

# First session of 17th Lok Sabha from June 17, Budget on July 5

**Agency**  
New Delhi June 1,

The next union Budget will be presented by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on July 5, during the first sitting of the 17th Lok Sabha which will begin on June 17, 2019. According to a government release, the summoning of the new Lok Sabha will start in a little over two weeks and will likely conclude on July 26. President Ram Nath Kovind will be requested to address

both the Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament on June 20 (Thursday), in terms of article 87(1) of the Constitution, the official statement said. The Rajya Sabha, India's upper parliamentary house, will convene on June 20. Due to the Lok Sabha elections, the Narendra Modi government presented an interim budget earlier this year, which announced measures to provide relief to India's farmers

and agriculture sector. This time, with a full budget, the Economic Survey will tabled by July 4. This will be the first survey, which usually a comprehensive assessment of India's economy prepared by chief economic advisor, by Krishnamurthy Subramanian, who was appointed by the government late last year. According to agency reports, the new Lok Sabha will have a total of 30 sittings during its first parliamentary session.

# Govt approves extension of PM-KISAN scheme to all farmer; clears pension for farmers, traders

**Agency**  
New Delhi June 1,

The newly-sworn in NDA government at the Centre has taken four major decisions related to farmers' and traders welfare in the first meeting of the Union Cabinet. It has approved the extension of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) to all the farmers in the country. Earlier the benefit of the scheme was applicable to farmers having two hectares of land. Briefing reporters after the Cabinet meeting in New Delhi last evening, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said, nearly 14 crore 50 lakh farmers will be now covered under the revised scheme. The Minister said, total burden on the exchequer will be over 87,000 crore rupees for the year 2019-20. He said, over three crore farmers have been benefited so far. Six thousand rupees per year is being given in three instalments to the farmers, under the scheme. In another major decision,

the Centre approved the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana under which small and marginal farmers will get a minimum fixed pension of 3,000 rupees per month on attaining the age of 60 years. The beneficiaries should be in the age group of 18 to 40 years. Mr Tomar said, the central government will also contribute an equal amount to the pension fund. He said, the scheme aims to initially cover 5 crore farmers in the first 3 years. The Cabinet cleared a pension scheme for small traders. Briefing reporters in New Delhi last evening, Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javdekar said, the scheme is meant to provide universal social security to all shopkeepers, retail traders and self-employed persons. They will be given a minimum monthly pension of 3 thousand rupees on attaining the age of 60 years. Altogether 3 crore retail traders and shopkeepers will be benefited under this scheme.

The government approved a special scheme for controlling foot and mouth diseases of animals. Mr Javdekar said, altogether 13,343 crore rupees is to be allocated to eradicate the disease in five years. In a series of tweets after the Cabinet meeting, the Prime Minister said, path-breaking decisions were taken in the first cabinet meeting of the new Central government. The BJP had promised these measures in its election manifesto. He said, hardworking farmers and industrious traders, will benefit greatly due to these decisions. He said, the decisions will enhance the dignity and empowerment of the people of the country. In a series of tweets, Union Home Minister Amit Shah termed the scheme as a landmark decision. He said, farmers and poor have always been a priority for the NDA government. He said as promised, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended the PM-Kisan scheme to all farmers. Mr Shah took oath as a Union Minister on Thursday.

# US to end trade privileges for India on June 5, says Donald Trump

**Agency**  
Washington June 1,

The United States on Friday formally terminated India's eligibility for a duty-free import scheme for developing countries saying it has not given assurances it "will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets" to US companies as required under relevant American trade laws. The impending termination was previewed Thursday by a senior administration official, who described it as a "done deal" and said it is time for the two countries to move on, and try to resolve other trade irritants. The official had, however, left open the possibility of restoring these benefits if and when India complied with American demands for greater market access to its dairy products and medical devices sectors. "I have determined that India has not assured the United States that India will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets," US President Donald Trump said in a proclamation issued Friday. "Accordingly, it is appropriate to terminate India's designation

as a beneficiary developing country effective June 5, 2019." President Trump had conveyed its intention to terminate India's eligibility for the programme — Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) — to the US congress on March 4. And the formal termination became due on May 4, after the mandatory 60-day notice period. But the administration held off on the proclamation as India was in the middle of elections at the time and there was pressure from US lawmakers, from both parties, to delay the termination to allow more time for negotiations. There was expectation that India could avert the termination. But the Trump administration had concluded much before, according to people close to the developments, that India would not be able to deliver no matter how much additional time it was given. But it agreed to wait for the elections to get over, and announced the termination just a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi began his second term. No talks were underway at the time contrary to public assurances from Indian officials. This US action, that had been

expected for long, presents the first major challenge for the new Modi government regarding relations with the United States, as there is talk the Trump administration might not stop at this and could be considering even more precipitate actions in line with President Donald Trump's tough posture on trade. India has been the largest beneficiary of this duty-free programme which allows certain imports from 120 countries to enter the United States at zero tariff. It sold an estimated \$6.3 billion worth of goods to the United States under this programme in 2018, according to a new report by the Congressional Research Service, a non-partisan source of research, analysis and projections for US lawmakers. Withdrawal of zero-tariff benefits would subject these products, presuming their volumes remain unaffected, to \$190 million, according to official Indian estimates. But people familiar with these discussions fear the new tariffs could make these products costlier for US importers, who could then switch from Indian suppliers to those who can supply for less, minus the tariff, to keep down their prices.

## From the world of Medicine

# Corneal Degeneration Now Treatable with Minimally Invasive Transplants



By - Dr. Mahipal S Sachdev  
Chairman, Centre for Sight

Fuchs' Dystrophy a corneal eye disease happens when the innermost layer of the corneal cells undergoes degenerative changes. Endothelium, the cell layer in the cornea responsible for maintaining appropriate amounts of fluid in the cornea and keep it clean and clear, dies off with the progression of the disease. This happens due to the failure of the layer to pump out the excess fluid accumulation causing corneal swelling thereby affecting the vision. Gradually the condition is known to affect both the eyes causing cloudy, hazy and declining vision.

What causes Fuch's Dystrophy? People suffering from this disorder usually get up with a blurry vision in the morning that gradually worsens throughout the day. The genetic basis seems quite complex with severities and degrees varying through the family members. Though genetic reasons attribute to about 50% of the cases, idiopathic cases where usually symptoms persist around 40-50 years of age are coming up even in people under the age of 30 years. According to several studies it has also been found that females are twice likely to develop the condition than male. Risk factors like smoking and diabetes are also known to trigger the condition.

**What are the symptoms?** In the initial stages blurry or foggy vision is accompanied by sensitivity to light and glare that decreases the vision in dim or bright light. Progression of the condition is characterized by severe eye pain, difficulty to see in the night, poor vision and a sensation of presence of some particle in the eye. Many patients also feel like seeing colored halos around light. How does it affect the cornea? Cornea is the front portion of the eye comprised with three main layers -

• Epithelium - it acts as a barrier to protect the cornea from foreign particles like dust, debris and bacteria.

• Stroma - it builds upto 90% of the corneal thickness and is the middle layer comprising of collagens and other structural material. This

layer provides, cornea the dome-shape and strength.

• Endothelium - is the single layer located on the descemet membrane to provide the appropriate balance of fluid in the cornea. Initially the fluid may only build up during sleep and the vision may be hazy in the morning as soon the person gets up and gets better with the day. This is the first stage of the disorder and eventually if the condition worsens, and small blisters may be formed. During the second stage, the blisters gets bigger and breaks causing eye pain, changes in the shape of the cornea leading to other vision problems. The condition when the cornea swells and forms blisters in the front of the cornea is known as bullous keratopathy.

A bio-microscopic exam of the eye will reveal any abnormalities and the ophthalmologist may also suggest some additional examinations like pachymetry test to measure the corneal thickness, a specular microscopic examination to look at the thin layer of the cells that lines the back part of the cornea along with the visual acuity test.

**What are the treatment options?**

Depending on the severity and degree of the symptoms, treatment also varies. Treating with eye drops and ointments along with use of special salt solution that helps in removing the excess fluid out of the cornea works best to relieve the symptoms in the initial stages. If the

sores become painful, surgical intervention is needed to create flaps over the sores to reduce pain.

In the case of endothelial dystrophy and ocular hypertension, doctor recommends glaucoma eye drops to reduce the intraocular pressure (IOP) as high eye pressure can damage the corneal endothelium and worsen the condition.

The only cure for FD is a corneal transplant. Penetrating Keratoplasty was the only option for transplant that involved to surgically removing the damaged cornea, where patients had to be too careful to ensure the wounds don't rupture even for years.

With advancements in the field of ophthalmology, development of laser ablations, corneal transplant techniques have revolutionized the patient recovery for better vision. Decemet's Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty (DMEK) replaces only the damaged endothelium of the cornea with a precision of upto one-twentieth of the actual corneal thickness. The tissue is carefully removed through a small incision, and the replacement donor tissue is rolled up, inserted and flattened out. Rather than stitches, the tissue is placed with an air bubble which helps in healing faster. Due to this the front surface of the cornea remains smooth and intact with DMEK which leaves the eye much stronger and less prone to accidental injury.

# 12 killed, including gunman, in shooting in Virginia, US

**Agency**  
New Delhi June 1,

In United States, at least 11 people were killed and six others injured in a mass shooting at a government building in the state of Virginia. Police said, the shooting took place at Virginia Beach Municipal Center. The suspect, a long-term and current employee at the Centre fired indiscriminately. The gunman, whose identity has not yet been released, also died. A police officer was among the wounded.

# Lost

I, the undersigned, T. Ashakumari Devi, mother of Kamei Alice Chunjanglu, of Sangaiprou Kabui khul, Imphal West, do hereby declare that, my daughter's Pass book issued by the Post Office Imphal under the "Sukanya Samridhi Yojna" bearing account number 6124896723 was lost on the way between my home and Paona Bazar on May 24, 2019.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
Ashakumari Devi  
Mother of Kamei Alice Chunjanglu  
Sangaiprou Kabui Khul, Imphal West- Manipur

## GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KANGPOKPI

NOTICE  
Kangpokpi, The 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019

No. DC(KPI)2/12/87/Vol III : It is hereby notified for general information that Smt. Chinneihing age about 57 yrs w/o Shri Thangsat Kipgen of Kangpokpi Ward No. 4, P.O. & P.S. Kangpokpi-795129, under Kangpokpi Sub-Division, Kangpokpi District, Manipur has applied for registration of Gift Deed measuring an area of 0.34 acre between Shri Thangsat Kipgen aged about 56 years S/o Shri Thongkhohlam Kipgen of Kangpokpi W/No. 4, Sub Division Kangpokpi, P.O. & P.S. Kangpokpi-795129, Kangpokpi District, Manipur as donor and that Smt. Chinneihing age about 57 yrs w/o Shri Thangsat Kipgen of Kangpokpi Ward No. 4, P.O. & P.S. Kangpokpi-795129, under Kangpokpi Sub-Division, Kangpokpi District, Manipur as donee. The boundary of the said land is prescribed hereunder:

### Schedule of the land:

North	:	By the Kanggui Stream.
South	:	By the land of Hatnu Baite.
East	:	By the KT School boundary
West	:	By the Healing Centre

Objection is hereby invited from any interested person(s) to file objection if any within 7 days from the date of publication of this Notice in newspaper. If objection is not received within the stipulated period, it will be presume that there is no objection.

Sd/-  
(Sapam Jotin Singh)  
Sub-Deputy Collector (HQ)  
DC's Office Kangpokpi