

**EXCERPTS FROM BUDGET SPEECH OF FINANCE MINISTER**  
**FOR THE YEAR 2013-14**

**(28.02.2013)**

**1. Disabled persons**

“Government is committed to provide support to persons with disabilities. I propose to allocate a sum of Rs.110 crore to the Department of Disability Affairs for the ADIP scheme in 2013-14, as against the RE of RS.75 crore in the current year.”

**2. CSR funds**

“Incubators play an important role in mentoring new businesses which start as a small or medium business. The new Companies Bill obliges companies to spend 2 percent of average net profits under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). I am glad to announce that the Ministry of Corporate Affairs will notify that funds provided to technology incubators located within academic institutions and approved by the Ministry of Science and Technology or Ministry of MSME will qualify as CSR expenditure.”

**3. Handloom**

“The handloom sector is in distress .A very large proportion of handloom weavers are women and belong mainly to the backward classes. I propose to accept their demand for working capital and term loans at a concessional interest of 6%. 150,000 individual weavers and 1,800 primary cooperative societies will benefit in 2013-14. I propose to allocate an additional sum of Rs.96 crore in 2013-14 to the Ministry of Textile for interest subvention.”

**4. Traditional Institutes**

“India has a rich heritage of traditional industries. Khadi, village industries and coir were taken up for development during the 11<sup>th</sup> plan under the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI). The 12<sup>th</sup> Plan has provided an outlay of Rs.850 crore. I propose to leverage assistance from Multilateral development Banks to extend SFURTI to 800 clusters during the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan. 400,000 artisans are expected to be benefited.”

## **5. Financial Inclusion**

“Financial Inclusion has made rapid strides. All scheduled commercial banks and all RRBs are on core banking solutions (CBS) and on the electronic payment systems (NEFT and RTGS). We are working with RBI and NABARD to bring all other banks, including some cooperatives banks, on CBS and e-payment systems by 31.12.13 . Public Sector banks have assured me that all their branches will have an ATM in place by 31.03.2014.”

## **6. India’s First Women’s Bank**

“Women are at the head of many banks today, including two public sector banks, but there is no bank that exclusively serves women. Can we have as bank that lends mostly to women and women run businesses, that supports women SHGS and women ‘s livelihood, that employs predominantly women, and that addresses gender related aspects of empowerment and financial inclusion? I think we can. I therefore propose to set up India’s first Women’s Bank as a public sector bank and I shall provide Rs.1,000 crore as initial capital. I hope to obtain the necessary approvals and the banking license by October, 2013, and I invite all Hon’ble Members to the inauguration of the bank shortly thereafter.”

## **7. Skill Development**

“Hon’ble Members will recall that in 2008-09 I had proposed the establishment of the National Skill Development Corporation. The Corporation has since been set up and has done good work, but there is a long way to go. We have set an ambitious target of skilling 50 million people in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period, including 9 million in 2013-14. We have to pull out all stops to achieve this objective. Funds will be released by the National Rural Livelihood Mission and the National Urban Livelihood Mission to be spent on skill development activities. 5% of the Border Area Development Programme Fund, 10 percent of the Special Central Assistance to the Scheduled Caste sub plan and the Tribal sub plan and some other funds will also used for skill development.”

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