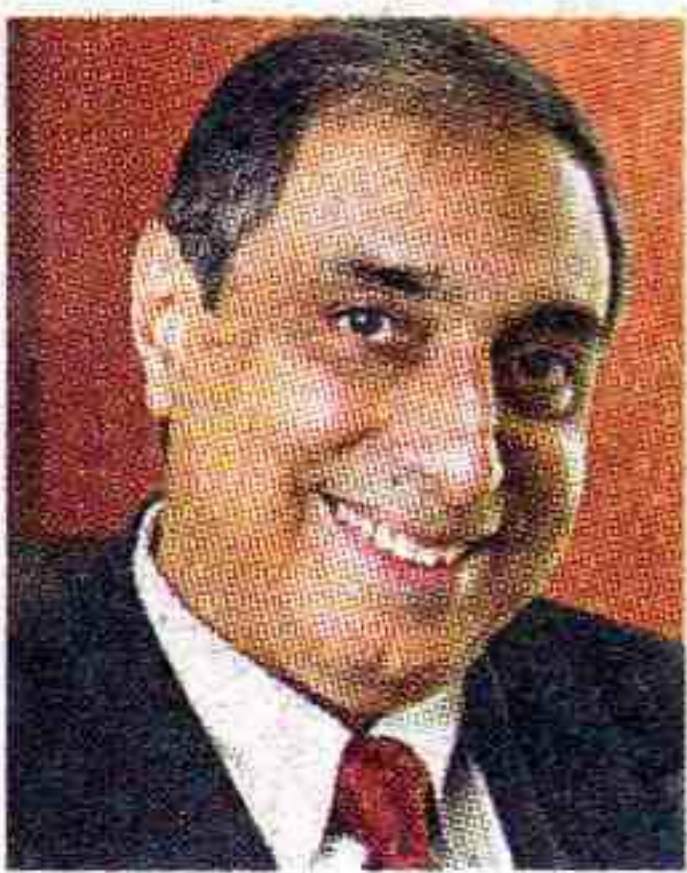


IT WILL KICK-START GROWTH AGAIN

IRFAN RAZACK
CMD, PRESTIGE GROUP

The Budget is well-rounded, which aims to kick-start the growth of the economy again. A



lot of focus has been given to the Agriculture, Education, Healthcare and Infrastructure sectors, which is crucial to provide long term benefits to the middle and lower classes. One of the highlights of the

Budget is the dedicated emphasis to Tourism as well. However, under Direct Tax, some concessions have been made for salaried class, where they will have savings of around Rs 40,000 per annum.

There is no direct benefit to the real estate sector as such. Having said that, Long-Term Capital Gains (LTCG) on securities and shares introduced into the budget, will create a level playing field for real estate, as a lot of people who were investing only in equities will now consider real estate as an alternate investment option, which will help the industry.