



NATIONAL SOCIAL
INCLUSION FOUNDATION

Budget Brief 2022-2023



Forward

Budget 2022/23, presented under the theme 'With the People, For the People', seeks to address current challenges caused by disruptions in global value chains and rising prices of energy, food and commodities. The budget speech announces a number of measures aimed at providing greater social protection to the poor and vulnerable and promoting their resilience in the face of eroding purchasing power. As such, 300,000 individuals will benefit from an increase their pensions. Social protection measures in favour of the elderly, disabled, low income and vulnerable individuals and families are projected to cost around Rs59.4 billion, i.e. 34.4% of Government's total expenditure for the financial year 2022-2023.

This brief provides a summary of the main budgetary measures targeting vulnerable groups.



The Elderly

- The Basic Retirement Pension (BRP) will be increased from Rs 9,000 to Rs 10,000.
- An additional Rs 1,000 will be paid to 169,000 retirees aged 65 and above under the CSG Retirement Benefit. An individual having reached 65 years will henceforth benefit from an increase in pension from Rs 9,000 to Rs 11,000.
- The elderly with dependent children up to 23 years attending university will receive a monthly child allowance of Rs 1,700.



The Disabled

- An increase of 11 percent in the Basic Invalid Pension from Rs 9,000 to Rs 10,000.
- Introduction of a monthly CSG Disability Allowance of Rs 2,500 for those suffering from a disability between 40 and 59 percent.
- A monthly incontinence allowance of Rs 1,500 to be paid to bedridden and severely disabled inmates of charitable institutions.



The Disabled

- Increase in the financial assistance for the purchase of:
 - a. Spectacles from Rs 2,000 to Rs 5,000
 - b. Wheelchairs from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000
 - c. Hearing aids from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000
- News bulletin in Mauritian Sign Language will be increased to twice weekly and 60 public officers will be trained in Mauritian Sign Language.
- 40 Floating Beach Wheelchairs and Beach Access Mats will be bought to ease access of the disabled to the beach.

Vulnerable Children and Women

- The Basic Widow's and Orphan's Pensions will increase by Rs 1,000 from Rs 9,000 to Rs 10,000.
- Construction of a model shelter for women victims of domestic violence at Rivière du Poste, including nursery and pre-primary facilities.
- A 3 months mentoring and a monthly stipend of Rs 11,500 will be provided to around 50 women in order to promote women entrepreneurship.
- A monthly 'Prime a l'Emploi' of Rs 15,000 will be provided for first year of employment to 10,000 youths between 18 and 35 years and women up to 50 years.
- Students will be waived from paying for MITD examinations fees.
- Recruitment of 2,000 employees at Mauri-Facilities Ltd for cleaning services.
- A skills development programme to enhance employability will be provided to residents of shelter aged between 16 and 18.
- The one-off cash grant of Rs 500,000 for upgrading of crèches is maintained.
- Introduction of a National Adoption Bill to provide a legal framework for both local and foreign adoption of children.

Low Income and Vulnerable Families

- Payment of a monthly CSG Income Allowance of Rs 1,000 to some 350,000 employees and registered self-employed individuals earning a gross income of up to Rs 50,000.
 - 18,000 households will benefit from increased support under social aid and SRM.
 - Benefits under Social Aid to be increased by at least 20 percent as from 1st July 2022.
- For beneficiaries under the SRM :
 - a. An increase in minimum monthly subsistence allowance from Rs 500 to Rs 1,000.
 - b. An increase in monthly child allowance from Rs 957 to Rs 1,046.
 - c. Waiving of administration fee for full-time courses at MITD and other recognised public tertiary institutions.
 - d. Free diapers will be provided to infants aged up to one year.
 - e. Basic Invalidity Pension will not be accounted in the income eligibility threshold.

Low Income and Vulnerable Families

- Subsidies on essential products such as flour at a cost of Rs 1.4 billion, on cooking gas at Rs 2 billion and on rice at Rs 370 million.
- Construction of 13,758 social housing units across Mauritius.
- Rebuilding of around 1,800 Ex-CHA houses for the complete phase out of Asbestos.

Support to NGOs

- The NSIF will increase its budget from Rs 900 million to Rs 1.1 billion to support programmes and projects of NGOs. This will include:
 - a. Rs 200 million to support children in Residential Care Institutions
 - b. Rs 35 million on a programme for vulnerable families under the National Database for vulnerable groups
 - c. Rs 15 million on a reintegration programme of patients from Brown Sequard Hospital
 - d. Rs 10 million for a programme on homelessness
 - e. A one-off recognition scheme for NGO staff at time of retirement in recognition of their long and dedicated work in favour of the vulnerable

Support to NGOs

- Charitable institutions to benefit from an increase by 5 percent in the grant under the per capita subsidy scheme and fixed grant scheme and exemption from payment of wastewater charges.
- Amendment of Human Resource Development Act to allow charitable institutions to contribute to the training levy and recover up to 75% of the training costs incurred in the enhancement of the skills of their workforce.

Support to NGOs

- Rs 155 million provided for grants to 53 schools run by NGOs.
- SEN schools to be eligible for:
 - a. Rs 100,000 for repairs and renovation of buildings
 - b. Rs 50,000 for purchase of equipment and pedagogical tools and materials
 - c. 10 percent increase in the allowance paid to paramedical specialists
 - d. Hot meal and transport facilities to all students, irrespective of age
 - e. A loan of Rs 100,000 at a discounted rate of 3.5 percent provided by the DBM to upgrade and embellish their infrastructure

Contact

National Social Inclusion Foundation

6th Floor, Garden Tower,

La Poudrière Street, Port-Louis

T: (230) 260 2406 W: www.nsif.mu E: info@nsif.mu
