

## Industry bodies laud Delhi budget, green body says ambitious

PTI

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Industry bodies today lauded the Delhi government's budget, saying the focus on the environment will lay a strong foundation in making the national capital more habitable, while a green body said although it is ambitious, it needs proper implementation to go beyond the rhetoric.

The AAP government today presented a Rs 53,000-crore budget, laying a major thrust on "green" initiatives for pollution reduction. Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said this was the government's first "green budget" to effectively curb pollution.

Apex industry body ASSOCHAM congratulated the Delhi government for presenting a forward-looking budget for 2018-19 fiscal.

"Special focus on further sprucing up education and health infrastructure together with tackling Delhi's air pollution crisis is laudable and lays strong foundation for making the national capital more habitable thereby providing a green, clean and safe living environment to Delhi-

ites," said its secretary general D S Rawat.

He said at ASSOCHAM, we are confident that these policy announcements if implemented timely and effectively will help make Delhi a world-class city. "The Delhi government through its policy initiatives has shown it means business and is committed to improve lives of its inhabitants, added the ASSOCHAM secretary general.

CII Delhi state welcomed the "green budget" and said it was a comprehensive effort in addressing issues of citizens and industry and meeting their expectations.

The members also appreciated the AAP government for incorporating many of recommendations and suggestions submitted by CII in its pre-budget memorandum.

"For the first time anywhere in the country, a green budget was presented. This has been a very positive budget that has kept the needs of the common man in focus. It is heartening to see the government's clear focus on areas like education, environment, infrastructure and healthcare.

"I am sure the 26-point

plan to clean the environment will certainly improve the quality of life of Delhi's citizens in the short to medium term. The announcement of the government to conduct energy and water audits is highly appreciated," said Nikhil Sawhney, chairman-Delhi state, CII.

He said that this will help the authorities in finding leakages in their supply lines. He pointed out that the decision to put a water meter for the state is also good.

"I must congratulate the deputy chief minister for also announcing the timelines under which all these projects would be completed," he said.

He said real-time monitoring of pollution in different areas was needed and the data collected from this should help us prepare ourselves better for curbing pollution in Delhi.

Sunil Dahiya, senior campaigner, Greenpeace India, said the budget looks like a "mixed bag". It shows promises to strengthen the public transport system by adding 3,000 (1,000 each for CNG, electric and cluster) new buses to the fleet along with creating associated enabling infrastructure, he said.

# Industry bodies hail Green Budget

**AGE CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 22

Welcoming the AAP government's Green Budget, CII Delhi State on Thursday said that the Budget was comprehensive in addressing issues of the citizens and industry and meeting their expectations.

The members also appreciated the government for incorporating many of recommendations and suggestions submitted by CII in its pre-Budget memorandum.

Apex industry body, Assocham termed it a forward

looking Budget and said if the policy announcements were implemented effectively, it would help in making Delhi a world-class city.

Delhi State CII chairperson Nikhil Sawhney said that this was for the first time anywhere in the country that a Green Budget has been presented.

"This has been a very positive budget that has kept the needs of the common man in focus. CII is encouraged that many of our recommendations find a place in the budget and we look forward to

partnering with the Delhi government in achieving what it has set out."

Mr Sawhney said that government's announcement to conduct energy and water audits was appreciated. "It will help the authorities in finding leakages in their supply lines. The decision to put a water meter for the state is also good," he said.

He added: "I must say that real time monitoring of pollution in different areas was the need of the hour. The data collected from this would help us analyze and prepare ourselves better for curbing

pollution in the state."

However, the most important thing is the timely execution of these schemes. The government should ensure that these initiatives get translated into real tangible results and industry should act as an enabler in execution.

Delhi State CII vice-chairperson A. Munjal said the budgets focus on social welfare of the state was heartening. "Like previous year, increase in Budget for the education sector will improve the infrastructure of the government schools," he added.



## उद्योग जगत ने दिल्ली के बजट को सराहा

नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली की सत्तारूढ़ आम आदमी पार्टी (आप) की सरकार ने बृहस्पतिवार को अपना बजट पेश किया। उद्योग जगत ने इसकी सराहना करते हुए कहा है कि बजट में पर्यावरण पर विशेष ध्यान देना राजधानी दिल्ली को अधिक रहने योग्य बनाने की दिशा में अहम कदम साबित साबित होगा। वहीं पर्यावरण संरक्षण निकाय ने इसे महत्वाकांक्षी बजट करार दिया और कहा कि इसे सही से लागू कराने की जरूरत है।

आप सरकार ने 53,000 करोड़ रुपये का बजट पेश किया। इसमें पर्यावरण संरक्षण की दिशा में प्रदूषण घटाने के लिए कई बड़ी पहल की गई हैं। उप मुख्यमंत्री मनोष सिसोदिया ने कहा कि यह प्रभावी तरीके से प्रदूषण घटाने के लिए सरकार का पहला हरित बजट है।

एसोचैम ने दिल्ली सरकार को 2018-2019 बजट के लिए बधाई दी है। एसोचैम के महासचिव डी.एस. रावत ने कहा, दिल्लीवासियों के लिए दिल्ली के वायु प्रदूषण की समस्या के साथ साथ शिक्षा एवं स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र को निखारने पर ध्यान देना और राष्ट्रीय राजधानी दिल्ली को अधिक रहने योग्य बनाने की दिशा में कदम उठाना काबिले तारीफ है। एजेंसी