



Media Release

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WA Budget: All Pain No Gain

ECCWA President, Dr. Zarrin S Siddiqui today expresses disappointment on the proposed WA budget.

“It adds more stress especially on new and emerging communities who are already suffering in silence”, commented Dr. Siddiqui. “A number of migrants apply for Regional sponsored migration and WA is definitely a state of choice. With increasing rates and taxes, the chances are that prospective migrants will prefer to opt for other states while those who have already got migration are unable to move to different states as per their visa conditions”.

“For the refugees and asylum seekers public transport is already an expensive option and stops them to commute even for free language classes or employment support as many of them already spend about more than 10 dollars per day if they have to take bus to pick and drop kids to the school.”

“Similarly new cap on stamp duty might deter first home buyers to enter the house market while those who have bought property earlier as an investment will face problems if they want to sell it as it will not attract first home buyers anymore. With increase tariffs for basic amenities no doubt there will also be an increase in rent.”

“We are living in difficult times. New migrants do not get accommodation because there is no previous history of tenancy, they do not get employment because they have no experience despite they have been granted migration on the basis of qualifications and are forced to work as drivers, cleaners and security guards etc. while their occupations are still on the Skilled Occupations List (SOL). There needs to be extensive research and consultations to identify viable solutions. Waiting now for Federal Budget to see what that has to offer.”