

Title: Shaping India's Economic Future: Nirmala Sitharaman

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Grade: VII

Category: Junior

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Abstract:

“There is no force more than a woman determined to rise”

-Civil Rights Activist, W.E. B Dubois

In a world, which is filled with obstacles and opportunities, an empowered women, lead with courage, took charge, and created a balanced force for equality in the world.

Nirmala Sitharaman is the Union Finance Minister, the corporate affairs minister, and the Former Defence Minister in the BJP government. She is known for her sharp, no-nonsense, and solemn attitude. In September 2017 she became the first full time female defence minister. In 2003, she became a National Commission of women's member in PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee's tenure. Despite her in-laws being pro-congress, she joined BJP in 2006 and became its antional spokesperson.

Nirmala Sitharaman faced the toughest balancing acts of her career in 2019 as she faced India's worst economic news of the year: unemployment had touched a 45-year height and India had lost its tag of the world's fastest growing economy to China. But with plenty of courage, she managed to pull off the balancing act.

She is committed to her party and brings impeccable integrity to her job. From being a regular Madhurai girl to a finance minister, Nirmala Sitharaman has had an outstanding rise in her career.

Keywords- opportunities, balanced, equality, solemn, finance and integrity

Introduction

Nirmala Sitharaman is an Indian politician and member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). She serves as the Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs of India, making her the first full-time female finance minister of India. She has held various other important portfolios in the Indian government, including Minister of Defence. She is known for her background in economics and finance, having studied at prestigious institutions like Jawaharlal Nehru University and the London School of Economics.

Discussion

She was proudly featured in the Forbes 2022 list of World's most 100 powerful women and was ranked 36. Fortune made her the most powerful woman in India(Forbes 36). Sitharaman also won the Business reformer of the year award at The Economic Times Awards for Corporate Excellence 2021.

As Finance Minister, Sitharaman has introduced several policy initiatives aimed at boosting economic growth, attracting foreign investment, and facilitating ease of doing business in India (Beniwal and Pradhan, 4). Notable among these are the Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms, the Atma-nirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) initiative, and various stimulus packages to support businesses and individuals during the pandemic.

Under her leadership, the economy flourished, with businesses thriving and people finding new opportunities to succeed. She championed reforms to simplify taxation and encouraged foreign investment, making it easier for companies to do business in India.

But she knew that true success wasn't just about numbers on a balance sheet. It was about improving the lives of ordinary people. So, she also worked hard to tackle poverty and inequality, ensuring that everyone had a chance to share in the country's prosperity.

Nirmala Sitharaman has garnered international recognition for her role in shaping India's economic policies and her leadership during times of crisis (Chatterjee 8). She has also served as a member of the National Commission for women.

Under her tenure as finance minister in 2022, India also became the 5th largest economy in the world as the GDP of the country had experienced a massive growth positively. (Chatterjee 10) Latest news: On February 1, 2024, she represented the Union budget for the record 6th time and matched it with Morarji Desai. She also became the first minister to present the budget in the new parliament building of India (Mahalakshmi 1).

And so, Nirmala Sitharaman's story became a shining example of what can be achieved when one person dares to dream big and work hard to make those dreams a reality. She showed that with determination and a heart full of compassion, anything is possible. And her legacy would live on, inspiring generations to come to strive for a better tomorrow.

Conclusion:

Nirmala Sitharaman is a powerful example of an empowered woman. As India's first full-time female Finance Minister, she has broken barriers and inspired many. With her knowledge in economics and strong determination, she has shown that women can lead with confidence. Her success is not just her own—it encourages other women to pursue their dreams boldly. Through her actions and words, she champions the idea that empowerment knows no bounds, igniting a spark of hope and possibility in the hearts of many.

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