



IBPC Dubai office-bearers after the panel discussion held in Dubai on Monday.

er-friendly Indian budget ignore

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hosted by the Indian Business and Professional Council (IBPC) Dubai after the budget, its Secretary General James Mathew said that the budget showed much promise. He said that around 60 per cent of the population belong to the farming sector and doubling the income of farmers by 2020 is something to look forward to; it will change the face of the country.

The group's President Kulwant Singh said that the focus on rural development was certainly needed. He also commended the electrification plans for rural houses. He said, "The farming and agricultural sec-

tors were in need of this kind of support; the focus on the youth is another plus. I am also happy to hear about the FDI in retail of domestic food products."

However, he lamented the fact that the budget had no mention of NRIs or about any plan to help the NRI sector. He said that a mention of easing gold imports and repatriation rules was also neglected in the Finance Minister's speech.

AGRICULTURE SECTOR

KV Shamsudheen, IBPC Board Member, praised the government

for giving great importance to the agriculture and farming sectors and expressed hope that this will make a difference to the country's economy.

He also highlighted that the government has completely ignored around 20 million expatriates who contribute largely to the Indian economy.

Kiran Sangani, IBPC Board Member, said that the finance minister has tried his best by incorporating the various schemes related to Skilled India, Digital India, Start up India, Make in Indian and Swachh Bharat.

Finance Minister has given good

chance to the people to declare undisclosed income through amnesty scheme. He has given relief to small tax payer. Further reforms in FDI in Insurance, Pension, Assets Recast Companies and 'No Retrospective Taxation' will encourage big corporation to come to India for business and create additional employment in India," he added. CA Nimish Makvana, Chairman of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India Dubai, termed it is a forward looking budget with lot of impetus on agriculture, rural development, industry, and all other critical growth areas.

"However, on personal tax front

