

PRESS BRIEF

on

Important features of Finance Accounts and Appropriation Accounts of Government of Rajasthan for the year 2020-21



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GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN

Immediate Release



Press Brief

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Finance Accounts and Appropriation Accounts 2020-21 of Government of Rajasthan have been prepared under supervision of C&AG of India in accordance with the requirement of C&AG's (Duties, Power & Conditions of Service) Act, 1971. These Accounts were sent to Government of Rajasthan on 24.11.2021 for being laid in the State Legislature and the same have been presented in Legislature.

The Finance Accounts are presented in two volumes. Volume I contains 13 Statements which are summarized statements of Receipts and Disbursement, Revenue Expenditure, Capital Expenditure, Loans & Advances, Public Debt, Investments, Guarantees given by the State Government, Grants-in-aid and 'Notes to Accounts' containing summary of significant accounting policies, para on Consolidated Fund, Contingency Fund, Public Accounts, Disclosures in accordance with Indian Government Accounting Standards (IGAS), Disclosure under Rajasthan Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act 2005 and Impact on Revenue Deficit and Fiscal Deficit.

Volume II contains two parts, 9 Detailed Statements in Part I and 12 Appendices in Part II, which supplement the Statements of Volume I.

The Appropriation Accounts supplement the Finance Accounts. They depict the expenditure of the State Government against amounts 'charged' on the consolidated fund or 'voted' by the State Legislature. There are 4 charged Appropriations and 51 voted grants in Rajasthan.

Important features of Finance Accounts & Appropriation Accounts

The following important features were noticed and included in Notes to Accounts (NTA) of Finance Accounts Volume-I, Appropriation Accounts and Accounts at a Glance 2020-21:

A. Points relating to Financial Parameters/ Indicators

• Revenue Receipts

The Revenue Receipts declined by 22.55 per cent (₹ 39,097 crore) during 2020-21 against Budget Estimates (₹ 1,73,405 crore) and Revenue Expenditure decreased by 4.01 per cent (₹ 7,441 crore) against Estimates (₹ 1,85,750 crore). The short fall in Revenue Receipts was mainly due to less receipt of Tax Revenue including State share of Union Taxes/Duties from Central Government and Non-Tax Revenue of the State. Consequently, both the State Fund (SF) expenditure and the Central Assistance (CA) expenditure on Capital Account were decreased.

(Para 1.5 of Accounts at a Glance 2020-21)

• Revenue Deficit

There was a Revenue Deficit of ₹ 44,001 crore during 2020-21 constituting 4.59 *per cent* of GSDP as compared to 3.56 *per cent* during the last year. This was against the FRBM target of Revenue neutral/Revenue surplus.

(Para 6 of NTA)

• Fiscal Deficit

The Fiscal Deficit during 2020-21 was ₹ 59,375 crore constituting 6.20 per cent of GSDP as compared to 3.69 per cent during the last year. The fiscal deficit increased by 2.51 per cent and it is higher than FRBM target of 3.00 per cent.

(Para 6 of NTA)

• Under Statement of Revenue Deficit and Fiscal Deficit

Both revenue deficit and fiscal deficit were understated by ₹ 275 crore during the year 2020-21 due to non-transfer of amount of Central Road Fund (₹ 142 crore), non-transfer of cess collected for specific purposes to the respective Reserve Funds (₹ 93 crore) and short transfer of employees and government's contribution to NSDL under the Defined Contribution Pension Scheme (₹ 40 crore).

(Para 7 of NTA)

• Public Debt

Public Debt and other Liabilities of the State Government increased from 34.55 per cent of GSDP at the end of 2019-20 to 42.85 per cent of GSDP at the end of 2020-21 due to more borrowing during the year in comparison to previous year and less receipt of Revenue on account of COVID pandemic. The Public Debt to GSDP ratio was above the FRBM target of 38.20 per cent.

(Para 6 of NTA)

• Investment and Returns

Total investments as share capital in Government Companies, Statutory Corporations, Co-operative Banks and Societies etc., stood at ₹ 52,784 crore at the end of 2020-21. Investments increased by ₹ 575 crore (net) during 2020-21. The major investment made in Power Companies (₹ 403 crore). The accumulated losses of major power sector PSUs were ₹ 92,422 crore. The dividends received during the year were ₹ 3 crore (0.01 *per cent*) on investment while the borrowing cost of the Government was 6.60 *per cent*.

(Para 2 (x) of NTA and Account at a Glance para 6.1.1)

• Direct Transfer of funds to Implementing Agencies - ₹ 13,628 crore

Despite Government of India's decision to release all assistance under CSSs/ ACA to the State Government and not to implementing agencies, Central Government directly released ₹ 13,628 crore to implementing agencies in Rajasthan during 2020-21 as against ₹ 9,484 crore in 2019-20 which is an increase of 43.69 *per cent*. Majority of these direct transfers were made under MGNREGA (₹ 8,304 crore) and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (₹ 4,403). As a result, such transfers and subsequent expenditure by the implementing agencies are not reflected in the Accounts of the State Government.

(Para 2(xx) of NTA and Accounts at a Glance para 1.3.1)

• Unadjusted Abstract Contingent (AC) Bill amounting to ₹ 31 crore

The State Authorities are authorized to draw sums of money for emergent purposes by preparing Abstract Contingent (AC) bills. They are required to be settled within a maximum period of three months through submission of DC bills.

A total of 117 Detailed Contingent (DC) bills amounting to ₹ 31 crore including 93 DC bills amounting to ₹ 15 crore pertaining to 2020-21 were outstanding for adjustment (as on 30.06.2021), Pending DC bills amount decreased from ₹ 55 (2019-20) to ₹ 31 crore (2020-21).

(Para 2(vi) of NTA)

• Utilisation Certificate (UCs) for Grant-in-Aid not received

Utilisation Certificates (UCs), in respect of grants provided for specific purposes should be obtained by departmental officers from grantees, which, after verification, should be forwarded to the Accountant General (A&E) within 12 months from the date of their sanction unless specified otherwise. Further, to the extent of non-receipt of UCs, the expenditure shown in accounts cannot be treated as final and the amount cannot be confirmed as expended for the purpose it was sanctioned. The value of UCs pending increased from ₹ 941 crore during 2019-20 to ₹ 2,113 crore during 2020-21.

(Para 2(vii) of NTA)

B. Points relating to Accounting Procedure

• Significant Savings

During 2020-21, supplementary grants totaling $\ge 2,673$ crore (7.378 per cent of total supplementary taken of $\ge 36,254$ crore) proved to be unnecessary in some cases, where there were significant savings at the end of the year even against original allocations.

(Para 5.3 of Accounts at a Glance)

• Transfer of funds to Personal Deposit (PD) Accounts

There were a total of 1,928 PD accounts as on 31 March, 2021. During 2020-21, an amount of ₹ 37,714 crore was transferred/ credited to PD accounts, of which, ₹ 26,692 crore (70.77 per cent) was transferred from the Consolidated Fund of State. Out of the amount of ₹ 26,692 crore, ₹ 5,913 crore (22.15 per cent) was transferred in March 2021. An amount of ₹ 14,383 crore was lying unspent in PD accounts at the end of the financial year 2020-21.

(Para 2(v) of NTA)

National Pension Scheme

State Government employees recruited with effect from 1 January 2004 are covered under the National Pension Scheme which is a Defined Contributory Pension Scheme. In terms of the Scheme, the employees contribute 10 *per cent* of basic pay and dearness allowance, which is matched by the State Government and the entire amount is transferred to the designated fund manager through the National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)/ Trustee Bank. However, in case of AIS officers government contributes 14 *per cent* as their share.

The Government transferred ₹ 4,357 crore to NSDL during 2020-21 leaving a balance of ₹ 40 crore.

(Para 4 (i) of NTA)

Central Assistance for State Plan

State Government received ₹ 12,454 crore (excluding direct transfer to the beneficiaries through PFMS portal by the Central Ministries/ Departments) from various Central Ministries as Central Assistance to State Plan of Government of Rajasthan during 2020-21 for 47 restructured Central Plan Schemes under Major Head 1601 - Grants-in-Aid from Central Government. The total expenditure booked under Centrally Sponsored Schemes is ₹ 13,131 crore (Revenue Expenditure ₹ 10,561 crore and Capital Expenditure ₹ 2,570 crore), which includes utilisation of unspent amount of ₹ 677 crore pertaining to previous years.

(Para 2(xix) of NTA)

