

'Not pessimistic but mindful of challenges'

Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) **V ANANTHA NAGESWARAN** on Monday said that he was upbeat but cautious about the growth prospects of India while projecting a 6.5-7 per cent gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate for 2024-25. The CEA, while addressing a press conference, called for policy interventions in the agriculture sector, bridging the job and skill gap, among other things. **RUCHIKA CHITRAVANSHI** and **SHIKHA CHATURVEDI** report

On whether GDP projection of 6.5-7 per cent is conservative

We are not pessimistic. We are very optimistic about growth but also mindful of the challenges, which I listed, including the way the monsoon has progressed.

In January, we were more confident about 7 per cent. Since then, the global environment has become even more polarised, and financial market valuations are much more elevated. We feel 7 per cent is doable, yet we want to be, not necessarily cautious, but somewhat prudent in projecting. We would rather be pleasantly surprised than be forced to face disappointments.

What brought us from \$8 to \$2,500 (per capita income) in the past 30 years when the world was very different will not be what takes us from \$2,500 to \$10,000. This awareness is what we try to convey in the Economic Survey.

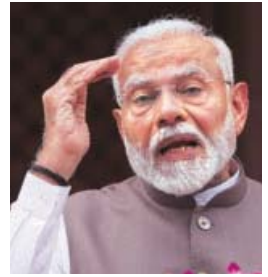


"WE NEED TO ENSURE THAT AS WE DEPLOY AI, WE ALSO PREPARE THE POPULATION TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN IT BY REDESIGNING THE CURRICULUM AND CREATING IN-HOUSE COURSES TO MAKE THEM AI-COMPATIBLE AND AI-EMPLOYABLE"

V ANANTHA NAGESWARAN
Chief Economic Advisor

THE GREENIUM ISSUE IS NOT PECULIAR TO INDIA: CEA

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"THE ECONOMIC SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS THE PREVAILING STRENGTHS OF OUR ECONOMY AND ALSO SHOWCASES THE OUTCOMES OF THE VARIOUS REFORMS OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BROUGHT"

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

PM: Milestone Budget for Amrit Kaal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday described the Union Budget 2024-25, to be presented on Tuesday, as a "milestone Budget" of the *Amrit Kaal*, and said that his government is working tirelessly to accomplish the guarantees that he has promised to the people over the years.

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