

FCL:SEC:SE:BWA:23:25

20<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

Corporate Relations Department BSE Limited 1st Floor, New Trading Ring Rotunda Building, P J Towers Dalal Street, Fort Mumbai – 400 001	The Manager Listing Department National Stock Exchange of India Ltd 'Exchange Plaza', C-1, Block G, Bandra – Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400 051	Mr Tom Schmit Luxembourg Stock Exchange PO Box 165 L-2011 Luxembourg Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg EUROPE
Scrip Code: 500144	Scrip Code: FINCABLES	

Dear Sir/Madam,

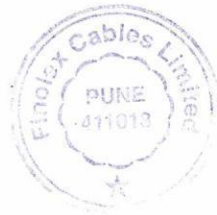
Subject: Article of Mr. Deepak Chhabria- Executive Chairman of the Company to appear in latest issue of Business World Magazine.

Please find attached copy of an Article of Mr. Deepak Chhabria- Executive Chairman of the Company which will appear in 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 issue of Business World Magazine.

This is for your kind record and information please.

Thanking you,

For FINOLEX CABLES LIMITED



Kamlesh M Shinde  
Assistant Company Secretary  
& Compliance Officer  
Encl: As above

COLUMN

UNION BUDGET 23-24

By  
**Deepak  
Chhabria,**  
Executive  
Chairman,  
Finolex  
Cables



## Ladder for Economic Growth

**T**HE UNION BUDGET 2023-24 is undoubtedly one of the most challenging budgets the Indian government has faced to date, given the current global economic downturn and the ongoing war in Ukraine. The budget serves as a crucial roadmap for ensuring India's continued growth and stability in the face of the economic storms affecting the rest of the world. It has been met with positive reactions from industry experts and stakeholders as it is viewed as a forward-thinking and optimistic document.

Capital expenditure (Capex) is an essential component of the Union Budget, as the funds are utilised for a wide range of projects, including construction, machinery, equipment, schools, and infrastructure. The Finance Minister has raised the Capex by 33 per cent to Rs 10 lakh crore, which is 3.3 per cent of the total GDP. This move reflects the government's focus on driving growth potential and creating more job opportunities for the nation's youth. This increase in Capex will also present numerous investment opportunities for private investors looking to invest in the Indian market.

One of the most applauded announcements from the budget was the increase in the rebate limit for income tax payments from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 7 lakh under the new tax regime. This increase, combined with the tax exemption limit being raised to Rs 3 lakh, provides much-needed relief for the salaried class, as they will now have more disposable income.

### Focus on 5G Services

The Indian government's focus on the successful deployment of 5G services

The budget has allocated Rs 2158 crore for optical fiber cables-based network for defence services and Rs 715.8 crore for telecom projects in North-eastern states. This initiative is expected to open up new employment opportunities and drive innovation in the field



holds immense potential for various industries, particularly the communication cables sector. The Finance Minister announced in the budget that to ensure India is at the forefront of the 5G revolution, 100 labs in engineering institutions across the country will be set up. These labs will be equipped with the latest 5G technology and will provide students, researchers, and industry professionals with the opportunity to develop new applications and business models utilising 5G services.

The focus on 5G will play a crucial role in supporting the growth of the technology sector and contributing to the country's overall economic development. At least 70 per cent of the towers need to be fiberised for optimum utilisation of 5G services, which will require an estimated investment of Rs 5 lakh crore in the next four years in terms of fiber and towers.

The total allocation of funds for the department of telecom includes Rs 97,579.05 crore. The state-run BSNL, is expected to roll out 4G and 5G services this year as it gets Rs 52,937 crore capital infusion from the government in 2023-24. The budget has also allocated Rs 2158 crore for optical fiber cables-based network for defence services and Rs 715.8 crore for telecom projects in North-eastern states. This initiative is expected to open up new employment opportunities and drive innovation in the field. Not just this, the government is also focusing on making artificial intelligence (AI) in India to galvanise an effective AI ecosystem and nurture quality human resources.



Photograph by Elnur

Moreover, the government's efforts to support the electronics manufacturing sector through incentives and tax benefits are likely to result in a boost in the production of electronic devices and will further contribute to the demand for communication cables. The budget also seeks to make doing business easier by reducing over 39,000 compliances, a move that will be welcomed by all businesses operating in India.

#### Measures to Provide Relief to MSMEs

The government has taken steps to revamp the credit guarantee scheme for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The revised scheme, which will come into effect on April 1, 2023, will be infused with Rs 9,000 crore, enabling an additional Rs 2 lakh crore in collateral-free guaranteed credit. This will provide MSMEs with increased access to credit and better terms for financing, promoting their growth and sustainability. The government has implemented measures to provide relief to MSMEs in case of con-

tract execution failures during the Covid-19 period. A total of 95 per cent of the forfeited amount related to bid or performance security will be returned to MSMEs by the government and government undertakings.

#### Improving Infrastructure

In its efforts to improve infrastructure, the government will establish the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF). This will be an innovative measure taken by the government to address the infrastructure needs of Tier-II and Tier-III cities in India. The UIDF, which will be managed by the National Housing Bank, will provide a crucial source of funding for public agencies looking to create urban infrastructure in these cities.

The government has incentivised the states to access the UIDF by encouraging them to leverage these resources. This initiative is expected to make an estimated 10,000 crore available annually to support the development of urban infrastructure in these cities. The UIDF is expected to play a vital role in promoting the growth and development of these cities, helping to create new job opportunities and improving the quality of life for their residents.

Overall, the Union Budget 2023-24 holds the potential for significant benefits for the common man and businesses alike. The budget's emphasis on increased disposable income, capital expenditure, and job creation will provide a much-needed boost to the economy, while also creating new opportunities for growth and development. In conclusion, as the Union Budget 2023 presents promising prospects, the actual impact will depend on a range of factors, including the successful implementation of the budget's proposals and the prevailing market conditions. [BW](#)