

**പതിമൂന്നാം കേരള നിയമസഭ**  
**എട്ടാം സമ്മേളനം**

നക്ഷത്രചിഹ്നമിടാത്ത ചോദ്യം നം. 37

18.03.2013-ൽ മറുപടിക്ക്

ചോദ്യം

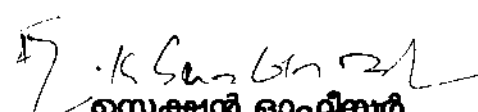
ഉത്തരം

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**കേന്ദ്ര ബഡ്ജറ്റും സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യങ്ങളും**

(എ)	<p>കേന്ദ്ര പൊതു ബജറ്റിൽ പരിഗണിക്കാനായി സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ എന്തെല്ലാം ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ മുന്നോട്ടുവയ്ക്കുകയുണ്ടായി; ഇവയിൽ പരിഗണിക്കപ്പെട്ടവ ഏതൊക്കെയാണ്; പരിഗണിക്കപ്പെടാതെ പോയവ ഏതൊക്കെയാണ്;</p>	<p>കേന്ദ്ര ബജറ്റിനു മുന്നോടിയായി മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി കേന്ദ്ര ധനകാര്യ മന്ത്രിയ്ക്കു നൽകിയ കത്തിൽ ഏഴ് ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ ഉന്നയിച്ചിരുന്നു. കേന്ദ്രം വിളിച്ചു ചേർത്ത ധനകാര്യ മന്ത്രിമാരുടെ യോഗത്തിൽ സംസ്ഥാനം ഇരുപത്തിനാലോളം ശുപാർശകൾ സമർപ്പിച്ചു. ഈ ശുപാർശകളിൽ ചിലതിന് പരിഗണന ലഭിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. വിശദാംശം അനുബന്ധമായി ചേർക്കുന്നു.</p>
(ബി)	<p>ബജറ്റ് അവതരണത്തിന് മുന്നോടിയായി മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ പ്രമുഖമായ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ നിവേദനത്തിലൂടെ സമർപ്പിക്കുകയുണ്ടായോ; എങ്കിൽ എപ്പോൾ; നിവേദനത്തിന്റെ പകർപ്പ് ലഭ്യമാക്കുമോ;</p>	<p>ബജറ്റ് അവതരണത്തിന് മുന്നോടിയായി മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി 5.2.2013ൽ കേന്ദ്ര ധനകാര്യ മന്ത്രിയ്ക്ക് നൽകിയ കത്തിന്റെ പകർപ്പ് അനുബന്ധമായി ചേർക്കുന്നു.</p>
(സി)	<p>ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ നേടിയെടുക്കുന്നതിനായി ബഡ്ജറ്റിനു മുൻപ് മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി ആരെല്ലാമായി നേരിൽ കണ്ട് ചർച്ച നടത്തുകയുണ്ടായി; ഈ രംഗത്ത് സംസ്ഥാനത്തു നിന്നുള്ള എം.പി. മാരെ ഏകോപിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുകയുണ്ടായോ?</p>	<p>19.03.2013-ന് വിളിച്ചു ചേർത്ത എം.പി. മാരുടെ യോഗത്തിൽ കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനു മുൻപിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടുന്ന കാര്യങ്ങൾ ചർച്ച ചെയ്തിരുന്നു.</p>

  
 സെക്ഷൻ ഓഫീസർ

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS UNION FINA

Sl. No.	Sector/Area	Proposal No.	
1	Agriculture	1	Strategic poli investment ir
2	Recovery from ill-effects of global economic slow down	2	Setting up of effectively cc
3	Plantation crops	3	Replanting a
		4	Levy of high
		5	Subsidy for
4	Fiscal and Macro-economic stability	6	More centra
5	Capital Expenditure	7	Programms State in the
6	Environmental wealth	8	Central ass
		9	Coal -base the cost of
		10	Pooling of already allit
		11	Special Ag viz. Idukki
7	Viability Gap Funding for port projects	12	Viability G infrastruct
8	Introduction of Goods and Service tax	13	Appeal for effects of

Sl. No.	Sector/Area	Proposal No.
9	Expansion of service tax base	14
		15
10	Rationalised tax structure in the case of vehicles	16
		17
11	Tourism	18
12	Health security	19
		20
13	Ayurveda	21
		22
14	Technical Education	23
15	Centrally sponsored schemes	24

Proposal submitted by Kerala	FM Speech Ref.No.	Union Budget Speech reference
Service tax list should be carefully drawn-up to avoid double taxation	Para 11	Vocational courses and Agri. testing are included in negative list (Para 179)
Taxes on luxuries, entertainment, betting, gambling and amusement may allowed to be continued in the State list	"	Not considered
The Central Government in consultation with states may propose a standard structure for taxation with adequate flexibility to the states.	Para 12	Not considered
Categorisation of vehicles may be standardised across the country	"	Not considered
Tourism may be exempted from service tax for a year as it will be more than compensated by the transaction and other taxes with growth of the sector	Para 13	Not considered
Universalisation of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana to ensure affordable health care for all	Para 14	More allotment for Health care of Elderly (Para 26)
In order to improve the quality of medical education and research in health sector, Government of India may establish an Indian Institute of Medical Sciences in Kerala	"	More allotment for Rural health mission (Para 24)
Adequate importance should be given to Ayurveda in the delivery of health care	Para 15	Mainstreamed through National Health Mission (Para 27)
An International Institute of Ayurvedic Research may be set up in Kerala considering the potential of the state in this area	"	
Setting up of an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in the State considering the need to improve the quality of technical education in the State	Para 16	More fund allotment for Science & Technology (Para 103)
Implementation of recommendations of B.K. Chaturvedi report	Para 17	More fund allotment for SSA MDM (Para 29 & 32) - restructured CSS (Para 110)

*B.K. Chaturvedi*

**MMEN CHANDY**  
CHIEF MINISTER



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Secretary,  
Thiruvananthapuram-695 001

Copy

D.O. No. 42/VIP/CM/2013, dated, 05/02/2013

Dear Chidambaram;

The country is looking forward to yet another forward looking budget from you. I am writing this is to make a few important general suggestions and to remind you about some specific issues relating to the State of Kerala, which require favourable consideration in the Union budget.

**A. General Suggestions:**

**1. Interest Free Loans to Farmers:**

It is feared that a large number of farmers commit suicide due to financial stress caused by burden of loans. The Government of India did give a big relief to the farmers by waiving these loans to farmers. Though a great relief at the time of a crisis, it is not generally a good practice since it results in discouraging grant of credit to the farming sector. Hence I would like to suggest to the Hon'ble Finance Minister to introduce a new scheme of incentives for farmers who pay back their loan in time. Under this Scheme the interest on loans should be paid to the Banks by the Government of India and the State Governments in case of prompt repayment of such loans. For example, if the rate of interest of a farm loan is 8%, the Government of India should give an incentive of 5% and the State Government an incentive of 3% to cover the total interest. This will, in effect, make the loans interest free for the farmers who repay their loans

in time. Providing such incentive is a much better alternative to loan waiver or interest waiver and will encourage timely repayment of farm loans.

**2. Reduction of Interest Rate of Education Loans:**

The Union Government has taken a number of forward looking steps that have made it possible for a large number of students to avail educational loans. The decision to provide interest subsidy on these loans and the moratorium on repayments are very much welcomed by all. However, the banks are charging high and varying rates of interest on such loans. Such high rates not only make a young person start his career with a high interest burden, but also put a lot of burden on the parents and other members of the family. Education is an investment in the future of the country. In order to ensure that a large number of genuine students avail of these loans, and are not, in the process, driven to extreme financial distress right at the beginning of their career, it is necessary to put a uniform rate of low interest on such loans. I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to kindly consider this issue very seriously and provide budgetary support to the Banks to fix this rate at about 4% per year.

**3. Free supply of generic medicines in Government Hospitals:**

The Government of Kerala has decided to distribute generic medicines free of cost through all the Government Hospitals and Medical Colleges. The right to health is one of the most fundamental rights emanating from the right to life. It must be the goal of every Government to ensure that no person is deprived of medicinal support for reasons of affordability. Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Union Minister to kindly consider introducing a scheme to provide free medicines to all persons (below poverty line) who need these for life support or for a disease free and healthy existence.

**4. Raising the amount of benefits under the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS):**

We remember with gratitude the decision of the Government of India in the last budget to raise the quantum of lump-sum grant given on the death of the primary breadwinner of a BPL family, from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000. The increase which came after many years has been welcomed by all. However, the level of assistance is still very low. Taking into account the rising prices and the fact that the loss of a bread-winner is a huge loss to a family, I request you to consider raising the lump-sum grant to Rs. 30,000 (and if that is not possible, to at least Rs. 25,000 as requested by us earlier). This will be most appreciated by the poor and needy sections of the society and is very much in tune with the Government's goal of inclusive growth and the goal of development with care.

**5. Limits of gold ornaments allowed to be imported by NRIs:**

A person who has stayed abroad for more than one year, the allowable limit to bring gold, duty-free, into India is Rs. 10,000 for men and Rs. 20,000 for women. Anyone who brings gold worth more than this amount has to pay 10% tax for the excess value of gold. These limits are said to have been fixed about 25 years back. The price of gold has increased many times during the last 25 years. The current limits lead to a situation that a woman cannot even carry wedding ring and Mangalyasutra without paying tax if the weight of the same exceed a few grams. The NRIs have been complaining about this rigid law. The Union Finance Minister is requested to kindly consider increasing the allowable limits for such duty-free gold worn by a person, to a reasonable quantity.

## **B. Kerala –specific suggestions:**

I also take this opportunity to make the following Kerala specific requests for incorporating in the Union budget.

### **1. Setting up of an IIT in Kerala:**

The establishment of an IIT is one of the most important and the longest pending demands of the State of Kerala. We were finally promised that this request will be considered during the 12th Five Year Plan, as the budget allocation for the IITs during the 11th Five Year Plan had already been allocated for the other new IITs. The people of Kerala are looking forward to a positive announcement in this regard to fulfill their long cherished dream. You are requested to kindly provide the necessary budget provision for establishing a new IIT in the state. This will help set all doubts at rest and re-strengthen people's faith in the Centre's benign attitude towards the genuine and legitimate demands of the State.

### **2. Compensation package for Endosulfan affected persons:**

A large number of persons in Kerala have unfortunately suffered from various ailments, physical deformities, birth defects, and also deaths, which are suspected to have been caused by the use of Endosulfan pesticide. The Human Rights Commission has asked us to pay a large package of compensation to these victims. We have asked the Government of India for financial assistance of Rs. 485.33 Crores to provide this compensation to Endosulfan victims. The Minister of Health, GOI, has assured us to provide all support, as is feasible, under the NRHM. However, this is not enough. In our last meeting with the GOI to discuss this issue it was suggested that a precedent existed in the form of relief granted to the victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy. Whichever way it is looked

at, there has been a human tragedy and the State must do its best to compensate the victims.

The Government of Kerala is yet to receive any assistance from the GOI in this regard. I request you to kindly bestow your personal attention in this matter and, taking into account the extraordinarily large human dimension of the tragedy, do the needful for granting special financial assistance of Rs. 485.33 Crores to the State to enable us to grant the compensation ordered by the Human Rights Commission.

**3. Upgrading Regional Cancer Centre into National Cancer Centre :**

The proposal for upgrading Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram into National Cancer Institute has been sent to the Government of India vide Letter No. 39926/J1/11/H&FWD, dated 28/09/2011. This was also personally taken up by me during my last visit. The Hon'ble Union Minister should kindly expedite decision to raise the level of the Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, to the level of a National Institute. The Thalassery Centre of Cancer Care should, at the same time, be upgraded to a Regional Cancer Centre.

**4. National Highway Bypasses in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Kozhikode, Thalassery, Mahe and Kannur:**

The road infra-structure in the State is not able to cope up with the growing rate of economic development. The national highways in the states are in a bad state of repair and are choked with vehicular traffic. The major cities in the state need bye-passes, but the National Highways Department is not able to construct these by-passes, because of lack of financial resources. The State Government has already agreed to bear 50% costs of such bye-passes at Kollam and Alzppuzha. I request the Hon'ble Union



Finance Minister to kindly make provision for the matching resources so that the bye-passes can be constructed at the earliest possible.

**5. Grant of Rs. 100 Crores to Fisheries University, Kochi:**

We are very grateful for the generous grant by the Government of India, in the past years, for up grading the infra-structure of the Agriculture and Veterinary Universities in the State. I request the Union Finance Minister to kindly consider making a provision for a similar grant of Rs. 100 Crores for the Fisheries University at Kochi in Kerala. This University serves the economically relevant, yet not very affluent, sections of the society in our state. A grant to this effect will serve to build quality infra-structure for higher studies and useful research for this sector.

**6. Kochi Metro and Mono Rail Projects at Kozhikkode and Thiruvananthapuram:**

The Government of India has most kindly agreed to be an equal equity partner in the Kochi Metro. To keep the interest costs down, and to ensure early completion of the project, it is desirable that the equity contribution is brought in much before loans are raised. The State Government is willing to provide its share of equity contribution up-front, and will be grateful if the Government of India also does the same. I request you to kindly provide the whole amount required for this equity support in the next year's budget.

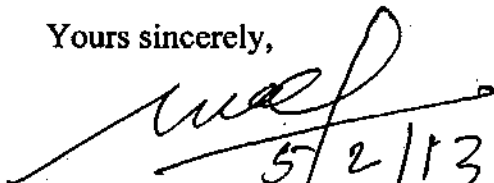
The State Government is also going ahead with mono-rail projects in Kozhikkode and Thiruvananthapuram. We are thankful to the Union Ministry of Urban Development for having agreed to support our initiatives for improving the urban infra-structure. I shall be grateful if necessary resources to support these mono-rail projects are specifically provided

under any new Urban Transport Improvement Scheme or under the Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission of the Government of India.

**7. Projects under National Lake Conservation Programme and National River Conservation Programme:**

The State Government has suggested a number of projects for the conservation of wetlands and rivers to protect the environment of the State. Various plans to protect and rejuvenate the lakes and rivers of Kerala have been suggested by the State for financial support by the Government of India. These include plans to support the famous Vembanadu lake, Veli-Akkulam lake under the National Lake Conservation Program, a plan for pollution abatement and rejuvenating of Pampa river under the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP) etc. The funds provided for these programs are not sufficient to tackle this huge problem. I request you to kindly announce a major financial grant of at least Rs. 1000 crores for the environment conservation projects of Kerala to help protect, safeguard and rejuvenate the water bodies in the state and thereby help protect the ecological balance of the whole region.

Yours sincerely,

  
5/2/13  
OOMMEN CHANDY

Shri. P. Chidambaram,  
Union Minister of Finance,  
Government of India,  
North Block,  
New Delhi - 110 001.

