



## **FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF INTERIM UNION BUDGET**

### **2024-25**

- ❖ Being election year, the interim budget was not expected to be extraordinary or having major reforms/changes.
- ❖ Shorter Budget Speech, as expected.
- ❖ More of an opportunity to explain Government achievements.
- ❖ Explains the Government focus on the Poor, Women, Youth and Agriculturists.
- ❖ Concentrates on infrastructure and housing.
- ❖ Various past pending Income Tax cases upto specific limits for upto specific Financial years, will be withdrawn.
- ❖ Performance on economic growth, so far claimed to be on target. Fiscal deficit kept much lower than expected, which shows a positive outlook for future and overall development.
- ❖ Likely to have positive impact on housing sector, ancillary industries such as paint/cement etc. as also infra industry, vehicle industry etc.
- ❖ Stock Market treats Budgets like an investment opportunity and is hardly a means to judge the merits of the Budget.
- ❖ Given the constraints, Budget is fair and neither fantastic nor depressing.