

## Union Budget focused on wealth, wellness, MSME & infrastructure: PM

01 February 2021 | News

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The Prime Minister (PM), Narendra Modi said that the Budget this year has a feel of reality and confidence of development and showcases India's self-belief. He also said that it will infuse a new confidence in the world in these difficult times.

In his remarks after the Union Budget was tabled in the Lok Sabha, the Prime Minister said that the Budget carries a vision of Aatamnirbharta and inclusion of every citizen and section.

Modi explained that the principles behind the Budget include – expansion of new opportunities for growth; new opportunities for the youth; giving new dimension to human resource; infrastructure development and helping new sectors grow.

Appreciating the all-round development emphasis of the Budget, the PM said that it is focused on wealth and wellness, MSME and infrastructure. He also noted unprecedented focus on healthcare.

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

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare expressed his deep gratitude and profusely thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for moving health and well being to the centre stage of India's governance as the country battles COVID and is also targeting to eliminate diseases like TB and immunize India's children against twelve communicable diseases.

Speaking on COVID-19 and other communicable diseases and their prevention through vaccination, he noted, "The COVID-19 vaccination drive was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 16th January and is presently being given to Health Care Workers and the Frontline Workers; others along the priority pyramid will be given the vaccine in coming times. The Union Finance Minister has allocated Rs. 35,000 Cr for it and also stated that she will provide more fund if required, which will be a huge boost to the morale of the country. The Pneumococcal vaccine, similarly, a 'Made in India' product which is presently limited to 5 states at present will also be rolled out across the country. This will avert more than 50,000 child deaths annually."