



## Union Budget 2026: FM announces Customs duty exemptions, new biopharma initiatives

*Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's ninth consecutive Union Budget is set to break with long-standing convention, with Part B of her Budget speech emerging as the main platform for outlining India's economic vision and reform agenda, according to the reports.*

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By [Victor Dasgupta](#)

**New Delhi:** Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2026 on Sunday in Lok Sabha. This was the ninth consecutive budget that Nirmala Sitharaman presented in the Parliament. Today's Budget presentation broke with long-standing convention, with Part B of her Budget speech emerging as the main platform for outlining India's economic vision and reform agenda, according to the reports.

After taking oath on May 31 2019 under PM Modi's leadership, Sitharaman's tenure as finance minister has spanned 6 years and 8 months. She presented her maiden budget on July 5, 2019 and also holds the record for delivering the longest budget speech when she spoke for 2hrs and 42mins, while presenting the Union Budget for the 2020-21 financial year on February 1, 2020.

**Navdeep Sardana, Founder, Whiteland Corporation**

“The Finance Minister’s decision to scale up public capital expenditure to ₹12.2 lakh crore and introduce the Infrastructure Risk Guarantee Fund is a major confidence booster for the real estate and infrastructure sectors. By de-risking the construction phase and improving credit availability, the move will accelerate project execution and crowd in private investment. Faster asset monetisation through REITs and enhanced freight connectivity will further unlock liquidity across the ecosystem. For the Delhi-NCR market, these measures will strengthen infrastructure-led growth, improve regional connectivity, and drive sustained demand across residential, commercial and logistics real estate, reinforcing NCR’s position as India’s most dynamic property market.”