surcharge at 7.5% and penalty at 7.5%, which is a total of 45% of the undisclosed income. Declarants will have immunity from prosecution.
- ❖ Surcharge levied at 7.5% of undisclosed income will be called Krishi Kalyan surcharge to be used for agriculture and rural economy.
- ❖ New Dispute Resolution Scheme to be introduced. No penalty in respect of cases with disputed tax up to 10 lakh. Cases with disputed tax exceeding 10 lakh to be subjected to 25% of the minimum of the imposable penalty. Any pending appeal against a penalty order can also be settled by paying 25% of the minimum of the imposable penalty and tax interest on quantum addition.
- ❖ High Level Committee chaired by Revenue Secretary to oversee fresh cases where

assessing officer applies the retrospective amendment.

- ❖ One-time scheme of Dispute Resolution for ongoing cases under retrospective amendment.
- ❖ Penalty rates to be 50% of tax in case of underreporting of income and 200% of tax where there is misreporting of facts.
- ❖ Disallowance will be limited to 1% of the average monthly value of investments yielding exempt income, but not exceeding the actual expenditure claimed under rule 8D of Section 14A of Income Tax Act.
- ❖ Time limit of one year for disposing petitions of the tax payers seeking waiver of interest and penalty.
- ❖ Mandatory for the assessing officer to grant stay of demand once the assessee pays 15% of the disputed demand, while the appeal is pending before Commissioner of Income-tax (Appeals).
- ❖ Monetary limit for deciding an appeal by a single member Bench of ITAT enhanced from Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 50 lakhs.
- ❖ 11 new benches of Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT).

SIMPLIFICATION AND RATIONALIZATION OF TAXES

- ❖ 13 cesses, levied by various Ministries in which revenue collection is less than 50 crore in a year to be abolished.
- ❖ For non-residents providing alternative documents to PAN card, higher TDS not to apply.
- ❖ Revision of return extended to Central Excise assesses.
- ❖ Additional options to banking companies and financial institutions, including NBFCs, for reversal of input tax credits with respect to nontaxable services.
- ❖ Customs Act to provide for deferred payment of customs duties for importers and exporters with proven track record.
- ❖ Customs Single Window Project to be implemented at major ports and airports starting from beginning of next financial year.
- ❖ Increase in free baggage allowance for international passengers. Filing of baggage only for those carrying dutiable goods.

TECHNOLOGY FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

- ❖ Expansion in the scope of e-assessments to all assessees in 7 mega cities in the coming years.
- ❖ Interest at the rate of 9% p.a against normal rate of 6% p.a for delay in giving effect to Appellate order beyond ninety days.
- ❖ 'e-Sahyog' to be expanded to reduce compliance cost, especially for small taxpayers.



JOIN FINER

YOUR BENEFITS AS OUR MEMBERS

Networking :

- Platform to interact with over 300 other members that are leaders in industry, trade and commerce of the region.
- Flora to meet business and political leaders in regular meetings.
- Platform to interact with state and central government, bank and other institutions.

Policy work :

- Participation in different national and state policy committees and task forces FINER works closely with government on policy issues, legislation, regulations etc.
- Representations to central & state governments and other institutions on problems of general nature faced by members.
- Dissemination of Information on export, import and technology collaboration.
- Research studies on relevant topics.

Business Services :

- Facilities participation in trade fairs & exhibitions in India and abroad.
- Develop business through buyer-seller for a within the region and outside.
- Participate in business delegations of FINER | FICCI | CII | Govt. of India within India and abroad.
- Participate in Seminars | workshops on relevant topics conducted by experts in that field.
- Take part in training programs in house as well as outside in prestigious institutions of the country.

Information dissemination :

- Access to publications and reports on wide range of subjects at FINER office.
- Directory of members with Company profile.
- Free subscription of FINER bulletin, a monthly update on business news and latest updates on government policies, notifications, tax, laws etc.

Web Services :

- Information on important events organized by FINER and other activities, press releases, important news etc. through FINER website : www.finer.in

Swahid Dilip Chakravarty Path, R.G. Baruah Road, Guwahati-781005

Ph : (0361) 2202537 / 2200007, Fax : (0361) 2200007

e-mail : info@finer.in

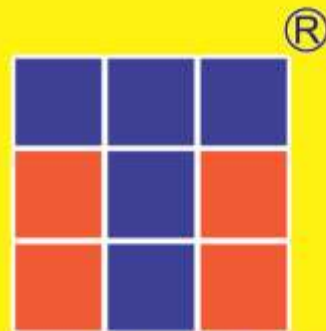
website : www.finer.in



Live

Helpline Number

Green



TOPCEM

CEMENT

er : 1800 1233 666

Mazbooti ka bharosa...hamesha



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RAILWAY BUDGET 2016-17

Theme of the Budget

❖ Overcoming challenges – Reorganize, Restructure Rejuvenate Indian Railways: '**Chalo, Milkar Kuch Naya Karen'**

❖ Three pillars of the strategy i.e. **Nav Arjan** – New revenues, **Nav Manak** – New norms, **Nav Sanrachna** – New Structures.

Financial Performance

❖ **2015-16**- Savings of Rs. 8,720 crore neutralizing most of the revenue shortfall, expected OR **90%**;

❖ **2016-17**- Targeted Operating Ratio (OR) - **92%**, restrict growth of Ordinary Working Expenses by 11.6% after building in immediate impact of 7th PC, reductions planned in diesel and electricity consumption, Revenue generation targeted at Rs. 1,84,820 crore.

Investments and Resources

❖ Process bottlenecks overhauled including delegation of powers to functional levels; average capital expenditure over 2009-14 is Rs. 48,100 crore, average growth of 8% per annum.

❖ 2015-16 investment would be close to double of the average of previous 5 years.

❖ 2016-17 CAPEX pegged at Rs. 1.21 lakh crore; implementation through joint ventures with states, developing new frameworks for PPP, etc.

Vision

❖ By 2020, long-felt desires of the common man to

be fulfilled i.e, reserved accommodation on trains available on demand, time tabled freight trains, high end technology to improve safety record, elimination of all unmanned level crossings, improved punctuality, higher average speed of freight trains, semi high speed trains running along the golden quadrilateral, zero direct discharge of human waste.

2015-16-Achievements

❖ Action initiated on 139 budget announcements of 2015-16.

Project execution

❖ 2015-16 - assured funding through LIC; commissioning of 2,500 kms Broad Gauge lines; commissioning of 1,600 kms of electrification, highest ever. In 2016-17 - targeted commissioning 2,800 kms of track; commissioning Broad Gauge lines @ over 7 kms per day against an average of about 4.3 kms per day in the last 6 years. Would increase to about 13 kms per day in 2017-18 and 19 kms per day in 2018-19; will generate employment of about 9 crore man days in 2017-18 and 14 crore man days in 2018-19. Outlay for railway electrification increased in 2016-17 by almost 50%; target to electrify 2,000 kms.

Dedicated Freight Corridor

❖ Almost all contracts for civil engineering works to be awarded by March 31st 2016; Rs. 24,000 crore contracts awarded since November 2014 as against Rs. 13,000 crore contracts awarded in last 6 years; propose to take up North-South, East-West & East Coast freight corridors through innovative financing including PPP.

Port connectivity

❖ Tuna Port commissioned and rail connectivity projects to ports of Jaigarh, Digbi, Rewas and Paradip under implementation; implementation of rail connectivity for the ports of Nargol and Hazira under PPP in 2016-17.

North East

❖ BG Lumding-Silchar section in Assam opened thus connecting Barak Valley with rest of the country; Agartala brought on to the BG network. States of Mizoram and Manipur shortly to come on BG map of the country with commissioning of the Kathakal-Bhairabi and Arunachal-Jiribam Gauge Conversion projects.

Jammu and Kashmir

❖ Work on Katra-Banihal section of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link Project progressing satisfactorily- 35 kms of tunnelling out of total of 95 kms completed; Decongestion work on Jalandhar - Jammu line in full swing and doubling of two bridges to be commissioned by March 2016, while the other two bridges will be completed by 2016-17.

Make in India: Finalised bids for two loco factories; proposed to increase the current procurement of train sets by 30%.

Capacity Building for the future through:

❖ **Transparency** – initiated recruitments online in 2015-16, process now being replicated for all positions, social media being used as a tool to bring in transparency, all procurement including procurement of works moved to the e-platform, completed trial of process leading to award of tender electronically and to be rolled out on a Pan- India basis in 2016-17.

❖ **Governance** - delegation led to compression of project sanction time to 6-8 months from 2 years earlier, key result areas identified to judge performance of GMs and DRMs, performance related MOUs signed with few Zones, to be replicated for all zones.

❖ **Internal audit measures** - specialised teams mandated to screen railway operations in specific areas to detect inefficiencies and prevent wastages, every zone preparing 2 reports by March 31, 2016.

❖ **Partnerships** – Cabinet approval for JVs with State Governments, 17 consented and 6 MOUs signed with State Governments. 44 new partnership works covering about 5,300 kms and valuing about Rs. 92,714 crore have been indicated in the Budget documents.

Customer Interface

● Interaction and feedback through social media & dedicated IVRS system.

● Making travel comfortable by generating over 65,000 additional berths, installing 2,500 water vending machines; introducing 'Mahamana Express' with modern refurbished coaches; 17,000 bio-toilets in trains; world's first Bio-Vacuum toilet developed.

● Improving punctuality – operations audit for Ghaziabad to Mughalsarai section.

● Ticketing: Introduced 1,780 Automatic Ticket

Vending Machines, mobile apps & GoIndia smartcard for cashless purchase of UTS and PRS tickets, enhanced capacity of e-ticketing system from 2,000 tickets per minute to 7,200 tickets per minute and to support 1,20,000 concurrent users as against only 40,000 earlier.

● Social initiatives: One-time registration for availing concessions while booking tickets online, online booking of wheelchairs & Braille enabled new coaches introduced for the Divyang, increased quota of lower berths for senior citizens and women, middle bays reserved in coaches for women.

● Wi-Fi provided in 100 stations, to be provided in 400 more.

● Stations being redeveloped – financial bid received for Habibganj, Bhopal; Cabinet approval for stations to be taken up under PPP.

● Security through helplines & CCTVs.

● Safety - 350 manned level crossings closed, eliminated 1,000 unmanned level crossings, 820 ROB/RUB completed in the current year and work going on in 1,350 of them.

Other major achievements

● Energy: annualized savings of Rs. 3,000 crore to be achieved in the next financial year itself, a year earlier than announced; achieved by procuring power directly at competitive rates using IR's status as Deemed Distribution Licensee.

● Rail University – initially identified the National Academy of Indian Railways at Vadodara.

● Digital India: application of Track Management System (TMS) launched, inventory management module of TMS has resulted in inventory reduction by 27,000 MT resulting in saving of Rs.64 crore and scrap identification of 22,000 MT equivalent to Rs.53 crore.

The Way Ahead

Improving quality of travel

For the unreserved passenger –

● **Antyodaya Express** unreserved, superfast service.

● **Deen Dayalu coaches** – unreserved coaches with potable water and higher number of mobile charging points.

For the reserved passenger –

● **Humsafar** - fully air-conditioned third AC service with an optional service for meals

● **Tejas** - will showcase the future of train travel in India. Will operate at speeds of 130 kmph and above. Will offer onboard services such as entertainment, local cuisine, Wi-Fi, etc. through one service provider for ensuring accountability and improved customer satisfaction

● **Humsafar and Tejas** to ensure cost recovery through tariff and non-tariff measures

● **UDAY** - overnight double-decker, **Utkrisht Double-Decker Air-conditioned Yatri Express** on the



busiest routes, has the potential to increase carrying capacity by almost 40%.

Ticketing: Sale of tickets through hand held terminals; e- ticketing facility to foreign debit/credit cards; bar coded tickets, scanners and access control on a pilot basis. Expansion of Vikalp – train on demand to provide choice of accommodation in specific trains to wait listed passengers. E-booking of tickets facility on the concessional passes available to journalists; facility of cancellation through the 139 helpline post verification using 'One Time Password' sent on registered phone number, to improve tatkaal services CCTV cameras on windows and periodic audit of PRS website.

Cleanliness -'Clean my Coach' service through SMS, ranking of A1 and A stations based on periodic third party audit and passenger feedback; waste segregation and recycling centres; 'Awareness campaigns'; additional 30,000 bio-toilets; providing portable structures with biotoilets at all platforms of select stations for senior citizens, Divyang and women travellers, plan to explore innovative means of providing and maintaining toilets such as advertisement rights, CSR, voluntary support from social organizations.

Catering and stalls at stations -IRCTC to manage catering services in a phased manner; explore possibility of making catering services optional, adding 10 more IRCTC operated base kitchens; to build local ownership and empowerment, weightage will be given to district domicile holders for commercial licenses at stations.

Stoppages: convert all operational halts into commercial halts for the benefit of the common man.

Rail Mitra Sewa: expanding Sarathi Seva in Konkan Railway to help the old and disabled passengers, strengthening the existing services for enabling passengers to book battery operated cars, porter services, etc. on a paid basis in addition to the existing pick up and drop, and wheel chair services.

Measures for Divyang: all stations under redevelopment accessible by Divyang; to provide at least one Divyang friendly toilet at each platform in A1 class stations during the next financial year and also ensure availability of wheelchairs in sufficient numbers at these stations.

Travel Insurance to passengers - to offer optional travel insurance for rail journeys at the time of booking.

Hourly booking of retiring rooms - will be handed over to IRCTC.

Janani sewa: children's menu items on trains, baby foods, hot milk and hot water would be made available.

SMART (Specially Modified Aesthetic Refreshing Travel) Coaches - design and layout of our coaches to ensure higher carrying capacity and provision of new amenities including automatic doors, bar-code readers, bio-vacuum toilets, water-level indicators, accessible dustbins, ergonomic seating, improved aesthetics, vending machines, entertainment screens, LED lit boards for advertising, PA system.

Mobile Apps - integrate all facilities into two mobile apps dealing with ticketing issues and for receipt and redressal of complaints and suggestions.

Improving customer interface- skilling our front-end staff and those we employ through our service providers, information boards in trains enumerating the on-board services and also GPS based digital displays inside coaches to provide real time information regarding upcoming halts. Work underway on installation of a high-tech centralized network of 20,000 screens across 2000 stations for enabling real time flow of information to passengers and also unlock huge advertising potential. All A1 class stations will be manned with duly empowered Station Directors supported by cross functional teams; to make one person accountable for all facilities on trains.

- Pilgrimage centres: to take up on priority the provision of passenger amenities and beautification on stations at pilgrimage centres including Ajmer, Amritsar, Bihar Sharif, Chengannur, Dwarka, Gaya, Haridwar, Mathura, Nagapattinam, Nanded, Nasik, Pali, Parasnath, Puri, Tirupati, Vailankanni, Varanasi and Vasco; also intend to run Aastha circuit trains to connect important pilgrim centres.
- Porters- intend providing them with new uniforms and train them in soft skills, henceforth, to be called sahayak.
- High Speed Rail: passenger corridor from Ahmedabad to Mumbai being undertaken with the assistance of the Government of Japan. SPV for implementing high speed projects will be registered this month. Prime benefit would be providing IR with technology advancements and new manufacturing capability.
- Entertainment: propose to invite FM Radio stations for providing train borne entertainment; extend 'Rail Bandhu' to all reserved classes of travelers and in all regional languages.

Passenger traffic - Suburban traffic: in-principle approval for MUTP III received. Early award of tenders for elevated suburban corridors between Churchgate-Virar and between CSTM-Panvel; revive Ring Railway system in Delhi; launching a new investment framework for developing suburban systems in partnership with State Governments, development in Ahmedabad, Bangaluru, Hyderabad Chennai and Thiruvananthapuram on the anvil.

Winning back the lost modal share

Expanding the freight basket of IR - to start time-tabled freight container, parcel and special commodity trains on a pilot basis, container sector would be opened to all traffic barring coal, specified mineral ores and part-loads during the non-peak season. All existing terminals/sheds would be granted access to container traffic, where considered feasible.

Rationalising the tariff structure - undertake review of tariff policy to evolve a competitive rate structure vis a vis other modes, permit multi-point loading/unloading and apply differentiated tariffs to increase utilization of alternate routes, explore possibility of signing long term tariff contracts with our key freight customers using pre-determined price escalation principles.

Building terminal capacity - proposed to develop Rail side logistics parks and warehousing in PPP mode, 10 goods sheds will be developed by TRANSLOC, the Transport Logistics Company of India, in 2016-17. To soon inaugurate India's first rail auto hub in Chennai. Encourage development of cold storage facilities

on vacant land near freight terminals. Local farmers and fisherman would be given preferential usage of the facility. A policy in this regard would be issued in the next 3 months.

Nurturing customers - will appoint Key Customer Managers to liaison with our major freight stakeholders; each Zonal Railway will develop customer commitment charter indicating service level commitments of IR, will explore the feasibility of opening up leasing of general purpose wagons.

Non fare revenues

- Station redevelopment; monetizing land along tracks; monetizing soft assets - website, data, etc; advertising - in 2016-17 target 4 times the revenue of 2015-16; overhaul of parcel business - liberalize the current parcel policies including opening the sector to container train operators; revenues from manufacturing activity - by 2020, aim at generating annualised revenues of about Rs 4,000 crore.

Process Improvements

- **EPC projects** standard document finalized, will implement at least 20 projects through this mode in 2016-17; by 2017-18, endeavour to award all works valuing above Rs. 300 crore through EPC contracts.
- **Performance output parameters based contracts** - to review service contracts to integrate them and make them simpler and outcome focused.
- **Leveraging technology for project management**- intend to use the latest drone and Geo Spatial based satellite technology for remotely reviewing the physical progress across major projects; monitoring of DFC to be operationalised through this mode in 2016-17.
- **System-wide Information Technology integration** - initiated system wide integration, both horizontal and vertical, akin to an ERP through innovative partnership models.

Rail Development Authority

- To enable fair pricing of services, promote competition, protect customer interests and determine efficiency standards; draft bill to be ready after holding extensive stakeholder consultations.

Undertaking Navarambh - a new beginning

- **Navinikaran** - Structural Interventions Organisational Restructuring- proposed to reorganize the Railway Board along business lines and suitably empower Chairman, Railway Board. As a first step, cross functional directorates to be set up in Railway Board to focus on areas like non-fare revenues, speed enhancement, motive power and information technology; explore the possibility of unifying cadres for fresh recruitment of officers;

strengthen PPP cell to improve ease of doing business with IR.

- **Sashaktikaran** – Improving our planning practices To set up a Railway Planning & Investment Organisation for drafting medium (5 years) and long (10 years) term corporate plans; identify projects which fulfill the corporate goal. Prepare a National Rail Plan to harmonise and integrate the rail network with other modes of transport and create synergy for achieving seamless multi-modal transportation network across the country
- **Aekikaran** – Consolidation: Forming a holding company of companies owned by IR.
- **Shodh aur vikas** – Investing in the future: to set up a R&D organization, a **Special Railway Establishment for Strategic Technology & Holistic Advancement, SRESTHA**. RDSO will now focus only on day to day issues while SRESTHA would drive long term research.
- **Vishleshan** – Analyzing data: a dedicated, cross functional team called **Special Unit for Transportation Research and Analytics (SUTRA)** would be set up for carrying out detailed analytics leading to optimized investment decisions and operations
- **Navrachna** – Innovation: by setting aside a sum of Rs. 50 crore for providing innovation grants to employees, startups and small businesses.

Avataran - Seven Missions for the transformation of IR

- Missions will be headed by a Mission Director reporting directly to the Chairman, Railway Board and heading a cross functional team empowered to take all relevant decisions for a timely targeted delivery. Annual outcome based performance targets for the Mission would be announced and the Missions will finalise the implementation plans for short, medium and long terms and proceed accordingly
- Mission 25 Tonne for 25 tonne axle load, Mission Zero Accident for safety, Mission PACE (Procurement and Consumption Efficiency), Mission Raftaar for higher speeds, Mission Hundred for commissioning 100 sidings/ freight terminals, Mission beyond book-keeping for accounting reforms, Mission Capacity Utilisation to prepare a blueprint for making use of the capacity created once DFC is commissioned.

Sustainability and Social Initiatives: Human Resources/ Skilling, Social initiatives, Environment

- To tie up with the Ministry of Health for ensuring an exchange between Railways hospitals and Government hospitals; to introduce 'AYUSH' systems in 5 Railway hospitals; provide gang men with devices called 'Rakshak' for intimating them about approaching trains, also reduce the

weight of the tools carried by them while patrolling. To provide toilets and air-conditioning in cabs for our loco pilots.

- Set up two chairs – one C T Venugopal chair on Strategic Finance, research and policy development and another Kalpana Chawla chair on geo-spatial technology.
- For youth - open our organisation to 100 students across Engineering and MBA schools for 2-6 months' internships each year.
- Partnering with Ministry of Skill Development - skill development on IR premises.
- Undertaken energy audits for reducing energy consumption in non-traction area by 10% to 15% - all new light provisions will be LED luminaire and all Railway stations to be covered with LED luminaire in next 2 to 3 years.
- Action plan drawn up for environmental accreditation, water management and waste to energy conversion. More than 2,000 locations provided with Rain Water Harvesting facility. In place of steel sleepers on steel bridges environmentally friendly composite sleepers made of recycled plastic waste will be used over all girder bridges.
- 32 stations and 10 coaching depots have been identified for installation of water recycling plants in the coming years.

Tourism

- Partnering with State Governments for operating tourist circuit trains; recent upgradation of National Rail Museum, promotion of tourism through Railway museums and UNESCO world heritage Railways.
- To spread awareness about our National Animal, the Tiger, complete packages including train journey, safaris and accommodation to cover the wildlife circuit comprising Kanha, Pench and Bandhavgarh will be offered.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2015-16:

- Net reduction in Gross Traffic Receipts by Rs 15,744 crore in RE 2015-16 compared to the BE target of Rs 1,83,578 crore. Passenger earnings scaled down keeping in view the persistent negative growth trend since 2013-14 both in the suburban and non-suburban non-PRS segment of travel.
- Freight earnings impacted mainly on account of low demand from the core sector resulting in resetting the target in R.E. 2015-16 to Rs 1,11,853 crore.
- Stringent economy and austerity measures adopted to contain the Ordinary Working Expenses (O.W.E.) due to which budgeted Ordinary Working Expenses of Rs 1,19,410 crore decreased in the Revised Estimates 2015-16 to Rs. 1,10,690 crore i.e. by Rs 8,720 crore.



- BE provided for an appropriation of Rs. 34,900 crore to the Pension Fund. However, based on trend, the pension outgo moderately decreased to Rs. 34,500 crore in RE.
- Internal resource generation diminished and appropriation to DRF moderated to Rs. 5,500 crore in RE from the BE 2015-16 provisioning of Rs. 7,900 crore. Excess of receipts over expenditure in RE 2015-16 stands at Rs. 11,402.40 crore.
- Plan size for 2015-16 is currently estimated at 1,00,000 crore i.e. the BE level.

Budget Estimates 2016-17:

- The intention to improve revenues and ensure appropriate investments which can continue the road-map of decongestion and enhance line-capacity enhancement as detailed in 2015-16. The focus is on enhanced CAPEX with a mix of various sources of funding in order to ensure that the projects are given assured funding.
- Gross Traffic Receipts kept at Rs 1,84,820 crore . Passenger earnings growth has been pegged at 12.4 % and earnings target budgeted at Rs. 51,012 crore. The freight traffic is pegged at incremental traffic of 50 million tonnes,

anticipating a healthier growth in the core sector of economy. Goods earnings is accordingly proposed at Rs. 1, 17,933 crore. Other coaching and sundries projected at Rs. 6,185 crore and Rs. 9,590.3 crore respectively.

- OWE provides for the implementation of the 7th CPC.
- Pension outgo budgeted at Rs 45,500 crore in 2016-17.
- Higher staff cost and pension liability impacts the internal resource position of the Railways. Accordingly, appropriation to DRF from revenue placed at Rs 3,200 crore and that from Production Units at Rs 200 crore. A withdrawal of Rs 3,160 crore from DRF on net basis proposed though the gross expenditure to be met from DRF in the Annual Plan estimated at Rs 7,160 crore. Rs 5,750 crore proposed to be appropriated to the Capital fund. With a draw-down of Rs 1,250 crore from previous balances in the fund, plan requirement of Rs 7,000 crore for repayment of principal component of lease charges to IRFC met.
- Railways are preparing a Plan size of Rs. 1,21,000 crore in 2016-17.

ASSAM CHIEF MINISTER TARUN GOGOI PRESENTS **RS 33,687.43 CR INTERIM BUDGET**

Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi presented of Rs 33,687.43 crore interim budget for the first six months of 2016-17 financial year in Assam assembly started from on Monday. presented of Rs 33,687.43 crore interim budget for the first six months of 2016-17 financial year in Assam assembly started from on Monday.

Ahead of the assembly poll in the state hardly three months left, Gogoi who also hold the Finance department of the state had presented the six months interim budget.

"To defray obligatory and other necessary expenses, I seek Vote on account on the demand for grants of an aggregate of Rs 33,687.43 crore from April 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016," Gogoi said while presenting the interim budget.

Targeting to the Modi government, the Assam CM said that, Assam faced financial crisis after the Union government had cut fund allocation in most of the central schemes.

"Assam had lost more than Rs 5000 crore from the central fund allocation during the 2015-16 financial year," Gogoi said.

Looking for the next assembly poll, Gogoi had announced several attractive schemes for woman development, tea tribes and other community development, poor people development in the interim budget.

Gogoi had proposed 50 per cent reservation for woman in all posts under the state government in the interim budget.



MUKUL SANGMA PRESENTS

RS. 1,090 CR DEFICIT BUDGET FOR MEGHALAYA



Meghalaya Chief Minister Mukul Sangma today tabled a Rs 1,090 crore deficit state budget for 2016-17, withdrawing exemptions on diesel and petrol and hiked VAT on liquor from 20 per cent to 30 per cent, with an aim to raise additional revenue.

Sangma also announced creation of four new Community and Rural Development blocks and equal number of civil sub-divisions and 15 new police stations, nine in the militancy-hit Garo Hills region, as measures to improve administration and law and order situation.

"I am presenting the 2016-17 budget with a fiscal deficit of Rs 1,090 crore, which is around 3.6 per cent of the GSDP," he told the Assembly while presenting the budget.

Estimating the total receipts at Rs 10,173 crore from Rs 9,282 crore last year, the Chief Minister said revenue receipts were estimated at Rs 8,981 crore and capital receipts at Rs 1,192 crore.

In 2015-16, the state's own tax and non-tax revenue was estimated at Rs 1,347 crore, which was projected at Rs 1,735 crore for next fiscal, he said.

The revenue shortfall was due to the shrinking of resource based on account of the National Green Tribunal ban on coal mining, Sangma said.

The total expenditure was estimated at Rs 10,507 crore, excluding repayment of loans and other liabilities, of which revenue expenditure was estimated at Rs 7,621 crore while capital expenditure at Rs 10,103 crore, he said.

Stating that the fiscal deficit has gone beyond "comfortable limits" due to the NGT ban on coal mining, Sangma said the debt-GSDP ratio was well within the 31.7 per cent target set by the 13th Finance Commission.

Spelling out measures to generate additional resources, he said the government proposed to withdraw the remaining rebate of Rs 56 paise per litre on petrol and enhance the VAT rate on the fuel from 20 to 22 per cent.

The Chief Minister said VAT on liquor would be enhanced from the existing 20 per cent to 30 per cent, besides increase in the import and export pass fees.

The state government has also pledged a development plan outlay of Rs 677 crore as against Rs 681.88 crore for education last year, Rs 471.8 crore as against Rs 555.2 crore for roads and bridges and Rs 274.1 crore as against Rs 509.9 crore for Community and Rural Development last year.

For health, an outlay of Rs 470 crore was presented with an increase of Rs 89.5 crore from last year.

RS 747CR DEFICIT BUDGET IN MANIPUR

Manipur chief minister Okram Ibobi Singh today presented a Rs 747.35 crore deficit budget for the financial year 2016-17 but did not propose any new tax despite the projection of a grim financial year.

The budget gives "highest" emphasis to infrastructure for social and economic sectors, such as power, roads, irrigation, education and health.

Stating that restructuring of central assistance to the state plan put Manipur in fiscal difficulties, Ibobi Singh, who is also the finance minister, said the additional fiscal space available on account of higher tax devolution was not sufficient to meet all the committed plan revenue expenditure.

He said the additional fiscal burden of centrally sponsored schemes made the state to bear higher sharing burden.

"However, in order to sustain the development momentum, we have ensured that continuing key infrastructure projects are implemented uninterrupted, basic welfare schemes do not suffer for lack of resources and balanced regional development continues to remain at the core of our planning process," Ibobi Singh said.

He said his government was committed to ensure all-round development despite the reducing fiscal space.

The chief minister proposed to construct an accident trauma centre at the Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences for which Rs 5 crore has been provided in the budget. In addition, Rs 23 crore has been earmarked for construction of a 150-capacity resident doctors' (boys) hostel at the institute.

The finance minister has also provided a sum of Rs 125.24 crore for development of roads and bridges.

"Tourism and culture are the sectors where our strength lie. An amount of Rs 33.67 crore has been provided for infrastructure development at tourist centres and adequate allocation has been made for providing tourism facilities in and around Imphal," the chief minister said.

He expressed happiness that the power situation in the state is improving. "Our untiring efforts are on to improve it further to 24X7 supply in the state," he said.

Earlier, governor V. Shanmuganathan, speaking at the opening of the budget session, said for inclusive growth, the state government was committed to providing banking facilities in all un-banked development blocks.

"Towards this end, my government has taken up construction of integrated infrastructure in the 27 un-banked blocks under tribal area inclusive growth project. Of these, banking facility has already been provided in five blocks and in the remaining 22 blocks, banks will be opened by the end of this financial year," the governor said.

Stating that the security environment is "extremely delicate", he said police were making every effort to curb bomb blasts and militant-related activities.



ARUNACHAL PRADESH

CHIEF MINISTER KALIKHO PUL PRESENTS RS. 367.58 CRORE DEFICIT BUDGET

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Kalikho Pul today presented a Rs 367.58-crore deficit Budget for the financial year 2016-17 without levying any new taxes or announcing any concessions for the common man.

Presenting his maiden Budget as the Minister in-charge of Finance of the People's Party of Arunachal (PPA) government, Pul said that the total revenue receipts have been estimated at Rs 12,805 crore and total revenue expenditure estimated at Rs 13,172.58 crore.

Giving an overall picture of the Budget Estimates of 2016-17, he said the State's own tax revenue has been estimated at Rs 670.66 crore, which is about 20% higher than the Revised Estimates (RE) of 2015-16, while the non-tax revenue has been projected at Rs 528.90 crore, which is about 7.4% higher than RE of previous year, projecting internal resource generation at Rs 1,199.56 crore.

Pointing out that the share in Central taxes as recommended by the 14th Finance Commission (FFC) for 2016-17 was Rs 9,157.4 crore, he said that the Government of India has projected Rs 7,868.9 crore in the Union Budget 2016-17 for Arunachal Pradesh, which is Rs 1,288.5 crore less than what was recommended by the FFC. He added that his government shall make all efforts to obtain this balance amount from the Government of India.

Pul said that the annual Plan size of the State for the financial year 2016-17 has been pegged at Rs 6,569 crore, which is 14% more than the Plan size allocation of last financial year.

"With the objective of achieving accelerated, innovative and inclusive growth, our government will ensure that every penny of public fund is utilized in the best public interest of the people of Arunachal.

"Our government, through this Budget, aims to identify and remove the bottlenecks in development and growth process, prioritize critical infrastructural projects and bring about radical improvement in human development index of the State.

"We will strive for achieving an inclusive and a balanced growth process so as to ensure that the benefits of development percolate down to the lowest strata of society," Pul said in his Budget speech.

He said this Budget is laying emphasis on critical infrastructural and social initiatives in important sectors, like health, education, police, roads, power, cleanliness, agriculture, horticulture, tourism and industry.

While highlighting the various developmental initiatives, he said that the government proposed allocation of Rs 973.97 crore to develop the health sector and Rs 1,985.98 crore for the education sector.

Pul said that the government proposed to provide stipend of Rs 1,400 per month to students pursuing BSc (Nursing), ANM and GNM courses, besides enhancing annual book grant of Rs 3,000, 2,000 and 1,000 for BSc nursing, GNM and ANM students, respectively.

Besides proposing to establish 'Arunachal Red Cross Society' under the direct control of the Chief Secretary to tackle the drug menace in the State, Pul said the government proposed to set up drug de-addiction centres in Pasighat, Tezu, Hayuliang, Khonsa, Changlang and Longding with budgetary provision of Rs 16 crore.



NAGALAND

CHIEF MINISTER TR ZELIANG PRESENTS BUDGET FOR 2016-17

Nagaland Chief Minister TR Zeliang presented a full budget for 2016-17 for the State in the Assembly.

Zeliang, who also holds the Finance portfolio, said the annual plan outlay for 2016-17 has been projected at Rs 3,924.47 crore with Rs 2,882.41 crore under Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), Rs 117.06 crore under NEC, Rs 230 crore NLCPR, Rs 115 crore EAP and Rs 580 crore under untied or flexible fund. The outlay for 2016-17 saw an increase of 8.35 per cent over last year.

Out of the annual plan outlay, allocation for social sector has been fixed at Rs 1,519.38 crore, which is 38.72 per cent of the total outlay, while for the economic sector Rs 1,903.01 crore has been earmarked, which is 48.49 per cent of the total outlay. For the general sector, the allocation has been raised to Rs 502.08 crore, which accounts for 12.79 per cent of the total outlay.

With better monitoring and control in place and also with the various austerity measures being worked out, the Chief Minister was hopeful of reducing the deficit by Rs 225 crore by the end of 2016-17. However, he said, this will be subject to the Government of India providing grant under share of Central taxes as projected in the budget for 2016-17 at the level of Rs 3,016.31 crore.

Zeliang informed the House that during the current year, the deficit has been reduced by a projected amount of Rs 123.36 crore from the opening deficit of Rs 1,542.71 crore. This is the first time in the recent history of the State where the deficit could be reduced to this extent during a single financial year. He thanked all his colleagues, departments and particularly the Finance department for making this possible.

He also spoke about taking certain measures to bring down the overhead expenditures. He said departments having excess employees shall not be allowed to recruit new employees even against resultant vacancies as was done in the case of School Education department.

Manpower management and relocation of employees from departments that have surplus to departments that require more manpower will be rationalised, he stated.

For internal revenue collection during the current year, the Chief Minister said the target has been put at Rs 665.06 crore as against last year's Rs 593 crore.



MIZORAM

Finance Minister presents regular budget of over Rs 8000 crore

Mizoram Finance Minister Lalsawta presented a regular budget for the current fiscal amounting to Rs 8038.39 crore which is estimated to have Revenue Surplus of Rs 1283.91 crore and fiscal deficit of Rs 23.01 crore. The total estimated liabilities of the state for the fiscal 2016-17 is Rs 7290.17 crore.

Presenting the annual budget for the fiscal 2016-17, Finance Minister Lalsawta said it is the first real budget to have been laid in the house. "I am calling the present budget that I am now laying as the first real budget, because for the first time in our history, real autonomy to a great extent has been given to the state in determining the size of our budget, our sources of funds are more or less certain as well as our need for expenditure," Lalsawta said.

He said that the State Government is going to implement New Economic Development Policy from the current fiscal onwards under which various major development works would be taken up. Rs 250 crore has been earmarked for the new policy which is programmed for a 5 year term to comprise all developmental activities under NLUP and under all Government Departments.

According to Lalsawta the total Revenue Receipt of the state is estimated at Rs 7672.48 crore out of which the state's Own Revenue Receipt is estimated to be Rs 610.25 crore which is only 7.95 per cent of the total revenue.

The total capital receipt is estimated at Rs 393.45 crore out of which 331.27 crore is estimated to be obtained from Internal Debt, Rs 29.34 crore from Loans & Advances from the Central Government and Rs 32.84 crore from Recoveries of Loans & Advances. The amount of fund expected to be available to the State Government from all available sources during 2016-17 is Rs 8065.93 crore.

The total Net Expenditure of the Consolidated Fund of the state is Rs 8038.39 crore of which Net Revenue Expenditure will be Rs 6388.57 crore and the Net Capital Expenditure is Rs 1649.81 crore. Whereas the state borrowing is estimated at Rs 360.61 crore.

For the establishment of Mizoram Lok Ayukta which is expected to be in force during the current fiscal year, the Finance Minister proposed to allocate Rs 153.34 lakh, while Rs 30 crore has been earmarked for covering critical sectors within the ongoing NLUP programme.

Some important sources from which the State Government will



receive revenue are VAT, State Excise, Vehicle Tax, Land Revenue/Tax, State Lotteries, Water Tariff and Power Tariff. According to Finance Minister, state liabilities over the past few years has diminished from 65.06 per cent to 52.41 per cent of the GSDP which is indeed a great achievement. The estimated liabilities of the state for 2016-17 is Rs 7290.17 crore which is 49.93 per cent of the projected GSDP of Rs 15535 crore.

Lalsawta said that sources of funds are limited so that the government needs to augment Tax and Non Tax Revenues to the greatest extent possible and also to carefully spend limited resources.

He added that the monthly expenditure on purchase of food grains is expected to decrease by Rs 2 crore from the previous arrangement with the implementations of Food Security Act since March.

Declaring the current financial year as 'Year of Consolidation', he said the government is committed to follow austerity measure.

RS.15, 246.52 CRORE TAX-FREE DEFICIT BUDGET IN TRIPURA

Tripura Finance Minister Tapan Chakraborty presented a Rs.15, 246.52 crore tax-free budget for 2016-17 with a deficit of Rs.1, 88.54 crore.

No new taxes have been proposed and no increase of existing taxes projected in the budget, presented on the first day of the budget session.

Chakraborty, presenting his maiden budget, said that with the improving electricity scenario in the state, Tripura is ready to supply 100 MW of power to Bangladesh and erection of 400 KV transmission line from Tripura to Bangladesh's southern Comilla has been completed.

He also said that following concerted efforts, the anticipated food grain production in the coming fiscal expected to be 8.62 lakh ton against the current year's 8.12 lakh ton.

"Tripura is the first state among eight northeastern states implementing the National Food Security Act, 2013 from September last year benefiting 25 lakh people. The beneficiaries are provided rice at the rate of Rs.2 per kg instead of Rs 3 per kg for which the state government is bearing subsidy of Re.1 per kg," the minister said in his 70 minute budget speech.

Chakraborty said that to increase the bamboo production and boost the bamboo based industries, the state would introduce the Chinese moso bamboo and develop the mechanized system of bamboo plantation to increase its productivity from existing one metric ton per hectares to five metric ton per hectares.

"Locally available resources like rubber, bamboo, tea, natural gas, fruits, vegetables are identified as priority sectors for maximum value addition," he said, adding that to promote utilization of natural resources available in Tripura, the state government would increase the capital investment subsidy from existing 25 percent to 35 percent from next month.

As the Self Help Groups (SHGs) have been the economic backbone of the rural microfinance, the state government had launched Tripura State Support Project on SHGs, he said.

Chakraborty said that to promote sports in Tripura, the state government would launch a new scheme named "Rural Sports" in the next fiscal aiming boys, girls and youths of rural areas.

"Allocation of funds to various northeastern states by the ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) has to be equitable. Despite financial difficulties, the Tripura government would continue the pro-people approach towards the development and welfare of its citizens," he added.

State's Principal Secretary, Fiance, G.S.G. Ayyangar meanwhile said that they plan to cover the budgetary deficit of Rs.1.88 billion by compressing non-development expenditure, stepping up of resource mobilization, better tax realization and effecting austerity measures."

"By adopting a similar method, we have covered the current year's budget deficit of Rs.1.88 billion," he said, adding the state's share of union taxes and duties in the coming financial year was expected to be Rs.42.99 billion against Rs.18.90 billion in the current fiscal.



APPLICATION FORM



To,
The Chairman
FINER
Guwahati

Date :

Dear Sir,

We have the pleasure to apply for Membership of FINER as per details furnished below :

1) Name of Applicant Firm/Company

Registered Office

Address : _____

Phone No. : _____ Fax No : _____ E-mail : _____

Address for Correspondence _____

Phone No. : _____ Fax No : _____ E-mail : _____

2) Constitution : (Tick any one)

a) Proprietorship/Individual : ☐

b) Partnership : ☐

c) Private Limited Company : ☐

d) Public Limited Company : ☐

e) Chamber/Association : ☐

f) Society : ☐

g) Others (Specify) : ☐

3) Name of Proprietor/Partners/Directors/Office bearers (as applicable) :

4) Name of Chief Executive/Regional head (In case Chief Executive is based outside NE Region) :

Telephone No. : _____ Fax No : _____ E-mail : _____

5) Nature of Activities : (Tick any one)

a) Industry : ☐

b) Commerce : ☐

c) Chamber/Association : ☐

6) Details of Principal Activities : _____

7) In Case of Industry :

a) Factory Address : _____

Telephone No. : _____ Fax No : _____ E-mail : _____

b) Particulars of Manufacturing unit :

a) Products Manufactured : _____

b) Installed capacity : _____

c) Connected Power Load : _____

d) No. of Employees : _____

e) SSI Regn. No./SIA No./IL No. : _____

(Photograph to be enclosed)

f) Investment in fixed assets as per latest audited balance sheet :

8) In case of Chamber/ Association (enclose memorandum of Association) :

Membership Strength : _____

9) In case not covered by (7) or (8)

a) Annual turnover as per latest audited balance Sheet _____

b) No. of Employees : _____

10) Membership of any other Association : _____

11) Any Other Important/relevant information : _____

we enclosed herewith a Cheque/Demand Draft No. : _____

Dated _____ of _____ for Rs. _____

payable at _____ towards Admission fee and Annual Subscription in favour of
"Federation of Industry & Commerce of North Eastern Region," of **"FINER"**. We also agree to abide
by the rules and regulations of FINER in force from time to time.

Introduced by

Signature & Seal

(Existing member of FINER)

Signature & Seal

of the Applicant

N.B.

Admission Fee & Annual Subscription

TICK	Segment	Basis	Admission Fee	Annual subscription
<input type="checkbox"/>	Micro	Investment in plant and machinery which does not exceed Rs. 25 lakh	2,000	3,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	SME	Investment in plant and machinery more than Rs. 25 lakh but does not exceed Rs. 5 crores.	4000	8000
<input type="checkbox"/>	MSME	Investment in plant and machinery more than Rs. 5 crores but does not exceed Rs.10 crores.	6000	12000
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large	10 Crs to 100 Crs Investment	15000	45000
<input type="checkbox"/>	MEGA	100 Crs +	20000	75000
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chamber of Commerce / Association of Industry		6,000	11000
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commerce and Service		10000	12000

The financial year of FINER runs from 1st April to 31st march. The applicant, seeking membership during 1st April to 30th September will have to pay prescribed Admission fee and the prescribed Annual Subscription in full. Applicants seeking membership after 30th September will pay the prescribed Admission fee in full and half of the prescribed Annual Subscription. To renew the membership, the annual subscription must be paid within 1st quarter of the financial year.

13. Membership

- The Governing Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board) shall decide as to admission of members to the Federation.
- Membership shall be open to all chambers, associations, bodies, societies, corporate entities, firms, individuals and other connected with the industry and commerce who are interested in the activities of the Federation. In case of trade, membership shall be open to its cambers and associations only

The pioneers and market leaders of new age colour-coated roofing brings you the perfect style statement for your home. Colourfully striking and long lasting, Dyna roofs come with **WP+** technology that keeps them corrosion and thermal resistant and low on maintenance. Also, the modified polyester coatings ensure their everlasting beauty. So that your home is secure underneath, and always stylish at the top.



THEMEAL & CORROSION PROOF
WEATHER PROTECTION

Stunning
at the top!



Colourful Range
Thermal & Corrosion Resistant
Low Maintenance

The logo graphic features a stylized house shape composed of three overlapping triangles in green, red, and blue.

DynaRoof
SOLID • STYLE



STARCEMENT

Solid Setting

Only Star Cement has world-class technology that binds sand, bricks, stone chips and rebars together in a Solid Setting, keeping your home solid for years.

So when it comes to building your home, choose only Star Cement.