SUPREME AUDIT INSTITUTION OF INDIA
लोकहितार्थ सत्यनिष्ठा
Dedicated to Truth in Public Interest

Accounts at a Glance
2023-24

Government of West Bengal

Laid on the table of
the State Legislature
on 25.07.2026

Accounts at a Glance

2023-24

Government of West Bengal

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Our Vision, Mission and Core Values

Vision

The vision of the institution of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India represents what we aspire to become.

We strive to be a global leader and initiator of national and inter-national best practices in public sector auditing and accounting and recognized for independent, credible, balanced and timely reporting on public finance and governance.

Mission

Our mission enunciates our current role and describes what we are doing today.

Mandated by the Constitution of India, we promote accountability, transparency and good governance through high quality auditing and accounting and provide independent assurance to our stakeholders- the Legislature, the Executive and the Public- that public funds are being used efficiently and for the intended purposes.

Core Values

Our core values are the guiding beacons for all that we do and give us the benchmarks for assessing our performance.

- ***Independence***
- ***Objectivity***
- ***Integrity***
- ***Reliability***
- ***Professional Excellence***
- ***Transparency***
- ***Positive Approach***

PREFACE

This is the twenty sixth issue of our annual publication **'Accounts at a Glance'** in respect of Government of West Bengal.

The Annual Accounts of the State Government are prepared by the Accountant General (Accounts and Entitlement), West Bengal on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) in accordance with the requirements of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 for being laid before the Legislature of the State. The Annual Accounts consist of Finance Accounts and Appropriation Accounts. Finance Accounts are summarised statements of accounts under the Consolidated Fund, Contingency Fund and the Public Account. The Appropriation Accounts record the Grant-wise expenditures against provisions approved by State Legislature and offer explanations for variations between the actual expenditure and the funds provided.

The **Accounts at a Glance** provides a broad overview of Governmental activities, as reflected in the Finance Accounts and the Appropriation Accounts and gives an insight into the financial position of the State. The information is presented through brief explanations, statements and graphs. It is based on the figures in the certified Finance Accounts and Appropriation Accounts and in case of difference the figures depicted in the Finance and Appropriation Accounts may be treated as correct.

We look forward to suggestions that would help us improve this publication.

अतुल प्रकाश

KOLKATA
Dated: 06.12.2024

(ATUL PRAKASH)
ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (A&E)
WEST BENGAL

CHAPTER-I

OVERVIEW

1.1. Introduction

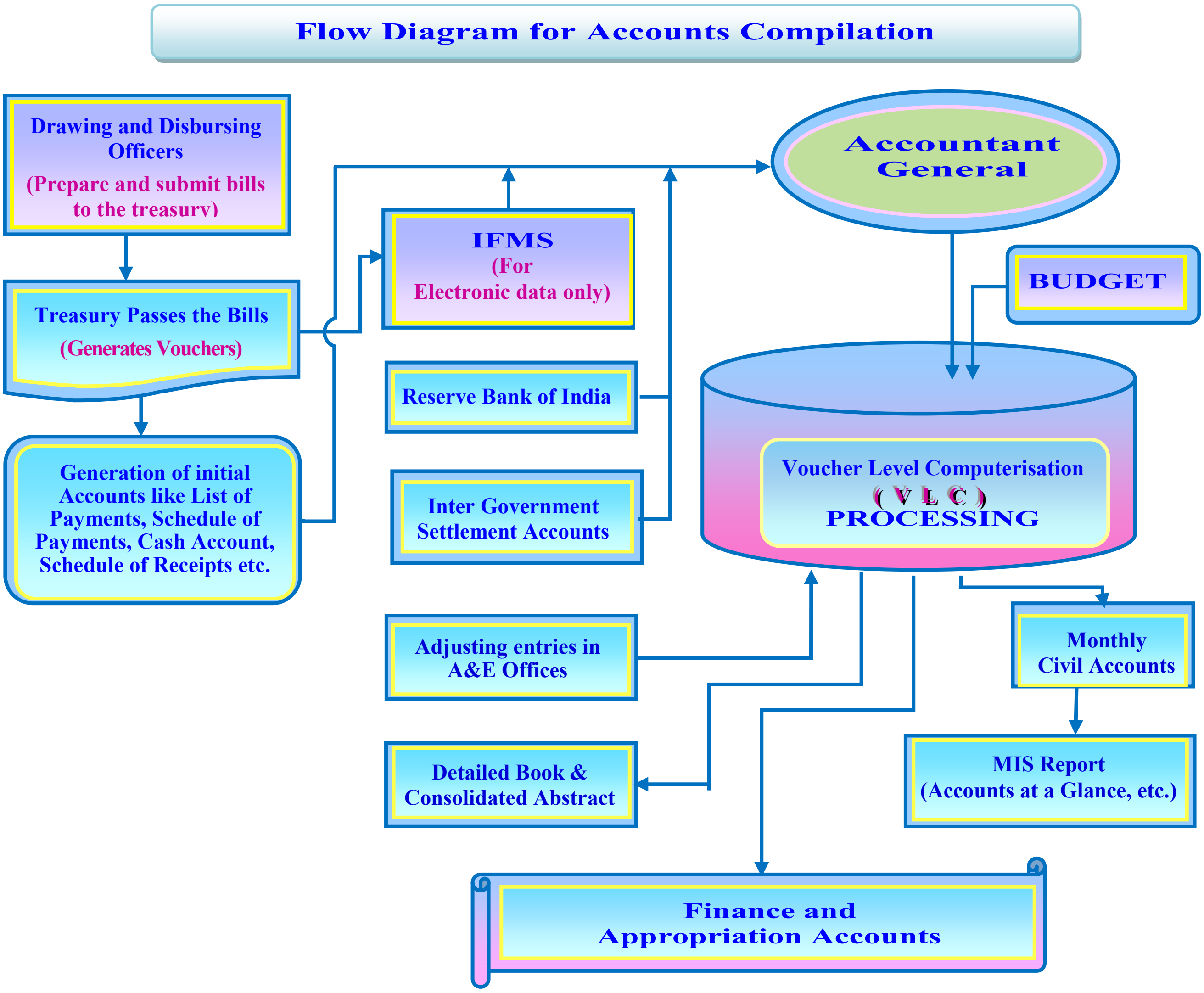
The Accountant General (Accounts and Entitlement), West Bengal compiles the accounts of receipts and disbursements of the Government of West Bengal. This compilation is based on the initial accounts rendered by the State Treasuries, Pay and Accounts Offices (PAOs) located in Kolkata and New Delhi, intimations (known as Clearance Memos) of the Reserve Bank of India, information on Inter State Settlement Suspense Accounts (known as Inward/Outward Settlement Accounts). From 1 April 2015, Government of West Bengal has done away with the Letter of Credit (LOC) system. Accordingly, there is no requirement of submission of monthly accounts by Public Works and Forest Divisions to Accountant General except five Schedules. Based on these, the Accountant General (A&E) furnishes the Monthly Civil Accounts to the Finance Department. At the end of the year, after audit by the Principal Accountant General (Audit-I), West Bengal and certification by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, the Accountant General (A&E) submits the Finance Accounts and the Appropriation Accounts of the Government of West Bengal to the Governor, Finance Department and State Legislature.

1.2. Structure of Government Accounts

1.2.1. Government Accounts are kept in three parts

Part-I **Consolidated Fund**	Comprises all Receipts and Expenditure on Revenue and Capital Account, Public Debt and Loans and Advances.
Part-II **Contingency Fund**	This Fund is in the nature of an imprest which is established by the State Legislature by law, and is placed at the disposal of the Governor to enable advances to be made for meeting unforeseen expenditure pending authorisation of such expenditure by the State Legislature. The fund is recouped by debiting the expenditure to the concerned functional major head relating to the Consolidated Fund of the State. The Contingency Fund of the Government of West Bengal for 2023-24 was ₹200.00 crore.
Part-III **Public Account**	In Public Account, the transactions relating to Debt (Other than those included in Part I), 'Deposits', 'Advances', 'Remittances' and 'Suspense' shall be recorded. The transactions under Debt, Deposit and Advances in this part are such in respect of which Government incurs a liability to repay the moneys received or has a claim to recover the amounts paid, together with the repayments of the former (Debt and Deposits) and the recoveries of the latter (Advances). The transactions relating to 'Remittances' and 'Suspense' in this part shall embrace all merely adjusting heads under which shall appear for transactions heads such as remittances of cash between treasuries and currency chests and transfer between different accounting circles. The initial debits or credits to these heads have to be cleared eventually by booking to the final heads of accounts.

1.2.2.Compilation of Accounts



1.3. Finance Accounts and Appropriation Accounts

1.3.1. Finance Accounts

The Finance Accounts prepared in two volumes depict the receipts and disbursements of the Government for the year, together with the financial results disclosed by the Revenue and Capital accounts, accounts of Public Debt and Liabilities and Assets as worked out from the balances as recorded in the accounts. Volume-I of the Finance Accounts contains the "Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India", "Guide to the Finance Accounts", 13 Statements which give summarised information of the financial position and transactions of the State Government for the current Financial Year and "Notes to Finance Accounts" containing summary of significant accounting policies, quality of accounts and other items. Volume-II contains 9 detailed Statements (Part-I) and 12 Appendices (Part-II).

Receipts and disbursements of the State Government as depicted in the Finance Accounts for 2023-24 are detailed in next page:

(₹ in Crore)

Receipts and disbursements in the year 2023-24

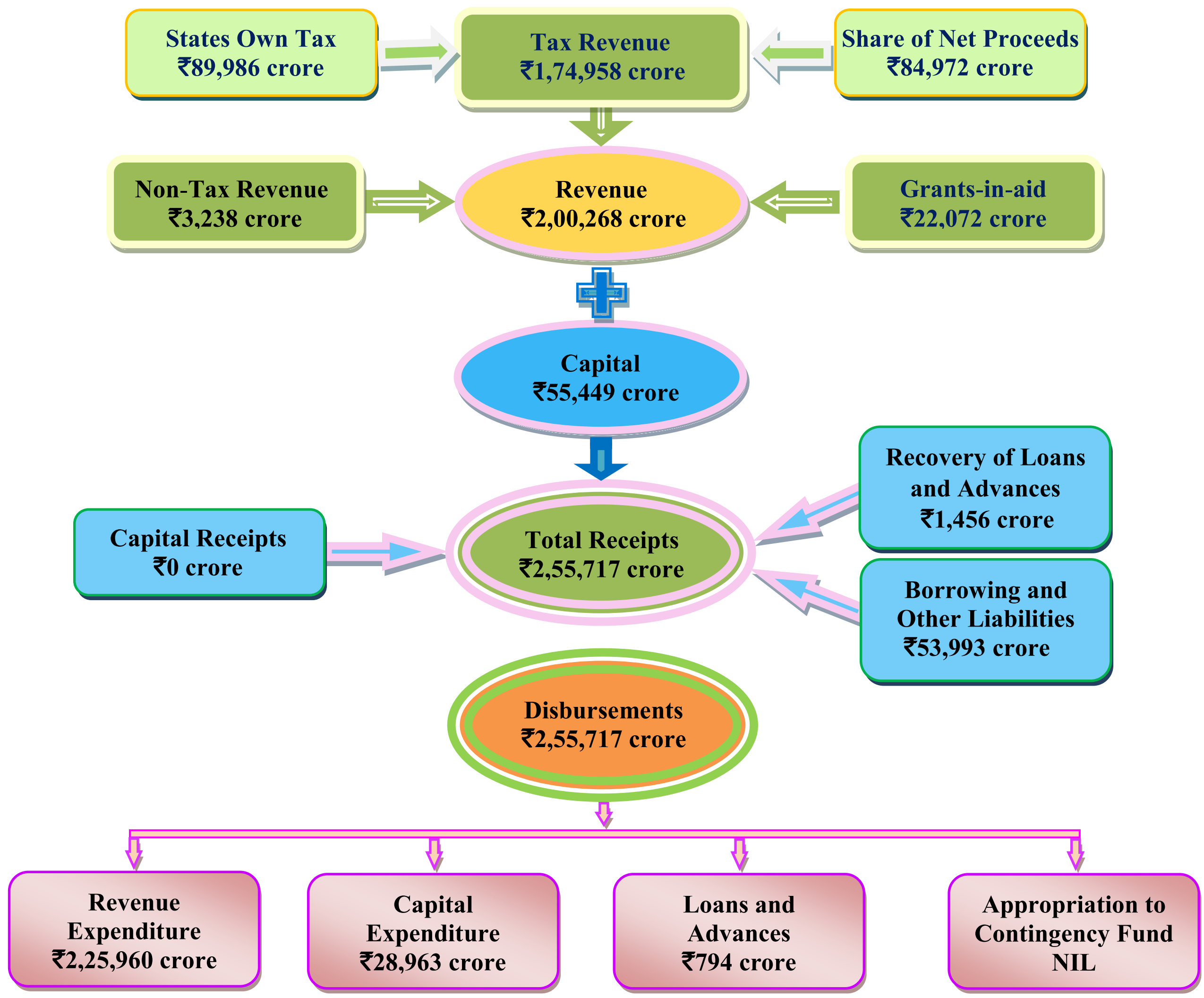
Receipts (Total:2,55,717)	Revenue (Total:2,00,268)	Tax Revenue	1,74,958
		(a) States Own Tax	89,986
		(b) Share of Net Proceeds	84,972
		Non-Tax Revenue	3,238
		Grants-in-aid & Contributions	22,072
	Capital (Total:55,449)	Capital Receipts	0
		Recovery of Loans and Advances	1,456
		Borrowing and other Liabilities (*)	53,993

Disbursements (Total: 2,55,717)	Revenue	2,25,960
	Capital	28,963
	Loans and Advances	794
	Appropriation to Contingency Fund	0

(*) Borrowings and other Liabilities: Net (Receipts-Disbursements) of Public Debt + Net of Contingency Fund + Net (Receipts-Disbursements) of Public Account + Net of Opening and Closing Cash Balance.

Source: *Statement No. 2 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

Receipts and disbursements during the year 2023-24



This year, the Government of India directly released ₹19,499.64 crore (₹25,435.66 crore last year) to State Implementing Agencies and NGOs for implementation of various schemes and programmes. Since these funds are not routed through the State Budget, they are not reflected in the accounts of the State Government. Such direct transfers of Central Scheme Funds are now exhibited in Appendix VI of Volume-II of the Finance Accounts.

1.3.2. Appropriation Accounts

Under the Constitution, no expenditure can be incurred by the Government except with the authorisation of the Legislature. Barring certain expenditure specified in the Constitution as "charged" on the Consolidated Fund, which can be incurred without vote of the Legislature, all other expenditure requires to be "voted". The Budget of the Government of West Bengal has 57 Voted Grants and 01 Charged Appropriation in the current year.

The gross Budget provision for Expenditure (charged and voted) for 2023-24 was ₹3,58,687.21 crore and for reduction of expenditure (recoveries) of ₹4,262.95 crore. Against this, the actual gross expenditure was ₹2,89,101.91 crore and reduction of expenditure was ₹3,033.80 crore, resulting in net savings of ₹69,585.30 crore (19.40 *per cent*) in respect of expenditure and net excess of ₹1,229.15 crore (28.83 *per cent*) on reduction of expenditure. The gross expenditure includes ₹78.77 crore drawn on Abstract Contingent (AC) Bills (no. of AC Bills 345), which is still outstanding at the end of the year for want of supporting Detailed Contingent (DC) Bills.

During 2023-24, ₹757.33 crore was transferred from the Consolidated Fund to Personal Deposit (PD) Accounts under the Public Account, which are maintained by designated Administrators for specific purposes. Normally, unspent balances under PD accounts are to be transferred back to the Government at the end of the financial year. However, details of such transfers, if any, and outstanding balances in individual PD accounts are available only with the treasuries, since they are responsible for maintaining such records.

1.3.3. Efficiency on Budget preparation

At the end of the year, the actual expenditure of the Government of West Bengal against the Budget estimate, showed a net savings of ₹69,585.30 crore (19.40 *per cent* of estimates) and over-estimation of ₹1,229.15 crore (28.83 *per cent* of estimates) on reduction of expenditure. Certain grants, like those relating to, 'Finance', 'Panchayat & Rural Development', 'School Education', 'Food and Supplies', 'Urban Development & Municipal Affairs', 'Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education', 'Health and Family Welfare', 'Home and Hill Affairs', 'Disaster Management and Civil Defence', 'Irrigation & Waterways', 'Industry-Commerce and Enterprises', 'Higher Education', 'Self-help Groups & Self-Employment' 'Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and Textiles', and 'Youth Services and Sports' showed substantial savings.

1.4. Sources and Application of Funds

1.4.1. Ways and Means Advances and Overdraft from the Reserve Bank of India

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extends the facility of Ways and Means Advances (WMA) and Overdraft (OD) facilities to enable State Governments to tide over temporary shortfalls in their Cash Balances. Overdraft is taken from the Reserve Bank of India when the limit of minimum Cash Balance falls below ₹2.48

crore, even after taking Ways and Means Advances which is required to be maintained with the Reserve Bankof India.

During 2023-24, the Government of West Bengal maintained the minimum cash balance with RBI without taking any advances.The Government of West Bengal did not avail any amount of Ways and Means Advances from the RBI during 2023-24.

1.4.2. Funds flow statement

The State had a Revenue Deficit of ₹25,691.87 crore and a Fiscal Deficit of ₹53,993.12 crore representing 1.51 *per cent* and 3.17 *per cent* of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)[1]. The Fiscal Deficit constituted 21.11 *per cent* of total expenditure. This deficit was met solely from Public Debt (₹49,820.03 crore). Around 49.95 *per cent* of the Revenue Receipts (₹2,00,267.61 crore) of the State Government was spent on committed expenditure i.e. Salaries (₹22,379.24 crore), Interest payment (₹42,820.88 crore), Pensions (₹24,359.69 crore) and Subsidies (₹10,475.62 crore).

Sources and Application of Funds

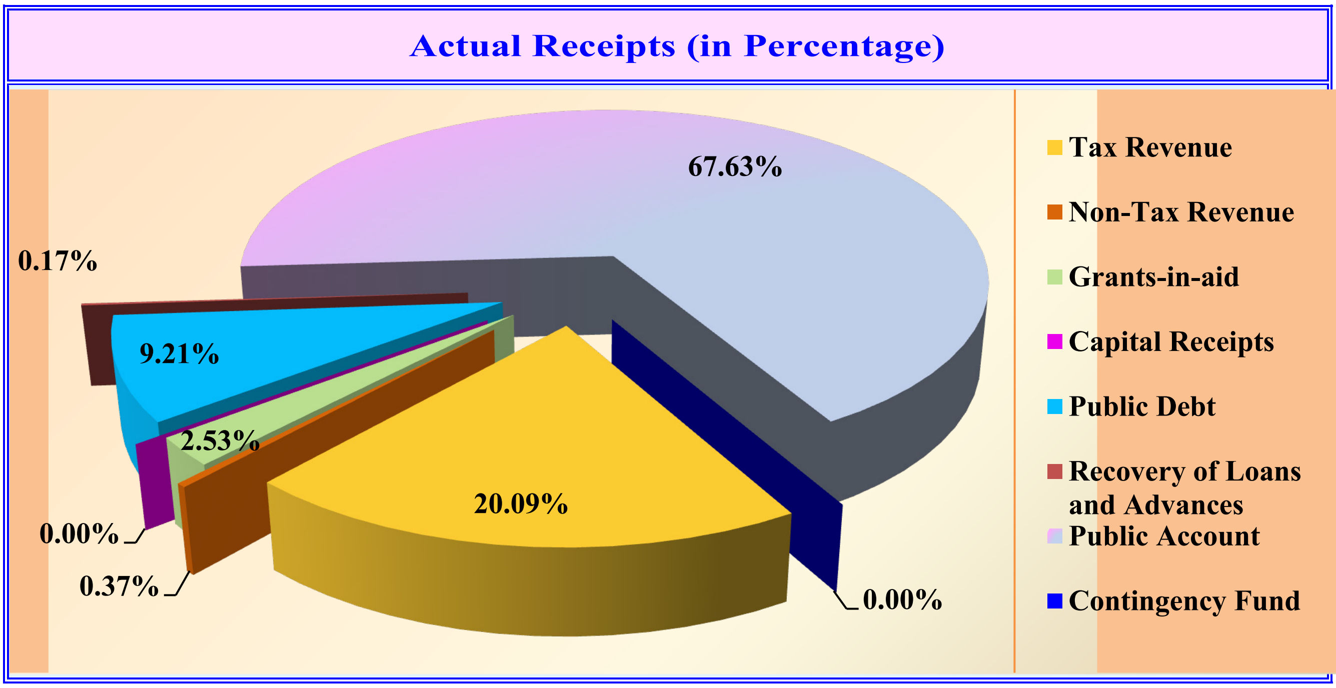
(₹ in Crore)

PARTICULARS		AMOUNT
SOURCES	Opening Cash Balance as on 1.4.2023	(-) 14
	Revenue Receipts	2,00,268
	Capital Receipts	0
	Recovery of Loans & Advances	1,456
	Public Debt	80,171
	Small Savings Provident Fund & Others	5,184
	Reserves & Sinking Funds	5,030
	Deposits	1,19,852
	Civil Advances	0
	Suspense Account	4,58,859
	Remittances	0
	Contingency Fund	0
	TOTAL	8,70,806
APPLICATION	Revenue Expenditure	2,25,960
	Capital Expenditure	28,963
	Loans	794
	Repayment of Public Debt	30,351
	Appropriation to Contingency Fund	0
	Contingency Fund	42
	Small Savings, Provident Fund & Others	3,939
	Reserves & Sinking Funds	2,135
	Deposits	1,14,164
	Civil Advances	0
	Suspense Account	4,64,456
	Remittances	(-) 1
	Closing Cash Balance as on 31.03.2024	3
	TOTAL	8,70,806

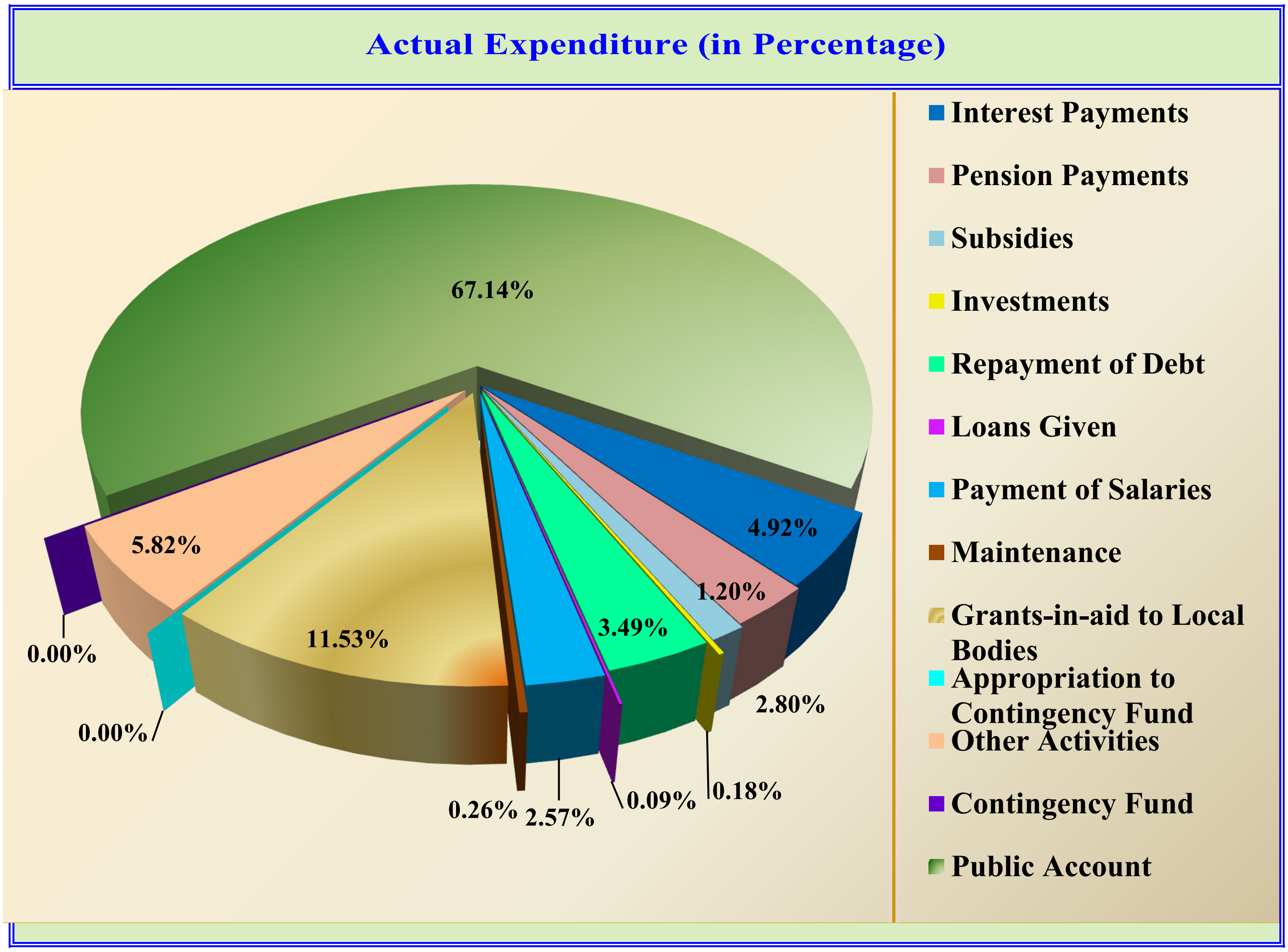
Note: The Suspense Accounts include ₹2,87,808.02 crore invested in Treasury Bills which is shown on the 'Application' side, and ₹2,83,229.14 crore worth of Treasury Bills sold through the RBI which is shown on the 'Sources' side.

[1] Except where indicated otherwise, Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) figure for 2023-24 is ₹17,00,939.00 crore as available from Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

1.4.3. Where each rupee of receipt came from



1.4.4. Where each rupee of expenditure went



1.5. Highlights of Accounts

Sl. No.	Components	Budget Estimate	Actuals	Percentage of Actuals to B.E.	Percentage of Actuals to GSDP[1]
		(₹ in Crore)			
1.	Tax Revenue [2]	1,65,439	1,74,958	106	10
2.	Non-Tax Revenue	6,377	3,238	51	0
3.	Grants-in-aid & Contributions	40,821	22,072	54	1
4.	**Revenue Receipts (1 + 2 + 3)**	**2,12,637**	**2,00,268**	**94**	**12**
5.	Recovery of Loans and Advances	146	1,456	997	0
6.	Other Receipts[3]	0	0	*	0
7.	Borrowings & Other Liabilities[4]	65,839	53,993	82	3
8.	**Total Capital Receipts (5 + 6 + 7)**	**65,985**	**55,449**	**84**	**3**
9.	**Total Receipts (4 + 8)**	**2,78,622**	**2,55,717**	**92**	**15**
10.	Expenditure on Interest Payment	42,763	42,621	100	3
11.	General Sector Revenue Expenditure	84,799	84,277	99	5
12.	General Sector Capital Expenditure	1,478	577	39	0
13.	Social Sector Revenue Expenditure	1,19,200	1,03,031	86	6
14.	Social Sector Capital Expenditure	13,566	10,319	76	1
15.	Economic Sector Revenue Expenditure	38,206	37,931	99	2
16.	Economic Sector Capital Expenditure	18,982	18,067	95	1
17.	Grants-in-aid & Contributions[5]	1,356	721	53	0
18.	Loans and Advances	1,034	794	77	0
19.	Appropriation to Contingency Fund	0	0	*	0
20.	**Total Revenue Expenditure (11+ 13+15+17)**	**2,43,561**	**2,25,960**	**93**	**13**
21.	**Total Capital Expenditure (12 +14 + 16)**	**34,026**	**28,963**	**85**	**2**
22.	**Total Expenditure (18+19+20+21)**	**2,78,621**	**2,55,717**	**92**	**15**
23.	**Revenue Deficit (4-20)**	**(-) 30,924**	**(-) 25,692**	**83**	**(-) 2**
24.	**Fiscal Deficit (4 + 5 +6 -22)**	**(-) 65,838**	**(-) 53,993**	**82**	**(-) 3**
25.	**Primary Deficit (10+24)**	**(-) 23,075**	**(-) 11,372**	**49**	**(-) 1**

[1] GSDP figure of West Bengal for 2023-24 is ₹17,00,939 crore as available from Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

[2] Includes State's Share of net proceeds of Taxes of ₹84,972 crore.

[3] The information regarding State Government right to receive such amount as State's Own Capital Receipt was not made available to this office.

[4] Borrowings and other Liabilities: Net (Receipts-Disbursements) of Public Debt + Net of Contingency Fund + Net (Receipts-Disbursements) of Public Account + Net of Opening and Closing Cash Balance.

[5] Only Major Heads 3601 - 3606 are taken into account.

* Denotes figure more than four digits/infinite.

What do the Deficits and Surpluses indicate?

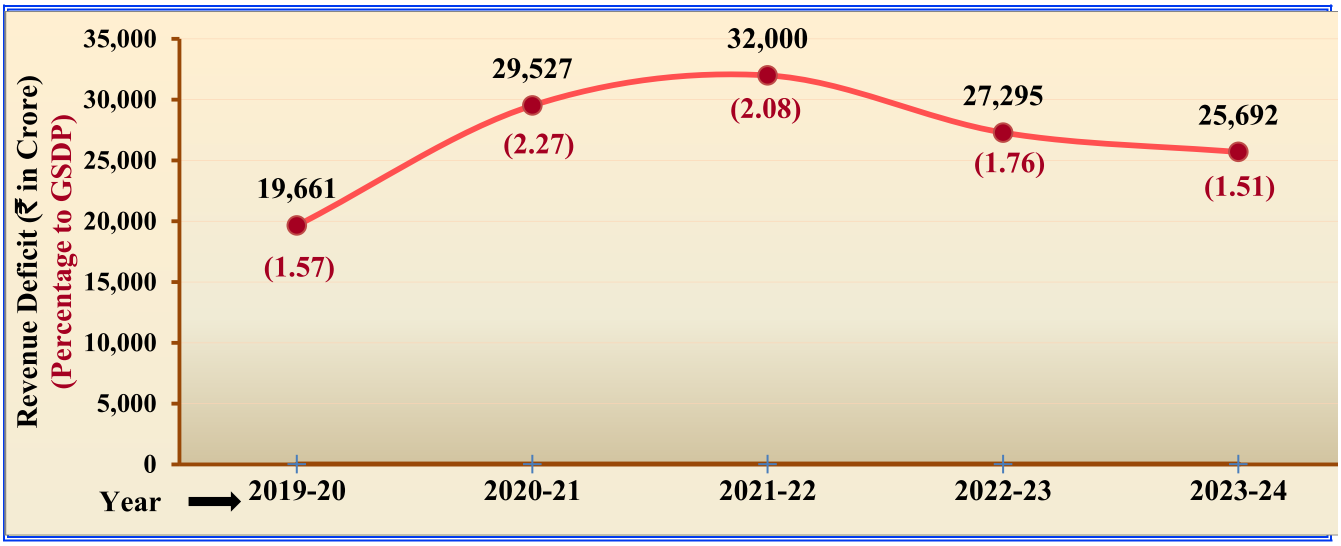
Deficit: Refers to the gap between Receipts and Expenditure. The kind of deficit, how the deficit is financed and application of funds are important indicators of prudence in Financial Management.

Revenue Deficit/Surplus: Refers to the gap between Revenue Receipts and Revenue Expenditure. Revenue Expenditure is required to maintain the existing establishment of Government and ideally, should be fully met from Revenue Receipts.

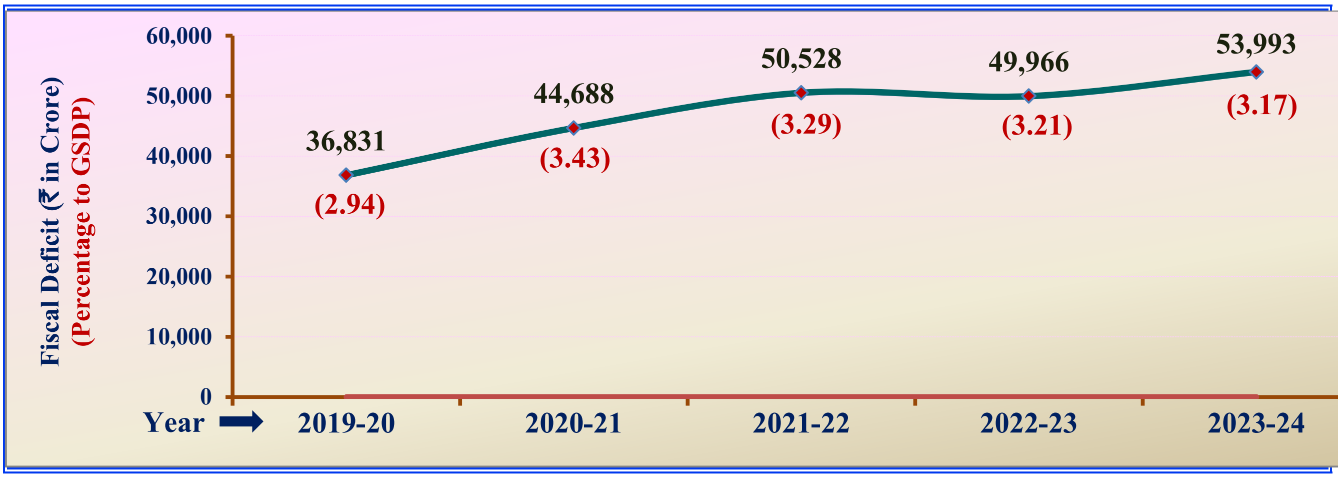
Fiscal Deficit/Surplus: Refers to the gap between Total Receipts (excluding borrowings) and Total Expenditure. This gap, therefore, indicates the extent to which expenditure is financed by borrowings. Ideally, the Borrowings should be invested in capital projects.

Fiscal Deficits, Revenue Deficits and Public Debt are the main fiscal indicators for evaluating the fiscal position of a Government. It appears that the Revenue Deficit of the Government of West Bengal as on 31 March 2024 is ₹25,692 crore.

1.6. Trend of Revenue Deficit/GSDP

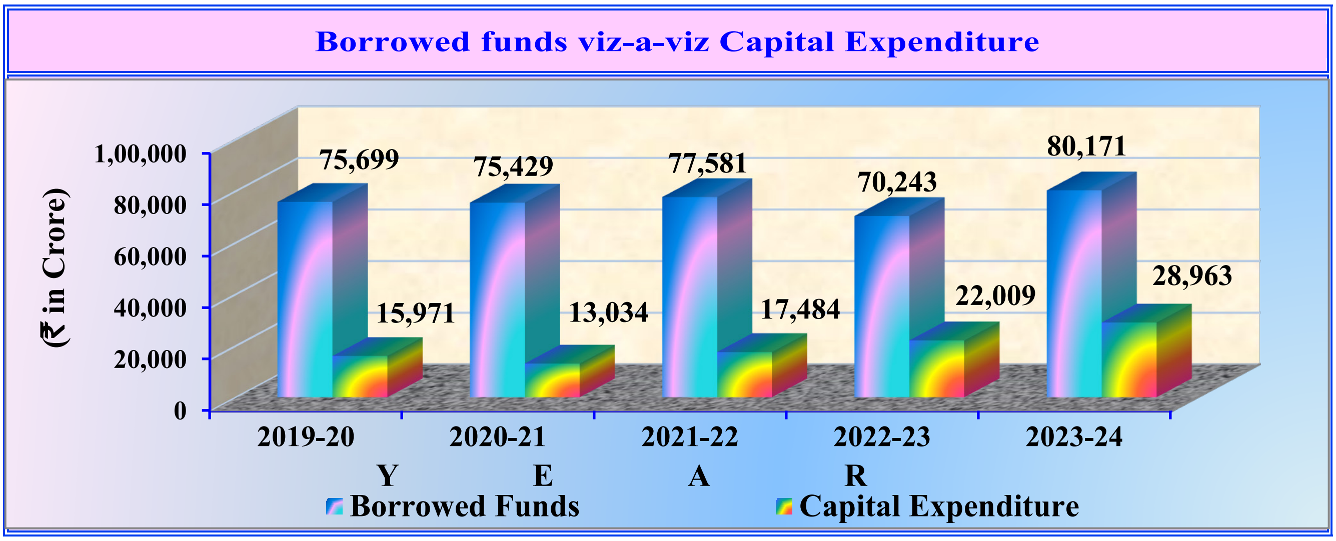


1.7. Trend of Fiscal Deficit/GSDP



1.8. Proportion of borrowed funds spent on Capital Expenditure

The governments usually run fiscal deficits and borrow funds for capital/assets formation or for creation of economic and social infrastructure, so that assets created through borrowings could pay for themselves by generating revenue. It is desirable to fully utilize borrowed funds for the creation of capital assets, and to use revenue receipts for the repayment of principal and interest.



Source: *Statement Nos. 2 & 6 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

The State Government, however, spent only 36 *per cent* of the borrowings of the current year (₹80,171 crore) on Capital Expenditure (₹28,963 crore). 64 *per cent* (₹51,208 crore) of the Public Debt was utilised to repay the principal and interest on Public Debt of previous years, to meet periodic shortfalls of Revenues against Expenditure in the current year, to maintain a positive Cash Balance at the end of the year and to invest in Treasury Bills.

CHAPTER-II

CONSOLIDATED FUND-RECEIPTS

2.1. Introduction

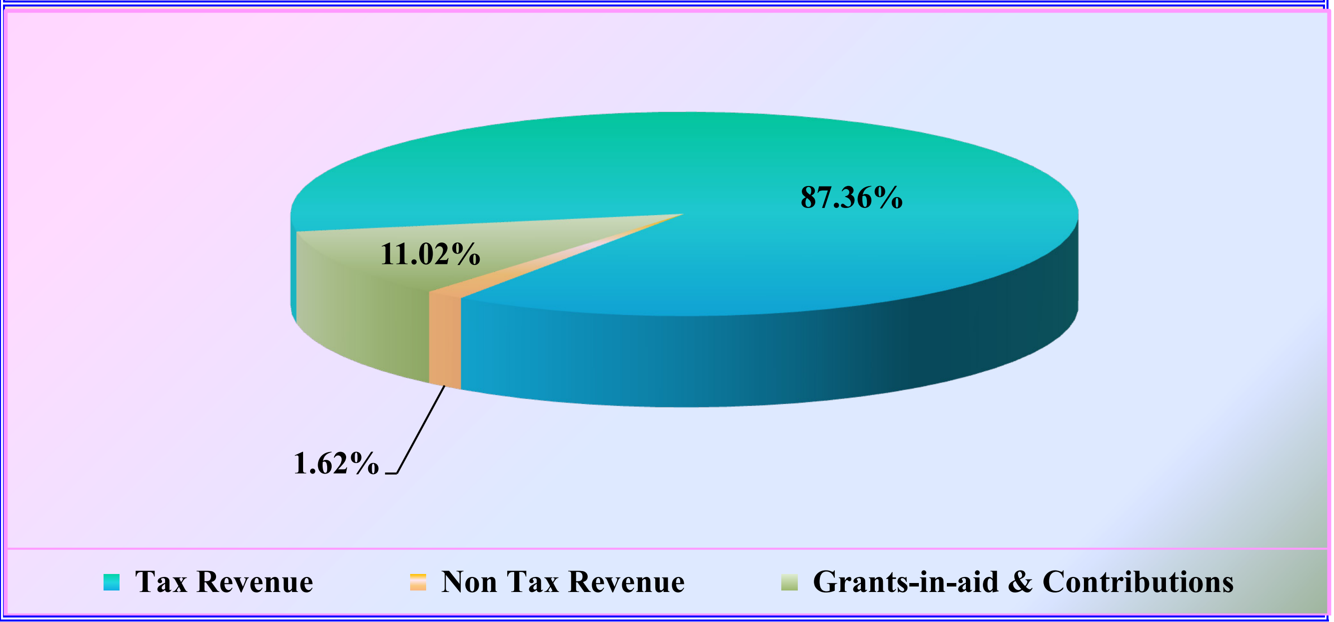
Receipts of the Government are classified as Revenue Receipts and Capital Receipts. Total receipts of the Government of West Bengal during 2023-24 were ₹2,55,717 crore.

2.2. Revenue Receipts

Tax Revenue	**Comprises taxes collected and retained by the State and State's share of Union taxes under Article 280(3) of the Constitution of India.**
Non-Tax Revenue	**Includes Interest Receipts, Dividends, Profits, etc.**
Grants-in-aid	**A form of Central Assistance to the State Government from the Union Government. Includes 'External Grant Assistance' and 'Aid, Materials & Equipment' received from foreign Government and channelised through the Union Government. In turn, the State Government also gives Grants-in-aid to institutions like Panchayati Raj Institutions, Autonomous bodies, etc.**

The branch of Revenue receipts namely Tax Revenue, Non-Tax Revenue and Grants-in-aid & Contributions is depicted:

Revenue Receipts (in percentage)



2.2.1. Revenue Receipt Components

(₹ in Crore)

Components	Actuals
A. Tax Revenue	**1,74,958**
Goods and Services Tax	66,688
Taxes on Income & Expenditure	55,737
Taxes on Property and Capital Transactions	10,465
Taxes on Commodities & Services	42,068
B. Non-Tax Revenue	**3,238**
Interest Receipts, Dividends and Profits	563
General Services	939
Social Services	771
Economic Services	965
C. Grants-in-aid & Contributions	**22,072**
Total – Revenue Receipts	**2,00,268**

Source: *Statement No. 3 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

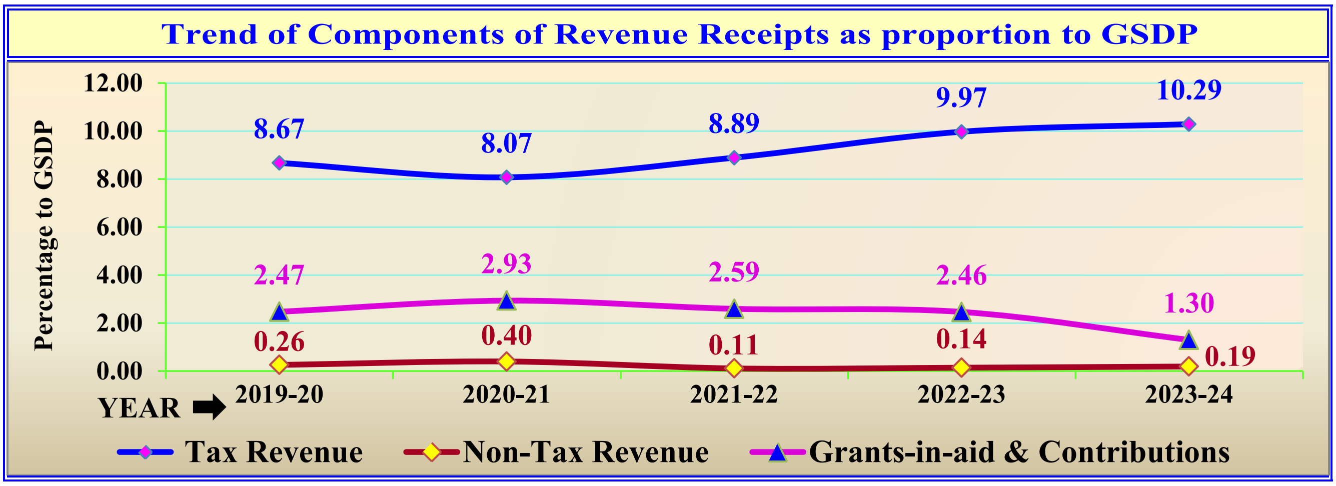
2.2.2. Trend of Revenue Receipts

(₹ in Crore)

Components	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Tax Revenue	**1,08,718 (8.67 %)**	**1,05,024 (8.07 %)**	**1,36,623 (8.89 %)**	**1,55,043 (9.97 %)**	**1,74,958 (10.29 %)**
Non-Tax Revenue	**3,213 (0.26 %)**	**5,199 (0.40 %)**	**1,690 (0.11 %)**	**2,197 (0.14 %)**	**3,238 (0.19 %)**
Grants-in-aid and Contributions	**30,983 (2.47 %)**	**38,171 (2.93 %)**	**39,846 (2.59 %)**	**38,304 (2.46 %)**	**22,072 (1.30 %)**
Total Revenue Receipts	**1,42,914 (11.40 %)**	**1,48,394 (11.40 %)**	**1,78,159 (11.59 %)**	**1,95,544 (12.57 %)**	**2,00,268 (11.77 %)**
GSDP	**12,53,832**	**13,01,017**	**15,36,681**	**15,54,992**	**17,00,939**

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage to GSDP.

The GSDP increased by one *per cent* between 2022-23 and 2023-24 and the increase in revenue collection was 2.42 *per cent*. While tax revenue increased by 12.84 *per cent*, non-tax revenues increased by 47.38 *per cent*. The State's own tax revenue increased by 7.63 *per cent* between 2022-23 (₹83,608 crore) and 2023-24 (₹89,986 crore), while share of Union taxes increased by 18.95 *per cent* (₹71,435 crore in 2022-23 and ₹84,972 crore in 2023-24).



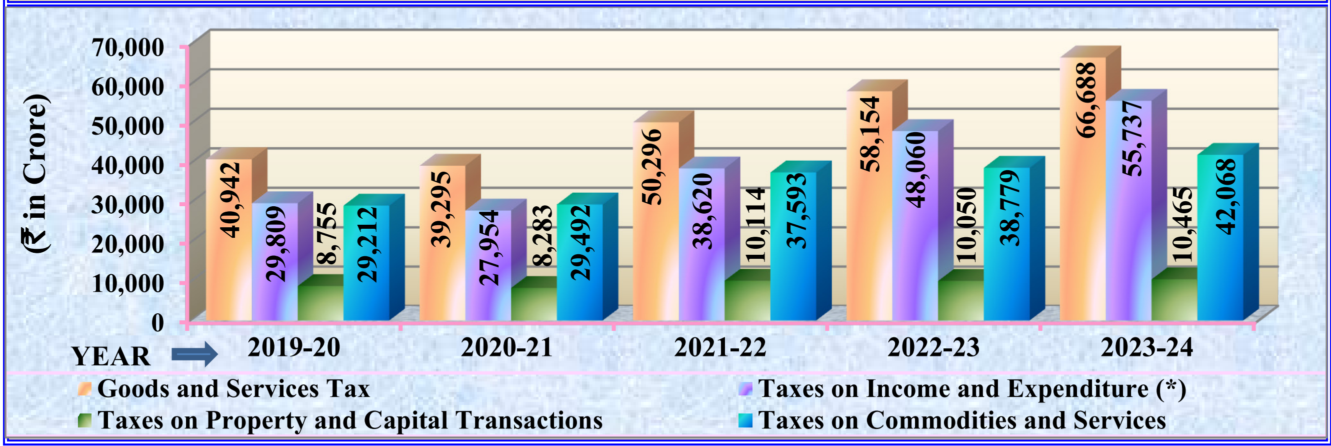
2.3. Tax Revenue

(₹ in Crore)

Sector-wise Tax Revenue					
Description	**2019-20**	**2020-21**	**2021-22**	**2022-23**	**2023-24**
Goods and Services Tax	40,942	39,295	50,296	58,154	66,688
Taxes on Income and Expenditure	29,809	27,954	38,620	48,060	55,737
Taxes on Property and Capital Transactions	8,755	8,283	10,114	10,050	10,465
Taxes on Commodities and Services	29,212	29,492	37,593	38,779	42,068
Total Tax Revenue	1,08,718	1,05,024	1,36,623	1,55,043	1,74,958

The increase in total Tax Revenues is mainly attributable to higher collections under 'Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax', 'Goods and Services Tax (IGST+CGST)', 'Goods and Services Tax (SGST)', 'State Excise', 'Corporation Tax', 'Land Revenue', 'Taxes on Goods and Passengers', 'Taxes on Vehicles', 'Taxes on Duties on Electricity', 'Miscellaneous General Services', 'Non-ferrous Mining and Metallurgical Industries', 'Union Excise Duties', 'Housing', etc.

Trend of Major taxes in proportion to GSDP

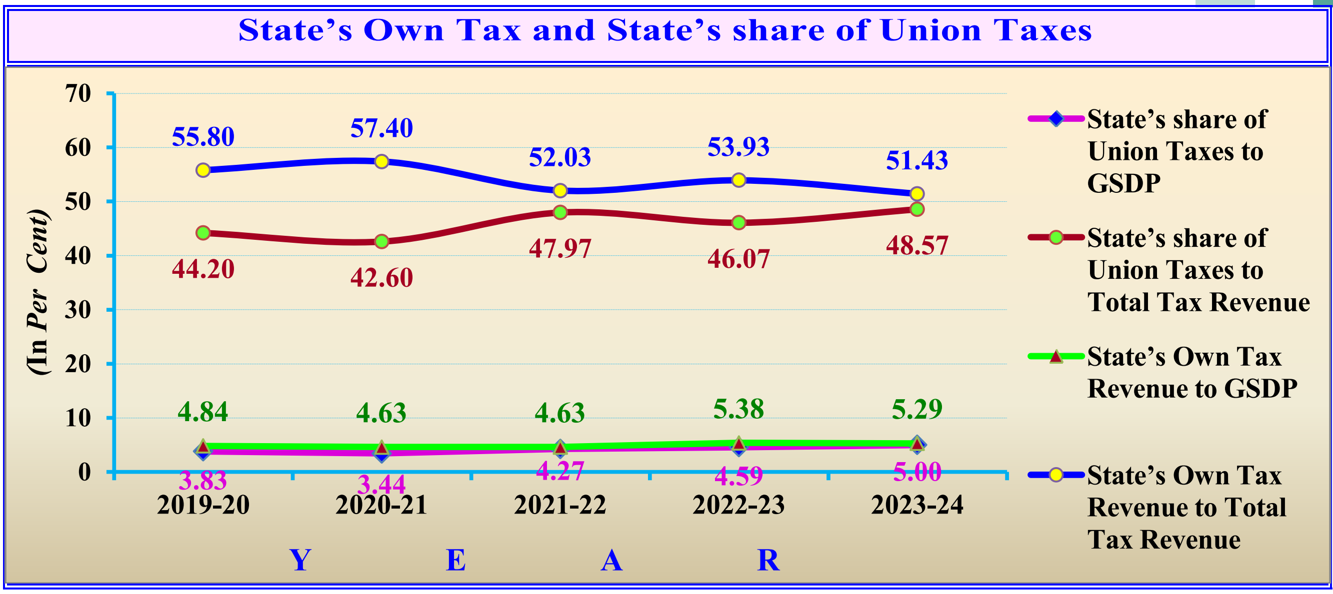


(*) Primary net proceeds of Central share to the State

2.3.1. State's Own Tax and State's share of Union Taxes

Tax Revenue of the State Government comes from two sources viz. State's Own Tax collections and devolution of Union Taxes.

Year	State's Own Tax Revenue			State's share of Union Taxes		
	Tax Revenue (₹ in Crore)	Percentage to GSDP	Percentage to Total Tax Revenue	Tax Revenue (₹ in Crore)	Percentage to GSDP	Percentage to Total Tax Revenue
2019-20	60,669	4.84	55.80	48,049	3.83	44.20
2020-21	60,287	4.63	57.40	44,737	3.44	42.60
2021-22	71,082	4.63	52.03	65,541	4.27	47.97
2022-23	83,608	5.38	53.93	71,435	4.59	46.07
2023-24	89,986	5.29	51.43	84,972	5.00	48.57



Source: *Statement No. 2 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

2.3.2. Trends in State's Own Tax Collection over the last five years

(₹ in Crore)

Taxes	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Goods and Services Tax (SGST)	27,307	26,013	31,271	37,967	40,900
Land Revenue	2,728	2,756	2,743	3,173	3,968
Stamps and Registration Fees	6,026	5,528	7,366	6,876	6,497
State Excise	11,232	10,666	13,542	16,267	17,908
Sales Tax	7,161	9,394	9,951	11,840	11,811
Taxes on Goods and Passengers	34	322	5	0	645
Taxes on Vehicles	2,601	2,336	2,647	3,392	3,788
Other Taxes on Income and Expenditure	589	597	664	731	777
Others	2,991	2,675	2,893	3,362	3,692
Total State's Own Tax	60,669	60,287	71,082	83,608	89,986

Source: *Statement No. 3 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

2.4. Efficiency of Tax Collection

(₹ in Crore)

Taxes	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Goods and Services Tax					
Revenue Collection	27,307	26,013	31,271	37,967	40,900
Expenditure on Collection	179	203	186	194	193
Efficiency of Tax Collection (in *per cent*)	0.66	0.78	0.59	0.51	0.47
Land Revenue					
Revenue Collection	2,728	2,756	2,743	3,173	3,968
Expenditure on Collection	610	672	666	665	664
Efficiency of Tax Collection (in *per cent*)	22.36	24.38	24.28	20.96	16.73

(₹ in Crore)

Taxes	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Stamps and Registration Fees					
Revenue Collection	6026	5,528	7,366	6,876	6,497
Expenditure on Collection	166	179	188	210	203
Efficiency of Tax Collection (in *per cent*)	2.75	3.24	2.55	3.05	3.12
State Excise					
Revenue Collection	11,232	10,666	13,542	16,267	17,908
Expenditure on Collection	126	146	157	191	280
Efficiency of Tax Collection (in *per cent*)	1.12	1.37	1.16	1.17	1.56
Taxes on Sales, Trade, etc.					
Revenue Collection	7161	9,394	9,951	11,840	11,811
Expenditure on Collection	64	71	75	81	86
Efficiency of Tax Collection (in *per cent*)	0.89	0.76	0.75	0.68	0.73
Taxes on Vehicles					
Revenue Collection	2,601	2,336	2,647	3,392	3,788
Expenditure on Collection	52	45	45	52	62
Efficiency of Tax Collection (in *per cent*)	2.00	1.93	1.70	1.53	1.64
Other Taxes on Income and Expenditure					
Revenue Collection	589	597	664	731	777
Expenditure on Collection	5	6	6	5	4
Efficiency of Tax Collection (in *per cent*)	0.85	1.01	0.90	0.68	0.51

2.5. Trend in State's Share of Union Taxes & Duties

(₹ in Crore)

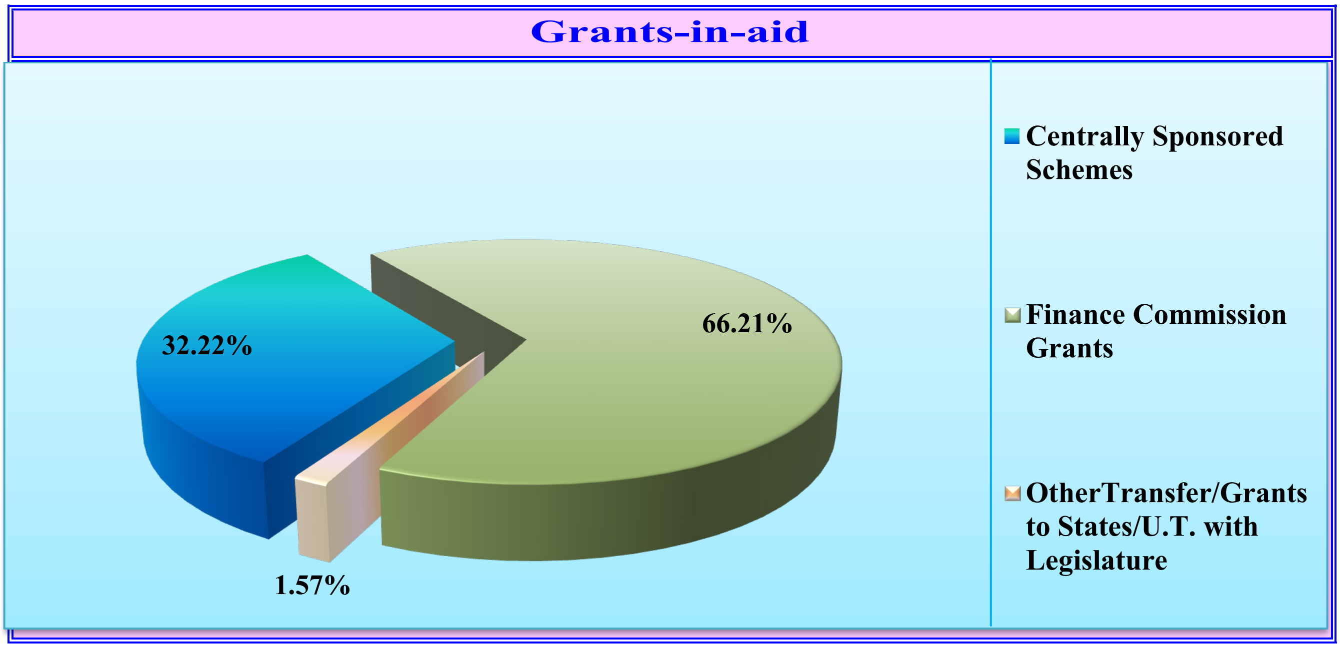
Description	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Goods and Services Tax	13,635	13,282	19,025	20,187	25,788
Corporation Tax	16,383	13,508	18,165	23,946	25,505
Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax	12,837	13,849	19,791	23,383	29,454
Taxes on Wealth	1	0	4	0	0
Customs	3,046	2,368	4,892	2,808	2,978
Union Excise Duties	2,117	1,502	2,715	881	1,127
Service Tax	0	195	880	112	16
Other Taxes and Duties on Commodities and Services	30	33	69	118	104
State's Share of Union Taxes	48,049	44,737	65,541	71,435	84,972
Total Tax Revenue	1,08,718	1,05,024	1,36,623	1,55,043	1,74,958
Per cent of State's Share of Union Taxes & Duties to Total Tax Revenue	44	43	48	54	49

Source: *Statement No. 2 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

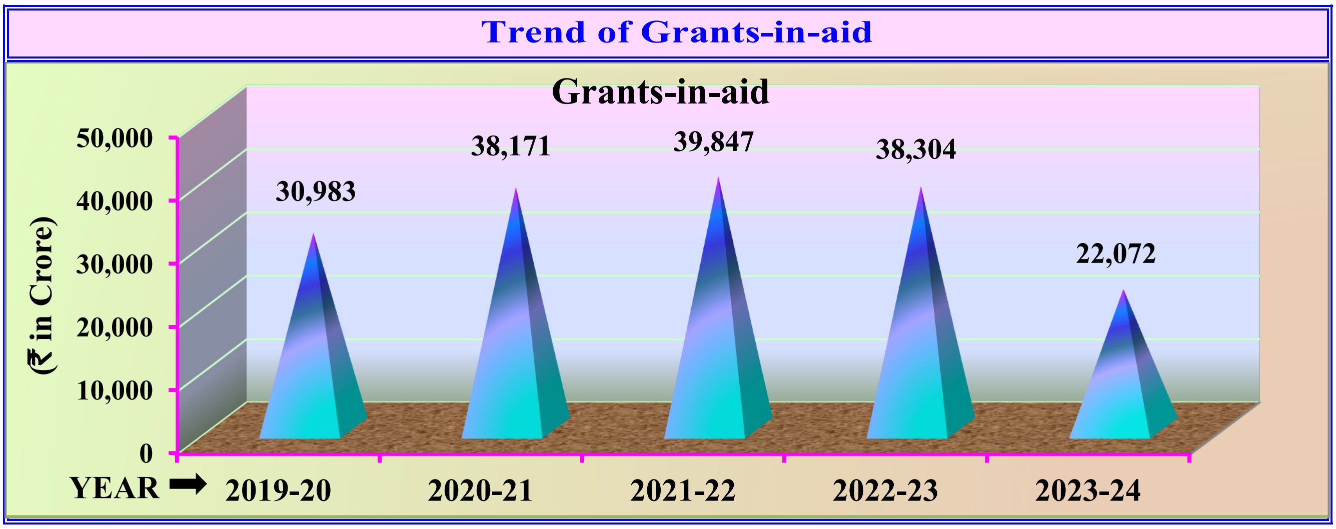
2.6. Grants-in-aid

Grants-in-aid represent assistance from the Government of India, and comprise, Grants for Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Finance Commission Grants and Other Transfer/Grants to States/Union Territory with Legislature approved by the Planning Commission and accounted for under the Major Head "1601- Grants-in-aid from Central Government".

The State received only ₹22,072.18 crore (54 *per cent* of the budget estimate of total grants of ₹40,821.06 crore) against ₹38,303.87 crore (76 *per cent* of the budget estimate of total grants of ₹50,591.50 crore) received last year. Total receipts during 2023-24 under Grants-in-aid were ₹22,072.18 crore and sector wise breakup is shown below:



Source: *Statement No. 3 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*



2.7. Verification of Balances of Local Fund

As per TR 6.33 (2) of West Bengal Treasury Rules, no local body or Administrator of a Local Fund Account shall be allowed to overdraw the balance at his credit in his account without obtaining prior special permission from the Government. It was, however, seen that the balances under deposit heads 8448-Deposit of Local funds and 8449-Other Deposits-00-120-Miscellaneous Deposits included negative balances of ₹1317.30 crore (funds overdrawn in excess of the available balances) in their accounts with the Treasuries.

2.8. Grants-in-aid received in kind from Government of India

As per note (4) below the Major Head '3601- Grants-in-aid to State Governments' in the List of Major and Minor Heads of Accounts of Union and States, the Grants-in-aid given in kind to the State Government will be credited the value of the material received as aid to the Major Head '1601- Grants-in-aid from Central Government' by contra debit to the functional Major Head, relevant to the functions/programme on which the material are proposed to be utilised.

As per information received from the State Government, Government received Vaccines/Drugs/Other Consumables in kind costing to ₹354.86 crore (as per PFMS portal of CGA the amount is ₹355.20 crore) from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare during 2023-24.

On the basis of the sanction orders received from the Government of West Bengal, the entire amount of ₹354.86 crore has been classified under Major Head '1601- Grants-in-aid from Central Government' by contra debiting to the Major heads '2210- Medical and Public Health' and '2211-Family Welfare' during 2023-24.

***Source**: Para 3(i) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

2.9. Goods and Services Tax

Goods and Services Tax (GST) was introduced with effect from 1 July 2017. During the year 2023-24, the State GST collection was ₹40,899.55 crore compared to ₹37,967.12 crore in 2022-23, registering an increase of ₹2,932.43 crore (7.72 *per cent*). This includes adjustment of advance apportionment to make up shortfall in IGST balance amounted to ₹(-)467.10 crore. In addition, the State received ₹25,787.89 crore as its share of net proceeds assigned to the State under Central Goods and Services Tax. The total receipts under GST were ₹66,687.44 crore.

The state has not received any compensation as back to back loans on GST compensation during 2023-24.

During the year 2023-24, no adjustment entry of State GST (SGST) relating to the previous years was carried out by the State Government.

***Source**: Para 3(ii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

2.10. Public Debt

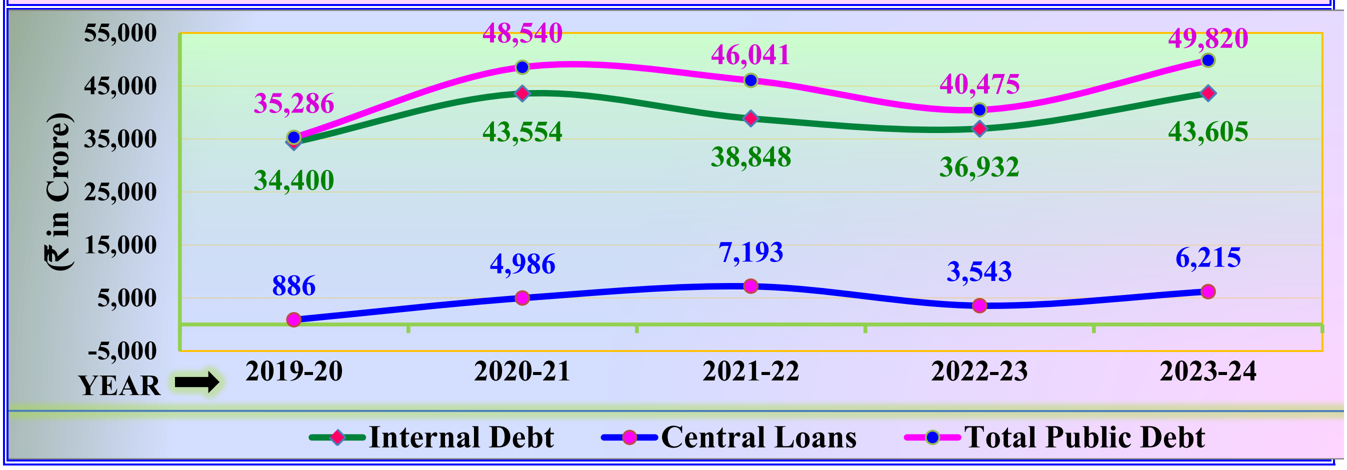
(₹ in Crore)

Trend of Public Debt (Net) over the past five years					
Description	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Internal Debt	34,400	43,554	38,848	36,932	43,605
Central Loans	886	4,986	7,193	3,543	6,215
Total Public Debt	35,286	48,540	46,041	40,475	49,820

***Source**: Statement No. 6 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

In 2023-24, 31 loans at par totaling ₹69,910 crore at interest rates varying from 7.36 *per cent* to 7.79 *per cent* and redeemable upto the year 2046-47 were raised from the open market. In addition, the State Government raised ₹2,310 crore from financial institutions (including other adjustments). Thus, the total internal debt was ₹72,220 crore. During 2023-24 Government of West Bengal also received ₹7,952 crore from Government of India as loans and advances.

Trend of Public Debt (Net)



***Source**: Statement No. 6 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

2.11. Bookings under Minor Head 800 - Other Receipts

The Minor Head 800-Other Receipts is to be operated only when the appropriate minor head has not been provided in the accounts. Routine operation of Minor Head 800 should be discouraged since it renders the accounts opaque.

During the year 2023-24, ₹2,032.37 crore under 50 Major Heads of Account, constituting 1.01 *per cent* of the total Revenue Receipts (₹2,00,267.61 crore) was classified under 800-Other Receipts in the accounts. The Office of the Accountant General (A&E) identified 12 specific minor heads which are available in List of Major and Minor Heads of Accounts and could have been used instead of minor head '800-Other Receipts' in 21 cases.

During the previous year, ₹1,009.31 crore under 49 Major Heads of Account, constituting 0.52 *per cent* of the total Revenue Receipts (₹1,95,544.17 crore) was classified under 800-Other Receipts in the accounts. The Office of the Accountant General (A&E) identified 13 specific minor heads which are available in List of Major and Minor Heads of Accounts and could have been used instead of minor head '800-Other Receipts' in 21 cases.

***Source**: Para 3(v) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

CHAPTER-III

CONSOLIDATED FUND-EXPENDITURE

3.1. Introduction

Expenditure is classified as Revenue Expenditure and Capital Expenditure. Revenue Expenditure is used to meet the day-to-day running of the organisation. Capital Expenditure is used to create permanent assets, or to enhance the utility of such assets, or to reduce permanent liabilities. Expenditure is further classified under Scheme and Administrative Expenditure.

General Services	**Includes Justice, Police, Jail, PWD, Pension, etc.**
Social Services	**Includes Education, Health & Family Welfare, Water Supply, Welfare of SC-ST, etc.**
Economic Services	**Includes Agriculture, Rural Development, Irrigation, Co-operation, Energy, Industries, Transport, etc.**

3.2. Revenue Expenditure

Revenue Expenditure of ₹2,25,960 crore for 2023-24 was 93 *per cent* of Budget Estimates of ₹2,43,561 crore. The shortfall of expenditure against budget estimates under Revenue section during the past five years is given below:

(₹ in Crore)

Description	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Budget Estimates	1,81,536	1,94,702	2,13,437	2,26,326	2,43,561
Actuals	1,62,575	1,77,921	2,10,160	2,22,839	2,25,960
Gap	18,961	16,781	3,277	3,487	17,601
Percentage of gap over BE	10	9	2	2	7

The position of committed and uncommitted Revenue Expenditure over the last five years is given below:

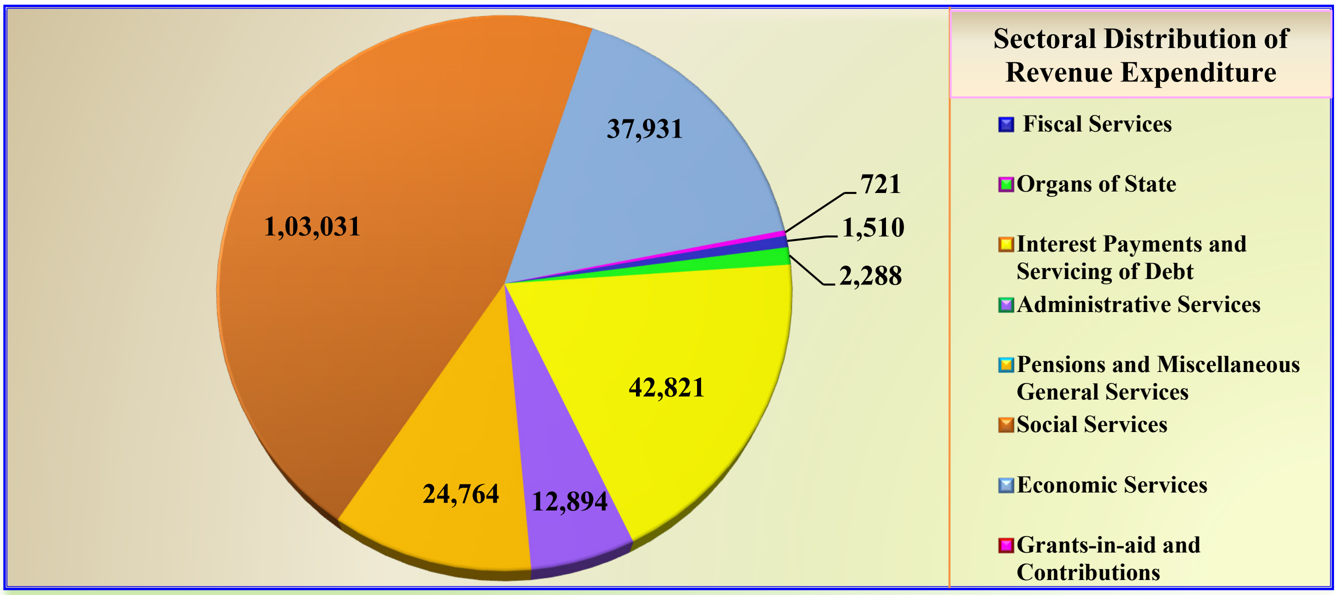
(₹ in Crore)

Components	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total Revenue Expenditure	1,62,575	1,77,921	2,10,160	2,22,839	2,25,960
Committed Revenue Expenditure#	75,755	87,492	1,00,736	1,02,935	1,00,035
Percentage of Committed Revenue Expenditure to total Revenue Expenditure	47	49	48	46	44
Uncommitted Revenue Expenditure	86,820	90,429	1,09,424	1,19,904	1,25,925

Committed revenue expenditure comprises expenditure on Salaries, Subsidies, Interest Payment and Pension.

3.2.1. Sectoral Distribution of Revenue Expenditure

Components	Amount (₹ in Crore)	Percentage to total Revenue Expenditure
A. Fiscal Services	1,510	0.67
B. Organs of State	2,288	1.01
C. Interest Payments and Servicing of Debt	42,821	18.95
D. Administrative Services	12,894	5.71
E. Pensions and Miscellaneous General Services	24,764	10.96
F. Social Services	1,03,031	45.60
G. Economic Services	37,931	16.78
H. Grants-in-aid and Contributions	721	0.32
Total Expenditure (Revenue Account)	2,25,960	100.00



Source: *Statement No. 4 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

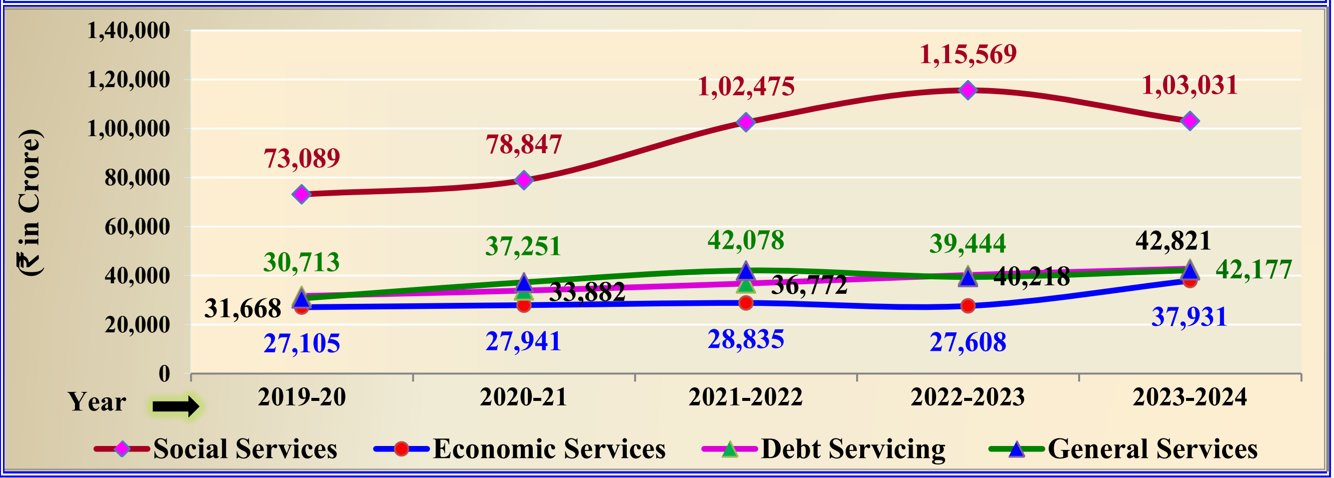
3.2.2. Major components of Revenue Expenditure

(₹ in Crore)

Components	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Social Services	73,089	78,847	1,02,475	1,15,569	1,03,031
Economic Services	27,105	27,941	28,835	27,608	37,931
Debt Servicing	31,668	33,882	36,772	40,218	42,821
General Services*	30,713	37,251	42,078	39,444	42,177

*General Services excludes Major Head **2048** (Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of Debt), Major Head **2049** (Interest Payments) and includes Major Head **3604** (Compensation and Assignment to Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions).

Trend of Major Components of Revenue Expenditure



Though Revenue Expenditure on all services has a trend of steady increase, expenditure on Debt Servicing covers on an average 19 *per cent* of total Revenue Expenditure during last five years.

Source*: Statement No. 4 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.3. Capital Expenditure

Capital disbursements for 2023-24 amounting to ₹29,757 crore (including Loans and Advances) at 1.75 *per cent* of GSDP. Over the last three years, Capital Expenditure has increased with respect to its budget. This can be viewed from the table given below:

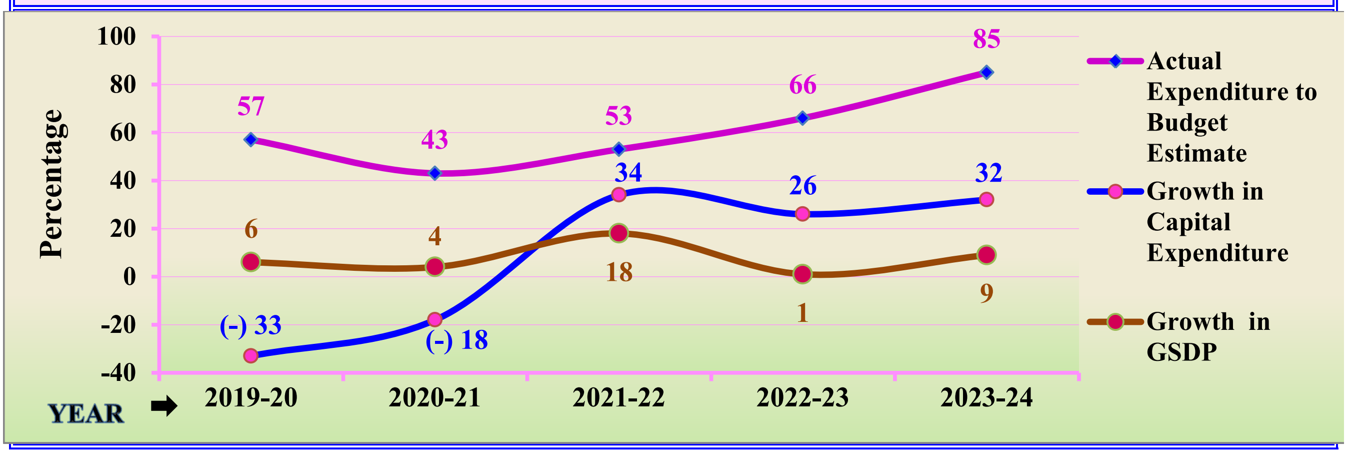
(₹ in Crore)

Sl.No.	Components	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1.	Budget (B.E.)	27,977	30,478	32,774	33,145	34,026
2.	Actual Expenditure(#)	15,971	13,034	17,484	22,009	28,963
3.	Percentage of Actual Expenditure to B.E.	57	43	53	66	85
4.	Growth in Capital Expenditure (in *per cent*)	(-) 33	(-) 18	34	26	32
5.	GSDP (*)	12,53,832	13,01,017	15,36,681	15,54,992	17,00,939
6.	Growth in GSDP (in *per cent*)	6	4	18	1	9

(#) Does not include expenditure on Loans and Advances.

(*) GSDP figure in this publication is adopted from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Capital Expenditure



3.3.1. Sectoral Distribution of Capital Expenditure

Expenditure on Economic Services constitutes the major chunk of Capital Expenditure. During 2023-24, the Government spent ₹6,191 crore on Transport,₹4,965 crore on Rural Development Programme, ₹2,650 crore on Irrigation and Flood Control, ₹2,222 crore on Energy, ₹895 crore on Special Areas Programmes, ₹608 crore on Agriculture and Allied Activities and ₹453 crore on Industry and Minerals. In Social Services, the Government spent ₹7,819 crore on Water Supply, Sanitation, Housing and Urban Development, ₹1,346 crore on Health and Family Welfare, ₹512 crore on Education, Sports and Culture, ₹461 crore on Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes and ₹140 crore on Social Welfare.

3.3.2. Comparative Sectoral distribution of Capital and Revenue Expenditure over the past five years

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	Sector		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1.	General Services	Capital	748	546	545	655	577
		Revenue	61,931	70,684	78,495	79,254	84,277
2.	Social Services	Capital	5,439	3,950	7,437	9,952	10,319
		Revenue	73,089	78,847	1,02,475	1,15,569	1,03,031
3.	Economic Services	Capital	9,783	8,538	9,502	11,402	18,067
		Revenue	27,105	27,941	28,835	27,608	37,931
4.	Grants-in-aid and Contributions	Capital	--	--	--	--	--
		Revenue	61,622	63,131	79,966	96,276	1,00,442

Note: 1. Capital Expenditure does not include Loans and Advances.

2. Grants-in-aid and Contributions denotes Major Head from 3601 to 3606 *plus* all other Grants-in-aid with object heads 31-GIA General, 35-Grants for creation of capital assets and 36-GIA Salaries. Also Revenue Expenditure does not include expenditure on Grants-in-aid.

***Source**: Statement Nos. 4 & 10 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.4. Bookings under Minor Head 800-Other Expenditure

The Minor Head 800-Other Expenditure is to be operated only when the appropriate minor head has not been provided in the accounts. Routine operation of Minor Head 800 should be discouraged since it renders the accounts opaque.

During the year 2023-24, ₹2,658.96 crore under 63 Major Heads of accounts, constituting 1.04 *per cent* of the total Revenue and Capital expenditure (₹2,54,922.56 crore) was classified under the Minor Head 800-Other Expenditure in the accounts. The Office of the Accountant General (A&E) identified 74 specific minor heads which are available in List of Major and Minor Heads of Accounts and could have been used instead of minor head ‘800-Other Expenditure’ in 149 cases.

During the previous year 2022-23, ₹6,515.22 crore under 65 Major Heads of accounts, constituting 2.66 *per cent* of the total Revenue and Capital expenditure (₹2,44,847.70 crore) was classified under the Minor Head 800-Other Expenditure in the accounts. The Office of the Accountant General (A&E) identified 43 specific minor heads which are available in List of Major and Minor Heads of Accounts and could have been used instead of minor head ‘800-Other Expenditure’ in 63 cases

***Source**: Para 3(v) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.5. Liabilities under Retirement Benefits

The expenditure on "Pension and other Retirement Benefits" for State Government employees during the year 2023-24 was ₹24,359.69 crore during the year (excluding expenditure on National Pension System of All India Service officers).

Source: *Statement No. 2 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.6. Transfer of Funds to various Implementing Agencies

The State Government provides funds to State/District Level Agencies/Autonomous Bodies, Societies, Non-Governmental Organizations, etc., as Grant for implementation of Central Sector Schemes, Centrally Sponsored Schemes and State Schemes. During 2023-24, an amount of ₹1,00,441.88 crore was given by the State Government to various implementing agencies for implementation of Government schemes/works/programmes. The aggregate amount of unspent balances in the accounts of the implementing agencies kept outside the Government Accounts (in Bank Accounts) is not readily ascertainable. The Government expenditure as reflected in the Accounts to that extent is, therefore, not final.

Source: *Statement No. 10 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.7. Direct transfer of Central Scheme Funds to Implementing Agencies in the State (Funds routed outside State Budget)

As per the PFMS portal of the CGA, ₹19,499.64 crore was directly received by the implementing agencies including beneficiaries under DBT (NGOs, Central Govt. organizations, Statutory organizations, Urban/Rural Bodies, Beneficiaries, etc.) in the State during 2023-24.

The direct transfer of fund to the implementing agencies has decreased by 23.34 *per cent* as compared to 2022-23 (from ₹25,435.66 crore in 2022-23 to ₹19,499.64 crore in 2023-24).

Source: *Para 3(xvii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.8. Investments

Information on Government investments appearing in Statements 8 and 19 of the Finance Accounts is based on the accounts and sanctions received by the Accountant General (A&E), but has not been confirmed by the concerned departments (including Finance) and the investee entity. The Government invested ₹1,546.53 crore in 2023-24. Government investment of ₹21,378.18 crore as on 31 March 2024 yielded dividend of ₹289.00 crore (1.35 *per cent*) during 2023-24. Details of Government investment as on 31 March 2024 are given below:

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	Category	Number of entities	Investment during the year 2023-24	Investment at the end of the year 2023-24
1.	Statutory Corporation	7	0.00	902.00
2.	Government Companies	62	1,470.26	18,927.43
3.	Other Joint Stock Companies and Partnership	38	17.61	368.07
4.	Co-operative Banks & Societies	2,096	58.66	1,180.68
Total:		**2,203**	**1,546.53**	**21,378.18**

Source: *Statement No. 8 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.9. Personal Deposit (PD) Accounts

The PD accounts enable designated Drawing Officers to incur expenditure for specific purposes pertaining to a scheme.

During the year 2023-24, an amount of ₹757.33 crore was transferred to the PD Accounts from Consolidated Fund of the State. This includes ₹457.62 crore transferred in March 2024, of which, ₹15.27 crore was transferred on the last working day of March 2024.

As per Rule 6.09(1)(a) of West Bengal Treasury Rules, 2005, and subject to the conditions for opening of a PD Account, funds transferred to PD Accounts from Consolidated Fund are required to be written back to the Consolidated Fund under the concerned heads of accounts from which funds are transferred at the close of the financial year or after the stipulated period of closure.

In terms of Rule 6.08(5) of West Bengal Treasury Rules, 2005, six Administrators of Personal Deposit Account (out of 159) had reconciled and verified their balances with the treasury figures and six annual verification certificates were furnished by them to the Treasury officer. Accountant General Office received six of such certificates from the Treasury Officer. 153 Administrators of Personal Deposit Accounts had not reconciled and verified their balances with the treasury figures.

Details of the PD accounts as on 31 March, 2024 are given below:

(₹ in Crore)

Opening Balance as on1 April 2023		New Accounts/Deposits during the year 2023-24		Accounts Closed/Withdrawal during the year 2023-24		Closing Balance as on 31 March 2024	
Number of Administrators	Amount	Number of Administrators	Deposit Amount	Number of Administrators	Withdrawal Amount	Number of Administrators	Amount
159	3,014.04	0	1,237.77	0	1,253.44	159(*)	2,998.37

(*) On account of non-receipt/deficient plus minus memorandum from State treasuries, this figure is under reconciliation.

During the year, no PD Accounts was closed and no fund was adjusted in the Consolidated Fund of the State.

West Bengal Treasury Rules, 2005, state that whenever under a special order a Personal Deposit Account is opened in the name of a particular Government official for operation of transactions in respect of several schemes/projects, the Administrator shall maintain detailed account of the scheme/projects for which it has been opened. However, if any PD account is not operated upon for a period of two years and there is a reason to believe that the need for such deposit accounts has ceased, the same shall be closed. Inspection of treasuries revealed that in last three years, 20 PD Accounts having balance of ₹33.47 crore remained in-operative.

***Source**: : Para 3(vi) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.10. Abstract Contingent (AC) Bills and Detailed Contingent (DC) Bills

Para 4.116 of West Bengal Treasury Rules, 2005, envisage that no moneys should be drawn from Government Treasury unless it is required for immediate disbursement. In emergent circumstances, Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) are authorized to draw sums of money through Abstract Contingent (AC) bills. In terms of the West Bengal Treasury Rules, 2005, DDOs are required to present Detailed Contingent (DC) bills containing vouchers in support of final expenditure within one month from the date of completion of the purpose for which the advance was drawn, and in no case, beyond the period of sixty days from the date of drawal of such advance, otherwise permitted by the Administrative Department with the concurrence of the

Finance Department.

6,806 numbers of AC bills amounting to ₹930.98 crore drawn upto 31.03.24 were due for DC bills. Out of 1,923 AC bills amounting to ₹747.85 crore drawn during the year 2023-24, ₹225.23 crore (30.12 *per cent*) were drawn in March 2024. DC Bills in respect of a total of 6,081 AC bills amounting to ₹661.97 crore due for adjustment as on 31 March 2024 were not received. Details of unadjusted AC bills due for adjustments are given below:

Year	No. of unadjusted AC Bills	Amount (₹ in Crore)
Upto 2022-23	5,736	583.20
2023-24	345 #	78.77
Total`	**6,081**	**661.97**
Year	**Number of AC bills adjusted before due date of adjustment**	
2023-2024	22@	36.45

\# Indicates AC bills for which DC bills have become due.

@ During February and March 2024, 703 AC bills amounting to ₹232.56 crore were neither due for adjustment nor adjusted before due date of adjustment.

Source*: Para 3(vii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.11. Utilisation Certificates (UCs) for Grants-in-aid not received

In terms of Subsidiary Rule 330A of the West Bengal Treasury Rules and Subsidiary Rules (WBTR & SR), 1997 read with Finance Department (Audit Branch)'s Memorandum No. 7019-F dated 4 August 2005, Utilization Certificates (UCs) in respect of conditional Grants-in-aid and/or as required by the sanction received by the grantee should be furnished by the grantee to the authority that sanctioned it within one year from the date of receipt of grant or before applying for a further grant on the same object, whichever is earlier. To the extent of non-submission of UCs, there is a risk that the amount shown in Finance Accounts may not have reached the beneficiaries.

During the year 2023-24, ₹96,010.94 crore pertaining to 9,057 outstanding UCs were cleared. The position of outstanding UCs during 2023-24 is given below:

Year*	Number of UCs outstanding	Amount (₹ in Crore)
Upto 2022-23	4,99,165	2,24,763.03
2023-24	49,331#	31,343.58
Total	**5,48,496**	**2,56,106.61**
Year	**Number of UCs submitted before due date of submission**	
2023-2024	985	19,737.14

* The year mentioned above relates to "Due year" *i.e.*, after twelve months of actual drawal.

\# Indicates outstanding UCs against GIA drawn during 2022-23. UCs for GIA drawn during 2023-24 would be due in 2024-25.Includes 384 nos. amounting to ₹4,533.98 crore of outstanding UCs on CSS GIA.

Source*: Para 3(viii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.12. Restructuring of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs)/Additional Central Assistance (ACA) excluding Block Grants

Consequent to the merger of Plan/Non-Plan classification, the Central Assistance release is now classified as Central Assistance/Share under Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

The total expenditure booked under both 'Central Sector Scheme and Centrally Sponsored Scheme', as on 31 March 2024, is ₹16,113.32 crore (Revenue Expenditure ₹14,364.47 crore and Capital Expenditure ₹1,748.85 crore), which includes expenditure out of Central Assistance and State share for Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Source: *Statement Nos. 15 & 16 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.13. Expenditure on Ecology and Environment

The expenditure incurred by the State Government towards ecology and environment is depicted in the Finance Accounts to the level of Minor Head under various functional head of accounts.

During the year 2023-24, the Government of West Bengal incurred a total expenditure of ₹765.95 crore on ecology and environment. These were incurred under Major Heads 2402 (₹93.22 crore), 2406 (₹646.07 crore) and 3435 (₹26.66 crore) against the budget allocation of ₹930.90 crore (2402: ₹79.43 crore, 2406: ₹769.88 crore and 3435: ₹81.59 crore).

During the previous year 2022-23, the Government of West Bengal incurred an expenditure of ₹617.08 crore on ecology and environment under Major Heads 2402 (₹73.21 crore), 2406 (₹536.63 crore) and 3435 (₹7.24 crore) against the budget allocation of ₹995.63 crore (2402: ₹176.52 crore, 2406: ₹737.27 crore and 3435: ₹81.84 crore).

Source: *Para 3(xi) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.14. Commitments on account of Incomplete Capital Works

The list of Incomplete Capital Works/Projects reported in Appendix-IX of the Finance Accounts is prepared on the basis of the information received from the State Government.

During the year 334 incomplete projects involving ₹2,848.42 crore are aged three years and more. The escalation in estimated cost of these projects due to delay in completion of the projects/works was not provided by the Government of West Bengal.

Intimation collected from Chief Engineers of various State Government Departments reveals that an expenditure of ₹2,848.42 crore was incurred upto 31 March 2024 on Incomplete Capital Projects/Works.

(₹ in Crore)

ABSTRACT OF COMMITMENTS OF INCOMPLETE CAPITAL WORKS

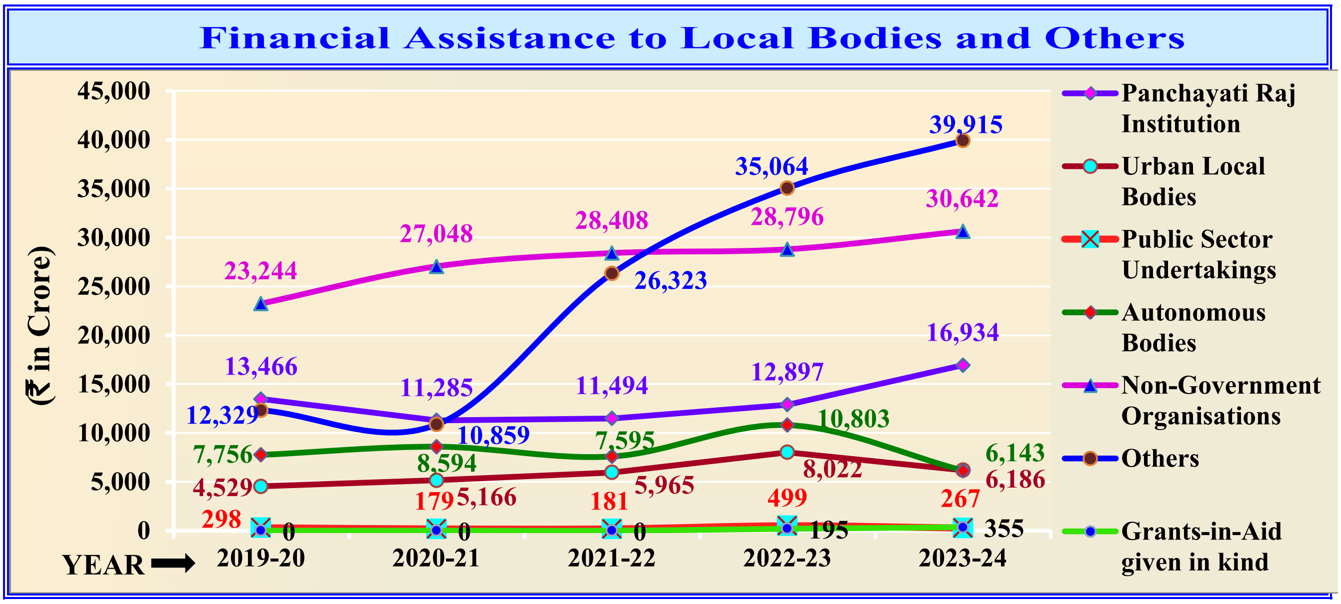
PERIOD	BUILDINGS Amount (No. of Works)	ROADS Amount (No. of Works)	OTHERS		Total Amount involved (No. of Works)
			URBAN DEVELOPMENT Amount (No. of Works)	WATER SUPPLY (PHE) Amount (No. of Works)	
UPTO 2005	–	–	–	–	–
2006-2010	–	–	–	–	–
2011-2015	–	–	–	–	–
2016-2020	–	816.96 (10)	596.34 (7)	NIL (01)	1,413.30 (18)
2021-2025	–	1,163.61 (174)	245.10 (50)	26.41 (92)	1,435.12 (316)
TOTAL	–	1,980.57 (184)	841.44 (57)	26.41 (93)	2,848.42 (334)

Note: Wherever expenditure during the year as well as progressive upto the year shown as zero, the no. of works was not considered.

Source: *Appendix IX of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.15. Financial Assistance to Local Bodies and Others

Expenditure on Grants-in-aid to Local Bodies, etc. represents 45 *per cent* of total Revenue Expenditure. Details of Grants-in-aid for the past five years are given below:



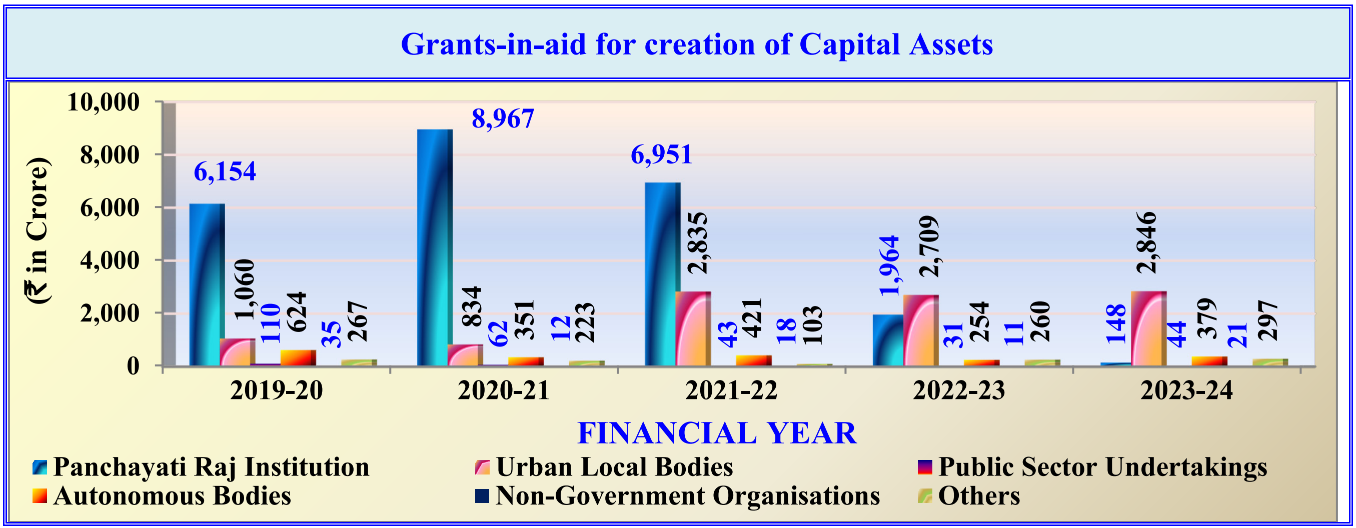
As per record available at PFMS portal of CGA, the State Government received vaccines/drugs/other consumables in kind costing to ₹354.86 crore from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare during 2023-24.

This includes Grants for "National Old Age Pension Scheme (State Share)", "Implementation of Annapurna Scheme for Welfare of Aged, Infirm and Destitute", "Scheme for financial assistance to the workers in locked-out Industrial Units", etc.

Note: Figures based on expenditure under the Object Head "31-Grants-in-aid" and "36-Salary Grants" across Major Heads and under the Major Head "3604-Compensation and Assignments to Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions".

Details of Grants-in-aid for creation of Capital Assets for the last five years are given below:

(₹ in Crore)



***Source**: Statement No. 10 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.16. Misclassification between Revenue and Capital Expenditure

During the year 2023-24, Government of West Bengal incorrectly booked expenditure of ₹908.17 crore under Capital Section instead of Revenue Section as has been determined from the purpose of expenditure. This led to under statement of Revenue Expenditure and overstatement of Capital Expenditure of the State to that extent. The impact of misclassification on the Revenue Deficit of the State is given under Para 9.10.

Source*: Para 3(iii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.17. Expenditure relating to unforeseen/ extraordinary events/disaster

During the year 2023-24, the Government of West Bengal incurred ₹437.23 crore (₹150.01 crore in previous year) on relief measure relating to unforeseen/extraordinary events under Major Head 2245-Relief on account of Natural Calamities. The Government received ₹1,221.20 crore (₹892.00 crore on SDRF and ₹329.20 crore on SDMF) from the Central Government which has been accounted for under Major Head 1601.

Source*: Para 3(xii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

3.18. Funds transferred to DDO Bank Account

As per Rule 4.116 of West Bengal Treasury Rules, 2005 of the Government of West Bengal, no money shall be drawn from the treasury unless it is required for immediate disbursement. It is not permissible to draw money from the treasury in anticipation of demands or to prevent the lapse of budget grants.

As per information received from the 15 State Departments (out of 58), an amount of ₹717.66 crore was still lying unspent in the Bank Accounts of DDOs (in five departments) as on 31 March 2024. However, information on opening of Bank Accounts by the DDOs and transfer of funds from Treasuries to DDOs' Bank Accounts of the Government of West Bengal were not available.

Source*: Para 3(xx) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

CHAPTER-IV

CONTINGENCY FUND

4. Contingency Fund

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 2 of the West Bengal Contingency Fund Act, 1950, the State Government made the West Bengal Contingency Fund Rules, 1955, for regulating all matters connected with or ancillary to the custody of, payment of monies into, and the withdrawal of monies from, the Contingency Fund of the State of West Bengal. The Contingency Fund of the State of West Bengal has a corpus of ₹200.00 crore. At the end of 2023-24, ₹52.98 crore remained un-recouped under various heads. The details are as below:

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	Major Heads	Amount
1.	2235 Social Security and Welfare	0.06
2.	2711 Flood Control	0.26
3.	4059 Capital Outlay on Public Works	13.14
4.	4235 Capital Outlay on Social Security and Welfare	2.05
5.	4404 Capital Outlay on Dairy Development	0.81
6.	4408 Capital Outlay on Food Storage and Warehousing	0.47
7.	4700 Capital Outlay on Major Irrigation	0.02
8.	4701 Capital Outlay on Major and Medium Irrigation	0.14
9.	4711 Capital Outlay on Flood Control Projects	0.00#
10.	5054 Capital Outlay on Roads and Bridges	36.03
Total		**52.98**

#Actual figure was ₹17,017.00.

As on 31 March 2024, Contingency Fund balance was ₹147.02 crore.

Source*: Para 4 of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

CHAPTER-V

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

5.1. National Pension System (NPS)

The National Pension System is not applicable for State Government employees. All India Services (AIS) officers and other Central Government employees on deputation to the State recruited on or after 1 January 2004 are covered under the National Pension System (NPS) which is a Defined Contribution Pension Scheme.

During the year 2023-24, total contribution to the NPS was ₹15.70 crore (Employees' contribution ₹6.53 crore and Government's contribution ₹9.17 crore). The detailed information on Government contribution is available in Statement No. 15 of the Finance Accounts under Major Head 2071-01-117. The Government transferred ₹15.70 crore (Employee share ₹6.53 crore and Govt.'s share ₹9.17 crore) to the Public Account under Major Head 8342-00-117 Defined Contribution Pension Scheme. Out of ₹15.70 crore, an amount of ₹2.87 crore (Employees' contribution ₹1.17 crore and Government's contribution ₹1.70 crore) was deposited in the Public Account on account of contribution of employees on Foreign Service. The Government has transferred ₹15.63 crore to NSDL. As on 31 March 2024, the closing balance under Major Head 8342-00-117 was ₹1.00 crore which is yet to be transferred to NSDL. The cash balance of the Government was overstated by this amount.

Source*: Para 5(i) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.2. Interest Bearing Reserve Fund

5.2.1. State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)

In terms of guidelines on constitution and administration of the State Disaster Response Fund (under Major Head- '8121 General & Other Reserve Funds' which is under interest bearing section), the Central and State Governments are required to contribute to the fund in the proportion of 75:25. During the year 2023-24, the State Government received ₹892.00 crore as Central Government's share. The State Government's share during the year is ₹297.34 crore. The State Government transferred ₹1,189.34 crore (Central share ₹892.00 crore, State share ₹297.34 crore) to the Fund under Major Head 8121-122 SDRF. In addition, the State has not received any amount from the Central Government towards NDRF.

An amount of ₹162.47 crore was set off in the Major Head 2245 as expenditure met from the funds and no amount was invested from the Fund. The closing balance as on 31 March 2024 was ₹3,659.98 crore in the fund.

Source*: Para 5(ii)(A)(a) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.2.2. State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF)

The State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) is to be constituted under section 48 (1) (c) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. This Fund is exclusively for the purpose of mitigation project in respect of disaster covered under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)/National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) guidelines and the State specific local disaster notified by the State Government from time to time. The State Government has created the SDMF vide Notification No.866-FB/N/2S-1(05)/2015 dated 27.12.2021under Major Head 8121-130- State Disaster Mitigation Fund.

The Central and the State Governments are required to contribute to the fund in the proportion of 75:25. During the year 2023-24, the State Government received ₹329.20 crore (₹106.20 crore for 2022-23 and ₹223.00 crore for 2023-24) as Central Government's share. The State Government's share during the year was ₹109.73 crore (₹35.40 crore for 2022-23 and ₹74.33 crore for 2023-24). The State Government transferred ₹438.93 crore (Central share ₹329.20 crore, State share ₹109.73 crore) to the Fund under Major Head 8121-130 SDMF.

No amount was set off in the Major Head 2245 as expenditure met from the funds and no amount was invested from the Fund. The closing balance as on 31 March 2024 was ₹1,166.15 crore in the fund.

***Source**: Para 5(ii)(A)(b) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.2.3. State Compensatory Afforestation Fund (SCAF)

In compliance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, the State Governments are required to establish the State Compensatory Afforestation Fund (SCAF) under interest bearing section in Public Account of the State for amounts received from user agencies for undertaking Compensatory Afforestation.

During the year 2023-24, the State Government has not received any amount from the user agencies (no amount received in previous year). No amount has been remitted to the National Fund during the year 2023-24. The Government received ₹183.25 crore (₹69.28 crore received in previous year) from National Compensatory Afforestation Deposit.

The Government incurred an expenditure of ₹41.83 crore from the fund and no amount was invested during the year.

The balance in the State Compensatory Afforestation Fund as on 31March, 2024 was ₹495.72 crore.

***Source**: Para 5(ii)(A)(c) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.3. Reserve Funds not bearing Interest

5.3.1. Consolidated Sinking Fund (CSF)

The Government of West Bengal set up the Consolidated Sinking Fund for amortization of loans in 2008-09. According to the guidelines of the Fund, States may contribute a minimum of 0.5 *per cent* of their outstanding liabilities (Internal Debt + Public Account) as at the end of the previous year to the Consolidated Sinking Fund. In the year 2023-24, Government contributed ₹200.00 crore as against ₹2,771.01 crore it was required to contribute to the Fund. The total accumulation of the Fund was ₹13,265.37 crore as on 31 March 2024 (₹12,139.04 crore as on 31 March 2023).

***Source**: Para 5(ii)(B)(a) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.3.2. Guarantee Redemption Fund (GRF)

The State Government constituted the Guarantee Redemption Fund to be administered by the RBI. The latest amendment to the Fund notification issued by the State Government, effective from the year 2014-15, stipulates that the State Government shall initially contribute a minimum of one *per cent* and thereafter at the rate of 0.5 *per cent* of outstanding guarantees at the end of the previous year to achieve a minimum level of three *per cent* in next five years. The Fund shall be gradually increased to a desirable level of five *per cent*. During the year 2023-24, Government contributed ₹50.00 crore in the Fund. The total accumulation of the Fund was ₹974.15 crore as on 31 March 2024 (₹857.04 crore as on 31 March 2023) which is over the desirable level of five *per cent* of the previous year's guarantees of ₹17,677.10 crore.

Source*: Para 5(ii)(B)(b) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.3.3. Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF)

The erstwhile Central Road Fund (CRF) has been renamed as the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) vide GoI's Gazette notification dated 31-03-2018. The CRIF will be used for development and maintenance of National Highways, Railway projects, improvement of safety in Railways, State and Rural roads and other infrastructure, etc.

In terms of the extant accounting procedure, the grants received by the State from the Centre are to be initially booked as Revenue Receipts under Major Head 1601. Thereafter, the amount so received is to be transferred by the State Government to the Public Account under Major Head 8449-00-103-Subventions from Central Road and Infrastructure Fund through functional Major Head(s).

During the year 2023-24, the State Government received grants of ₹298.08 crore towards CRIF. The State Government transferred ₹298.08 crore to the Fund in the Public Account as on 31 March 2024.

Source*: Para 5(iii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.4. West Bengal Silicosis Prevention and Control Fund

As per notification of Labour Department, Government of West Bengal vide No. Labr-230/(LC-LW/MW) dated 17.12.2021, the State government has created 'West Bengal Silicosis Prevention and Control Fund' for treatment, compensation, rehabilitation and other welfare measures for the workers affected by the dreadful occupational lung disease "Silicosis". Silicosis is a notifiable disease under the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952 and the Building and Other Construction Workers (RE & CS) Act, 1996.

During the year 2023-24, Government of West Bengal transferred ₹5.00 crore in the fund under classification "8229-Development and Welfare Funds-00-102- Development Funds for Medical and Public Health Purposes". An amount of ₹0.92 crore was set off under 2230-01-103-West Bengal Silicosis Prevention and Control Fund as expenditure met from the funds. The closing balance as on 31 March 2024 was ₹4.08 crore in the fund.

Source*: Para 5(iv) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.5. West Bengal Board of Primary Education Fund

The West Bengal Primary Education Act, 1973, was introduced with the intention to make better provision for the development, expansion, management and control of primary education with a view to making it universal, free and compulsory. Section 32 of the said Act proposed creation of the West Bengal Board of Primary Education Fund. Accordingly, a fund to be called "West Bengal Board of Primary Education Fund" has been created in January 2024 under School Education Department.

During the year 2023-24, the Government collected ₹387.27 crore being the collection of cess under West Bengal Primary Education Act, 1973, and has been classified as Revenue receipts under Major Head '0029-Land Revenue'. The entire amount of cess so collected has been transferred under head of account 8229-00-101-002-West Bengal Board of Primary Education Fund by the State Government.

Source*: Para 5(v) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.6. Major Cesses collected by the State Government

5.6.1. Buildings and other Construction Workers Welfare Cess

The Government of India enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996 (Cess Act) to levy and collect cess for providing benefits to the workers.

During the year 2023-24, ₹377.92 crore including interest [*2022-23: ₹285.76 crore*] was credited as Labour Cess under Major Head '8342-00-113-Solarium Fund-002-Deposit of Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Fund' and transferred ₹94.99 crore (*2022- 23: ₹99.44 crore*) to the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. Thus, the un-transferred amount from the Major head '8342-00-113-Solarium Fund-002-Deposit of Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Fund' was ₹2,484.54 crore as on 31 March 2024 (₹2,201.61 crore as on 31 March 2023).

Source: *Para 5(viii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.6.2. Motor Transport Workers' Welfare Cess

In terms of 'West Bengal, Motor Transport Workers Welfare Cess Act 2010', cess is collected on motor vehicles carrying passengers or goods by road for hire or reward for the financing of schemes to promote social security, health and welfare of motor transport workers and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto. This cess, so collected, is deposited in the Public Account under the Major Head '8443-00-116-002-Deposit of West Bengal Motor Transport Workers' Welfare Cess Act 2010' in accordance with the Government of West Bengal Finance Department O. M. No. 2921-F(Y) dated 03.06.2014 and O. M. No. 5153-F(Y) dated 28.09.2016, which is in contravention of Article 266(1) of the Constitution of India, where it is stated that all revenues received by the Government shall be credited into the Consolidated Fund of the State.

During 2023-24, the Government collected ₹39.67 crore and deposited the amount so collected, under Major Head '8443-00-116-002-Deposit of West Bengal Motor Transport Workers' Welfare Cess Act 2010'. An amount of ₹57.24 crore was withdrawn and transferred to the Major Head '8342-00-113-Solarium Fund-003-Deposit of West Bengal Transport Workers' Welfare Fund', leaving a balance ₹7.65 crore at the end of 31 March 2024. The information relating to other amount collected by the Government as Revenue/Cess and directly remitted in the Public Account without crediting the Consolidated Fund of the State was not available. This has been brought to the notice of the State Government by the Accountant General (Accounts & Entitlement).

Source: *Para 5(ix) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.6.3. Other Cesses levied by the State

During the year 2023-24, the Government collected ₹1,543.47 crore (*2022-23: ₹1,834.43 crore*) being the collection of Cess (other than Labour Cess and those cess which have been collected under Cess Act viz. West Bengal Rural Employment and Production Act, 1976 and Cess Act 1880). Out of the total collection of ₹1,543.47 crore *(2022-23: ₹1,834.43 crore)*, no amount was transferred to the designated fund by the State Government as the Government has not created any Fund till 31 March 2024. Details of Other Cess collection are provided in next page:-

Sl. No.	Head of Account	Description of Cess	Amount (₹ in Crore)
1	0029-00-103-001-08	Public Works Cess	6.12
2	0029-00-103-002-08	Road Cess	3.93
3	0029-00-103-003-08	Miscellaneous receipts under the Cess Act	0.27
4	0029-00-103-004-08	Rural Employment Cess other than Tea Estates and Coal Mines	2.82
5	0029-00-103-005-08	Rural Employment Cess on Tea Estates	0.10
6.	0029-00-103-006-08	Rural Employment Cess on Coal Mines	1530.23
Total			**1543.47**

***Source**: Para 5(x) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.7. Remittance to National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET):

National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) was established in August 2015 under section 9C(1) (inserted vide amendment in 2015) of the Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) – MMDR Act, 1957. Section 9C(4) of the Act states that the holder of a mining lease or a mineral concession shall pay to the Trust, a sum equivalent to two *per cent* of the royalty paid in terms of the Second Schedule, in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

Rule 7(1) of the National Mineral Exploration Trust (amendment) Rule, 2018 states that the holder of mining lease or prospecting license-cum-mining lease shall, while making payment of royalty to the State Government, pay to Trust a sum equivalent to two *per cent* of the royalty under sub-section (4) of section 9C of the Act by depositing the same in the Public Account of the State under the head booked for this purpose. On receipt, the State Governments shall transfer the amount so collected in the Public Account of the State under sub-rule (1) to the Consolidated Fund of India.

As per the accounting procedure, the required is being deposited by miners directly in the Public Account of the State under Major Head 8449-00-123-NMET. The accretions are thereafter periodically transferred to the NMET under Public Account of India. The NMET Fund is non-lapsable and non-interest-bearing fund created under Public Account of India.

The above accounting procedure has been adopted by the State Government. The receipts relating to NMET is directly deposited by the lease holder into the State Account under Major Head 8449-00-123 and the same is transferred by State Government to Ministry of Mines, Government of India. During the year 2023-24, ₹0.44 crore was deposited under Major Head 8449-00-123 and the entire amount has been transferred to Government of India. As on 31 March, 2024 ₹0.09 crore was undisbursed. The cash balance of the Government is overstated by this amount.

***Source**: Para 5(xi) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.8. Adverse Balance

Adverse balance is a situation, when a head of account closing to balances at the end of the financial year reflects minus balance, debit/(-) credit balance representing liability heads or heads where it should normally have credit balance, and credit/(-) debit balance representing Assets heads or heads where it should normally have debit balance. The adverse balance in a head of account arises due to misclassification, more disbursement than the availability of funds, more disbursement than the contribution received, non-carrying forward of balances from one accounting unit to another, administrative reorganization leading to creation of States/more accounting units, etc. In 2023-24, there was new Adverse Balance of ₹6.14 crore in one Major Head (8443). Cumulative adverse balance appears in nine Major Heads as detailed below at the end of March 31, 2024.

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	Major Head	Major Head Description	Amount
1.	6003-00-103	Internal Debt of the State Government-Loans from Life Insurance Corporation of India	(-) 0.62
2.	6003-00-104	Internal Debt of the State Government- Loans from General Insurance Corporation of India	(-) 0.02
3.	6003-00-108	Internal Debt of the State Government- Loans from National Co-operative Development Corporation	(-) 281.40
4.	6004-03-800	Loans and Advances from the Central Government-Loans for Central Plan Schemes-Other Loans	(-) 0.03
5.	6004-04-800	Loans and Advances from the Central Government-Loans for Centrally Sponsored Plan Schemes-Other Loans	(-) 0.03
6.	6004-09-800	Loans and Advances from the Central Government-Other Loans for States/Union Territory with Legislature Schemes-Other Loans	(-) 690.68
7.	6885-01-190	Other Loans to Industries and Minerals-Loans to Industrial Financial Institutions-Loans to Public Sector and Other Undertakings	(-) 24.17
8.	7610-00-202	Loans to Government Servants etc. –Advances for purchase of Motor Conveyances	(-) 4.40
9.	7610-00-203	Loans to Government Servants etc. –Advances for purchase of Other Conveyances	(-) 0.01
10.	7610-00-800	Loans to Government Servants etc. –Other Advances	(-) 0.04
11.	8011-00-107	Insurance and Pension Funds-State Government Employee’s Group Insurance Scheme	Dr. 287.71
12.	8342-00-103	Other Deposits-Deposits of Government Companies, Corporations etc.	Dr. 168.85
13.	8443-00-101	Civil Deposit-Revenue Deposits	Cr. (-) 6.14
14.	8671-00-101	Departmental Balances	Cr. 0.36

Source*: Para 5(xii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.9. Suspense and Remittance Balances

The Finance Accounts reflect the net balances under Suspense and Remittance Heads. The outstanding balance under these heads, worked out by aggregating the outstanding debit and credit balances separately under various heads, was ₹654.11 crore (Dr.) under Head 8658 and ₹20.85 crore (Cr.) under Head 8782 as on 31 March 2024.

(₹ in Crore)

Name of the Major/Minor Head	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
8658-Suspense Accounts	Dr.	**Cr.**	**Dr.**	**Cr.**	**Dr.**	**Cr.**
101-PAO Suspense	204.27	7.32	221.61	5.60	218.24	6.13
Net	**Dr. 196.95**		**Dr. 216.01**		**Dr. 212.11**	
102-Suspense Account (Civil)	2,228.86	2,398.76	2,575.27	2,775.53	2,708.03	2,929.44
Net	**Dr. 169.90**		**Cr. 200.26**		**Cr. 221.41**	
110- RB Suspense CAO	618.36	114.89	639.36	97.59	852.33	22.96
Net	**Dr. 503.47**		**Dr. 541.77**		**Dr. 829.37**	
112-TDS Suspense	0.00	57.44	0.00	47.11	0.00	77.02
Net	**Cr. 57.44**		**Cr. 47.11**		**Cr. 77.02**	
129-MPSSA	0.02	67.46	0.02	67.46	0.02	67.46
Net	**Cr. 67.44**		**Cr. 67.44**		**Cr. 67.44**	
8782 Cash Remittances and Adjustments, etc.	**Dr.**	**Cr.**	**Dr.**	**Cr.**	**Dr.**	**Cr.**
102-P.W. Remittances	66,973.96	66,587.64	66,365.56	66,469.26	66,365.56	66,469.26
Net	**Dr.386.32**		**Cr. 103.70**		**Cr. 103.70**	
103-Forest Remittances	6,199.02	6,173.40	6,199.02	6,173.40	6,199.02	6,173.40
Net	**Dr. 25.62**		**Dr. 25.62**		**Dr. 25.62**	

During the year 2023-24, expenditure for an amount of ₹0.25 crore (Revenue ₹0.01 crore & Capital ₹0.24 crore) under Major Head 8658-00-102-O.B. Suspense and net ₹444.27 crore (Debit) [₹0.66 crore (Credit) and ₹444.93 crore (Debit)] under Major Head 8658-00-110 RBS (CAO) have been placed under suspense by the Office of the Accountant General (A&E), West Bengal, for want of documents like vouchers/challans/sanction letters, etc. The total Revenue and Capital Expenditure of the Government is understated to that extent.

The Finance Accounts reflect the net balances under Suspense and Remittance Heads. The outstanding balance under these heads, worked out by aggregating the outstanding debit and credit balances separately under various heads. As on 31 March 2024, outstanding balances under Major Heads 8658, 8782 and 8793 were ₹654.11 crore (debit), ₹(-)20.85 crore (debit) and ₹19.57 crore (debit) respectively [₹405.68 crore (debit) under Major Head 8658, ₹(-)20.85 crore (debit) under Major Head 8782 and ₹20.21 crore (debit) under Major Head 8793 as on 31 March 2023].

Non-clearance of outstanding balances under these heads affects the accuracy of receipt/expenditure figures and balances under different heads of Accounts (which are carried forward from year to year) of the State Government.

The Reserve Bank of India debited ₹169.52 crore on account of decretal awards in favour of the Engineering Departments of the Government of West Bengal in different years including 2023-24.Out of this the balances since 2004-05 to 2019-20 ₹166.05 crore has been cleared during 2023-24. An amount of ₹3.47 crore has been lying under Suspense Head of Account (Major Head 8658-00-110 - Central Accounts Office-Reserve Bank Suspense) since 2020-21 for want of sanction orders from the Engineering Departments.

Source: *Statement No. 21 of Finance Accounts2023-24 & Para 5(vi) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.10. Cash Balance

The Cash balance (Reserve Bank Deposit) as on 31 March 2024 as per the record of Accountant General was ₹2.45 crore (Credit) and that reported by the RBI was ₹19.04 crore (Debit). There was a net difference of ₹16.59 crore (Debit), mainly due to pending reconciliation between the Treasury/RBI/Agency Bank and AG Office. The difference is under reconciliation. The position for the last year, i.e., as on 31 March 2023 was ₹4.37 crore (Credit).

Source: *Statement No. 2 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

5.11. Cash Balance and Investment of Cash Balance

(₹ in Crore)

Component	As on 1 April 2023	As on 31 March 2024	Net increase(+)/ decrease(-)
Cash Balance	**(-) 14**	**3**	**17**
Investments from Cash Balance (GOI Treasury Bills)	**18,632**	**23,320**	**4,688**
Investments from Earmarked Funds	**13,419**	**14,662**	**1,243**
(a) Sinking Fund	**12,139**	**13,265**	**1,126**
(b) Guarantee Redemption Fund	**857**	**974**	**117**
(c) Other Funds	**423**	**423**	**0**
Interest Realised on Investment of Cash Balances	**112**	**124**	**12**

Source: *Statement No. 22 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

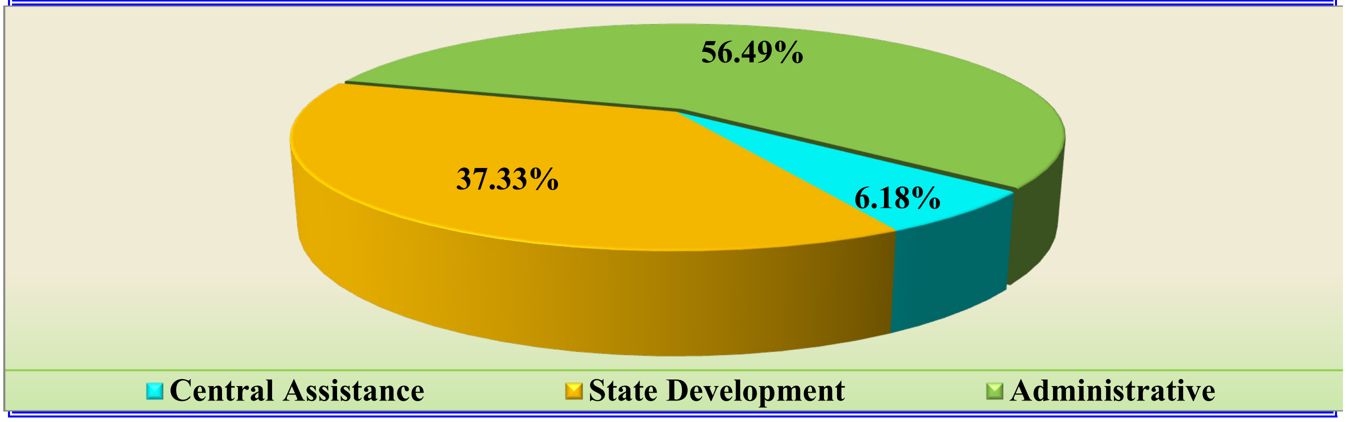
CHAPTER-VI

SCHEME & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE

6.1. Distribution of Expenditure

The total expenditure during the year was ₹2,55,717 crore representing State Development expenditure of ₹95,458 crore (37.33 *per cent*), Central Assistance expenditure of ₹15,811 crore (6.18 *per cent*) and Administrative expenditure of ₹1,44,448 crore (56.49 *per cent*).

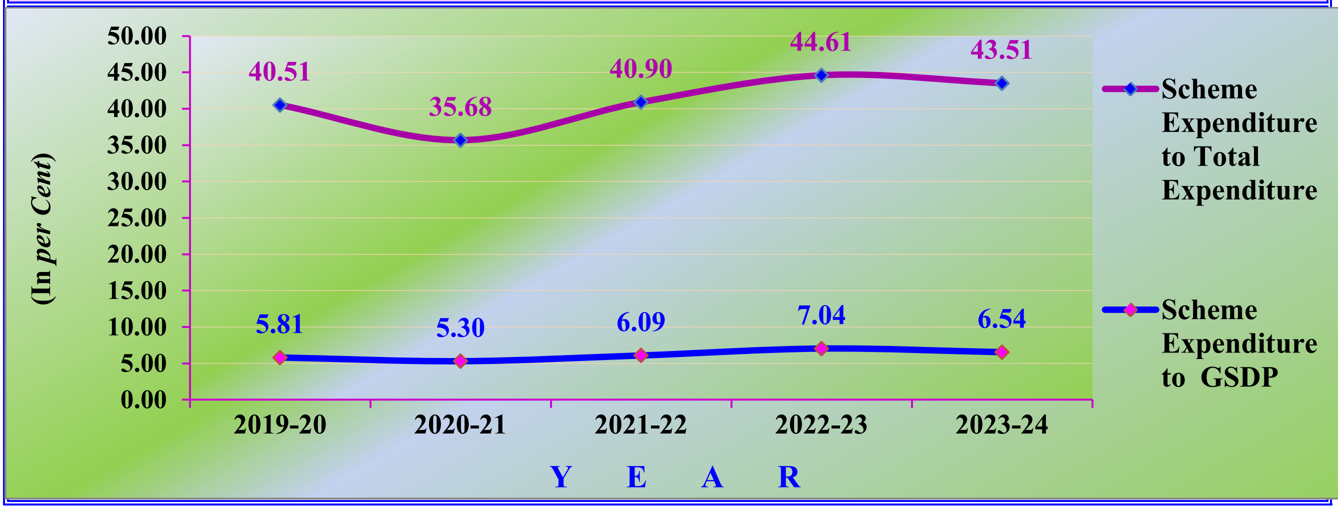
Distribution of Expenditure (in Percentage)



6.2. Scheme Expenditure

During 2023-24, Scheme expenditure, representing 43.51 *per cent* of total disbursements, was ₹1,11,269 crore [₹94,491 crore under State Development Scheme, ₹15,646 crore under State Development (Central Assistance) Scheme, ₹467 crore under Central Sector Scheme and ₹665 crore on Loans and Advances].

Scheme Expenditure as proportion ofTotal Expenditure and GSDP

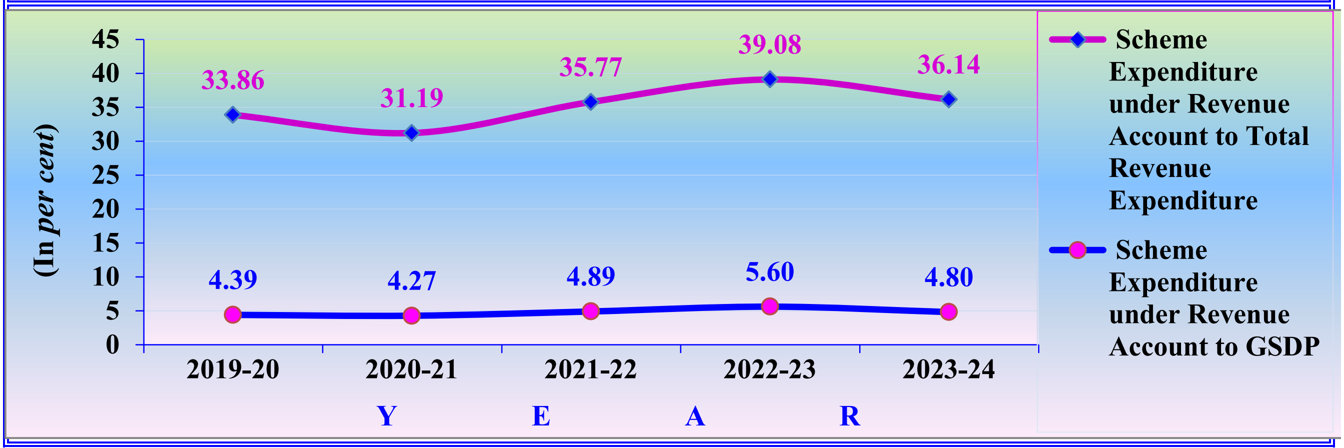


6.2.1. Scheme Expenditure under Revenue Account

(₹ in Crore)

Description	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total Revenue Expenditure	1,62,575	1,77,921	2,10,160	2,22,839	2,25,960
Revenue Expenditure (Scheme)	55,044	55,497	75,177	87,096	81,673
Percentage of Revenue Expenditure (Scheme) to Total Revenue Expenditure	34	31	36	39	36

Scheme Expenditure under Revenue Account (In *per cent*)



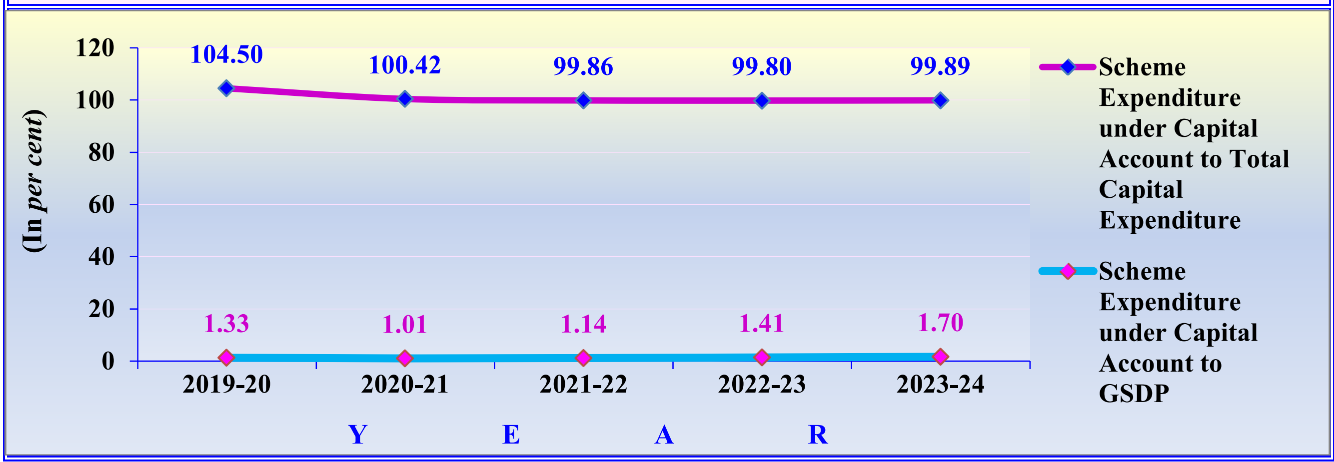
6.2.2. Scheme Expenditure under Capital Account

(₹ in Crore)

Description	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total Capital Expenditure	15,971	13,034	17,484	22,009	28,963
Capital Expenditure (Scheme)	16,690	13,089	17,460	21,965	28,931
Percentage of Capital Expenditure (Scheme) to Total Capital Expenditure	105	100	100	100	100

Note: Capital Expenditure excludes Loans and Advances.

Scheme Expenditure under Capital Account (In *per cent*)



6.2.3. Scheme Expenditure on Loans and Advances

During 2023-24 significant disbursements of Loans and Advances were ₹664.98 crore. Details are as under:

(₹ in Crore)

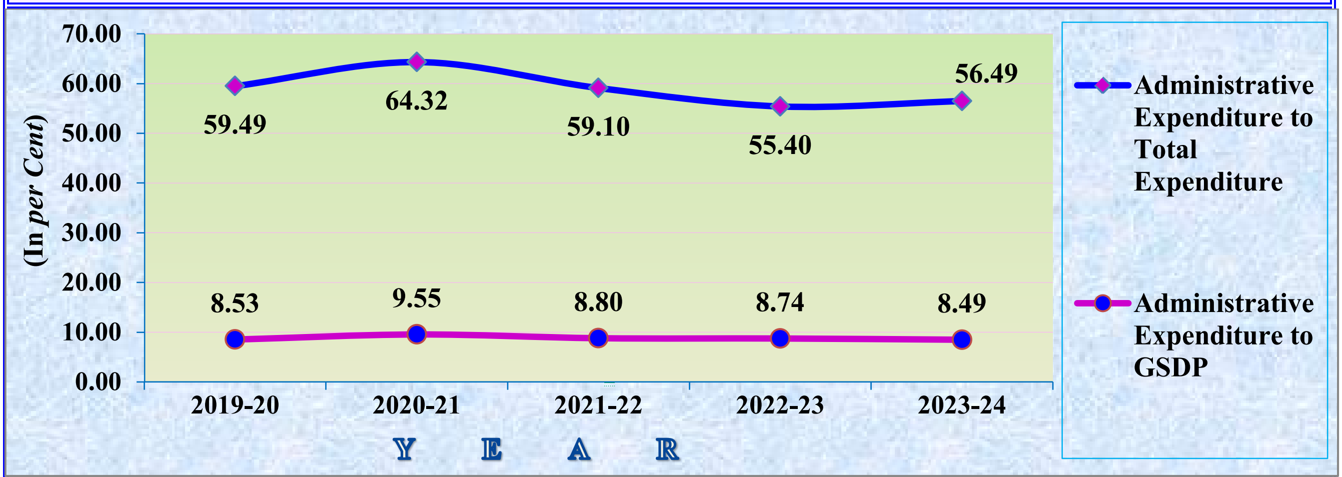
Description	Amount	Details
MH – **6217**- Loans for Urban Development	**164.59**	Loans to Kolkata Municipal Corporation for Kolkata Environmental Improvement Investment Program (KEIIP) (ADB) [EAP].
MH – **6225**-Loans for Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Minorities	**20.00**	Loans to meritorious and needy students on minority communities studying Professional/Technical/Vocational Courses in India and Abroad [MD].
MH – **6801**-Loans for Power Projects	**300.00**	Loans to Durgapur Projects Ltd.
MH – **7055**- Loans for Road Transport	**111.48**	Loans to Calcutta State Transport Corporation ₹38.71 crore, North Bengal State Transport Corporation ₹18.87 crore, South Bengal State Transport Corporation ₹18.27 crore, West Bengal Surface Transport Corporation Ltd ₹5.62 crore, Calcutta Tramways Company Ltd. ₹30.00 crore for development of road transport services.
MH – **7056**- Loans for Inland Water Transport	**13.90**	Loans to West Bengal Surface Transport Corporation Ltd. for development and maintenance of IWT Service ₹8.90 crore and Shalimar Works (1980) Ltd. ₹5.00 crore.
MH – **7465**- Loans for General Financial and Training Institutions	**55.00**	Loans to West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation.

Source*: Statement No. 18 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

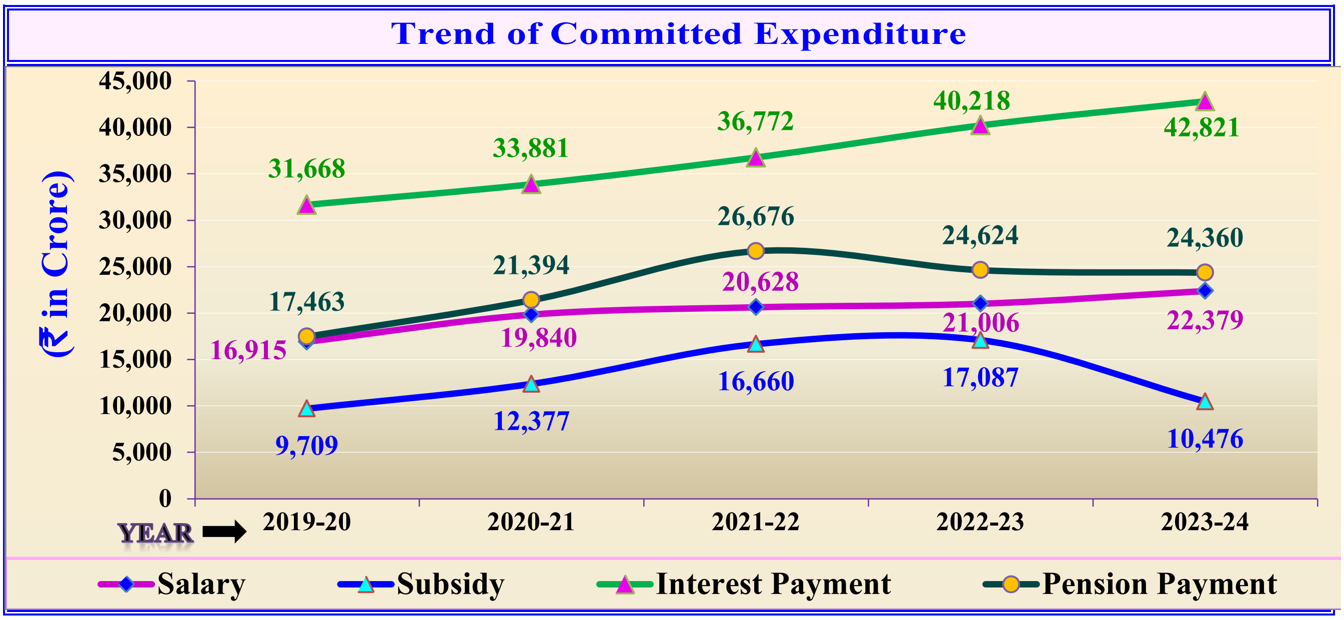
6.3. Administrative Expenditure

During 2023-24, Administrative expenditure representing 56 *per cent* of total disbursements, was ₹1,44,448 crore, (₹1,44,287 crore under Revenue and ₹161 crore under Capital).

Administrative Expenditure as proportion of Total Expenditure and GSDP



6.4. Committed Expenditure



The trend of Committed Expenditure to Revenue Expenditure over the past five years is given below:

(₹ in Crore)

Component	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Committed Expenditure	75,755	87,492	1,00,736	1,02,935	1,00,035
Revenue Expenditure	1,62,575	1,77,921	2,10,160	2,22,839	2,25,960
Revenue Receipts	1,42,914	1,48,394	1,78,159	1,95,544	2,00,268
Percentage of Committed Expenditure to Revenue Receipts	53.01	58.96	56.54	52.64	49.95
Percentage of Committed Expenditure to Revenue Expenditure	46.60	49.17	47.93	46.19	44.27

The major disbursement on Committed Expenditure leaves the Government with lesser funds for developmental spending.

CHAPTER-VII

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS

The Appropriation Accounts of the Government of West Bengal for the year 2023-24 present the Accounts of sums expended in the year ended 31 March 2024 compared with the sums specified in the Schedules appended to the Appropriation Act passed under Articles 204 and 205 of the Constitution of India.

7.1. Summary of Appropriation Accounts

(₹ in Crore)

Nature of Expenditure		Original Grant	Supple-mentary Grant	Surrender (by way of Re-appro-priation)	Total	Actual Expenditure	Savings(-) / Excess(+)
Revenue	Voted	2,03,226	8,569	--	2,11,795	1,85,113	(-) 26,682
	Charged	*43,469*	*38*	--	*43,507*	*43,334*	*(-) 173*
Capital	Voted	35,151	6,237	--	41,388	29,479	(-) 11,909
	Charged	*4*	*35*	--	*39*	*31*	*(-) 8*
Public Debt	Voted	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Charged	*60,541*	*92*	--	*60,633*	*30,351*	*(-) 30,282*
Loans and Advances	Voted	1,034	290	--	1,324	794	(-) 530
	Charged	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total		3,43,425	15,261	--	3,58,686	2,89,102	(-) 69,584

7.2. Trend of Savings/Excess during the past five years

(₹ in Crore)

Year	Savings (-)/Excess (+)				
	Revenue	Capital	Public Debt	Loans & Advances	Total
2019-20	(-) 24,063	(-) 13,353	(-) 9,835	(-) 356	(-) 47,607
2020-21	(-) 15,979	(-) 18,006	(-) 21,440	(-) 1,737	(-) 57,162
2021-22	(-) 22,091	(-) 17,255	(-) 29,975	(-) 557	(-) 69,878
2022-23	(-) 22,886	(-) 12,489	(-) 30,700	(-) 615	(-) 66,690
2023-24	(-) 26,855	(-) 11,917	(-) 30,282	(-) 530	(-) 69,584

7.3. Significant Savings

Substantial savings under a grant indicates either non-implementation or slow implementation of certain schemes/programmes.

Some grants with persistent and significant savings are given in next page:

(In *per cent*)

Grant No.	Name of Grant	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
04	Agricultural Marketing	62	81	78	70	68
16	Environment	47	71	63	70	61
20	Fisheries	40	50	58	53	43
22	Food Processing Industries & Horticulture	65	66	59	55	42
32	Irrigation And Waterways	42	46	39	34	27
38	Minority Affairs & Madrasah Education	43	50	46	45	41
41	Parliamentary Affairs	22	80	81	30	83
49	Youth Services and Sports	47	65	84	80	83
52	Tourism	40	74	74	73	74
65	Tribal Development	36	43	60	43	42
75	Industry, Commerce and Enterprises	73	99	70	80	76

During 2023-24, out of total Supplementary Grants of ₹15,262 crore, an amount of ₹7,830 crore proved to be unnecessary in seven grants where there were significant savings at the end of the year even against original allocations. The instances are given below:

(₹ in Crore)

Grant No.	Name of Grant	Original	Supple-mentary	Actual Expenditure
18	Finance	1,31,067	107	98,712
21	Food & Supplies	9,564	2,313	7,076
24	Health & Family Welfare	18,276	541	17,043
31	Information Technology & Electronics	202	65	123
32	Irrigation & Waterways	3,938	283	3,101
40	Panchayats & Rural Development	26,604	3,231	21,062
72	Urban Development and Municipal Affairs	12,832	1,200	11,193

Under the Following Departments, there were excess expenditure at the end of the year even after Supplementary allocations were made:

(₹ in Crore)

Grant No.	Name of Grant	Original	Supplementary	Actual Expenditure
28	Housing	272	60	409
33	Correctional Administration	365	7	378
43	Power	3,379	536	5,419
45	Public Health Engineering	4,076	1,987	8,128

7.4. Operation of Unauthorized Heads

During the year 2023-24, the Government of West Bengal provided budget provisions under six unauthorized Sub-major heads and nine Minor heads (heads not operated as per the LMMHs; five under the Revenue Section, seven under Capital Section and three under both Revenue and Capital) and incurred expenditure of ₹48.90 crore under the Revenue Section and ₹721.23 crore under the Capital Section. The matter has been brought to the notice of the State Government for rectification.

Source*: Para 2(ii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

7.5. Opening of New Sub Heads/Detailed Heads of Accounts

According to Article 150 of the Constitution of India, the accounts of the State are to be kept in the form as advised by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. During the year 2023-24, the State Government of West Bengal opened 353 new Sub Heads (257 under the Revenue Section, 74 under Capital section and 22 under Public Account) in the budget, without seeking the advice or informing the Office of Accountant General (A&E). The State Government provided budget provisions under 288 heads and collected receipts of ₹131.28 crore, incurred expenditure of ₹33,736.43 crore under the Revenue Section, ₹1,887.63 crore under the Capital Section and ₹2,436.65 crore under Public Account in these heads during 2023-24.

Source*: Para 2(iii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

7.6. Expenditure under 'New Service/New Instrument of Service'

Article 205(1) provides inter alia when a need has arisen during the current financial year for supplementary or additional expenditure upon some "new service" not contemplated in the annual financial statement for that year, the Governor shall cause to be laid before the Legislature of the State another statement for a demand.

The Rule 382 of the WBFR also provides that when under unavoidable circumstances an unforeseen expenditure is required to be incurred on a new service the amount would be met out of the Contingency Fund of the State pending authorisation of such expenditure by the Legislature through an Appropriation Act.

However, the State has incurred an expenditure of ₹11,587.95 crore in 215 New Service under 34 Grants and ₹334.53 crore in 345 New Instrument of Service under 46 Grants without any fund provision approved by the Legislature. The Major Departments that had incurred such expenditure are Panchayats & Rural Development (₹2,977.31 crore), Urban Development and Municipal Welfare (₹2,310.20 crore), Food and Supplies (₹2,000.20 crore), Power (₹1,000.00 crore), Public Works (₹983.03 crore) The Appropriation Accounts depicts the excess expenditure which needs approval of the Legislative Assembly.

Source*: Para 2(v) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

7.7. Excess Expenditure over Budget provision pending regularisation

There was an excess disbursement of ₹4,248.39 crore over the authorisation made by the State Legislature in respect of l2 grants during the financial year 2023-24. Excess disbursement of ₹53,015.23 crore in respect of 54 grants pertaining to the years 2009-10 to 2022-23 is yet to be regularised by the State Legislature.

CHAPTER-VIII

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

8.1. Assets

The existing form of accounts do not depict valuation of Government assets like land, buildings etc., except in the year of acquisition/purchase. Similarly, while the accounts present the impact of liabilities arising in the current year, they do not depict the overall impact of the liabilities on future generations except to the limited extent shown by the rate of interest and period of existing loans.

Total investment as share capital in different institutions of the State Government stood at ₹21,378.18 crore at the end of 2023-24. However, dividends received during the year were ₹289.00 crore (1.35 *per cent*) on investment. During 2023-24, investment increased by ₹1,546.53 crore, while dividend income increased by ₹123.98 crore.

Cash Balance with RBI stood at(-) ₹13.88 crore as on 31 March 2023 and increased to ₹2.45 crore as on 31 March 2024. In addition Treasury Bills amounting to ₹2,87,808.02 crore were purchased and Treasury Bills amounting to ₹2,83,229.14 crore were sold during the period from 01.04.2023 to 31.03.2024. An amount of ₹124.13 crore was received as interest on Investment under Treasury Bills during the year.

(₹ in Crore)

Cash Balance Investment in Government of India Treasury Bills			
Opening Balance as on 1 April 2023	Purchased During 2023-24	Sold* During 2023-24	Closing Balance as on 31 March 2024
18,631.60	2,87,808.02	2,83,229.14	23,210.48

(*) Sold excludes ₹124.13 crore as interest.

Source: *Statement nos. 2 & 8 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

8.2. Debt and Liabilities

Article 293 of the Constitution of India empowers the State Government to borrow on the security of the Consolidated Fund of the State within such limits, if any, as may be from time to time fixed by the State Legislature.

Details of the Public Debt and total liabilities of the State Government are as under:

(₹ in Crore)

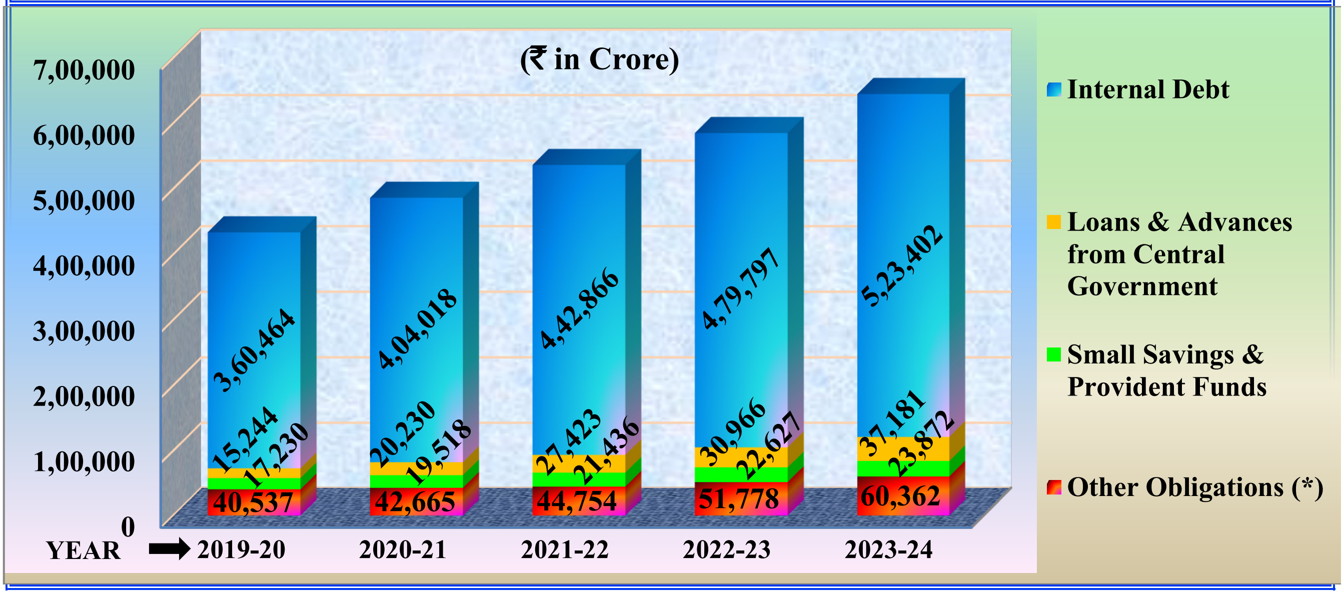
Year	Public Debt	Percentage to GSDP	Public Account(*)	Percentage to GSDP	Total Liabilities	Percentage to GSDP
2019-20	3,75,708	30	57,767	5	4,33,475	35
2020-21	4,24,247	32	62,182	5	4,86,430	37
2021-22	4,70,288	31	66,190	4	5,36,478	35
2022-23	5,10,763	33	74,406	5	5,85,169	38
2023-24	5,60,583	33	84,234	5	6,44,817	38

(*) Excludes suspense and remittance balances.

Note: Figures are progressive balances to end of the year.

Source: *Statement 6 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

During last five years, Public Debt increased by 49 *per cent.*



(*) Obligations such as deposits of Local Funds, other earmarked funds, etc.

8.3. Interest Adjustment

Government is liable to pay/adjust interest in respect of balances under category J-Reserve Funds (a. Reserve Funds bearing interest) and K-Deposit and Advances (a. Deposits bearing interest), and for this purpose, specific Sub-Major Heads are provided in the List of Major and Minor Heads of Account.

Details of these Funds/Deposits and interest paid by the Government during the year 2023-24 are given below:-

Funds/Deposits	Opening Balance on 1 April 2023	Basis for calculation of interest	Interest due	Interest paid	Interest short paid
			(₹ in Crore)		
State Compensatory Afforestation Deposit	**306.55**	As per the circulars issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, which is 3.35 *per cent* for 2023-24.	**22.80**	**22.80**	**Nil**
SDRF	**2,387.59**	Rate of interest as notified by the State or SDRF guidelines. At present, this is taken two *per cent* above the average WMAs.	**245.53**	**245.53**	**Nil**
SDMF	**659.77**	Same as for SDRF	**67.47**	**67.47**	**Nil**
Other interest bearing deposits	**2,373.96**	Interest calculated at the rate of 6.50 *per cent* as notified by the State Government.	**154.30**	**154.30**	**Nil**
Total			**490.10**	**490.10**	**Nil**

Source: *Para 3(ix) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

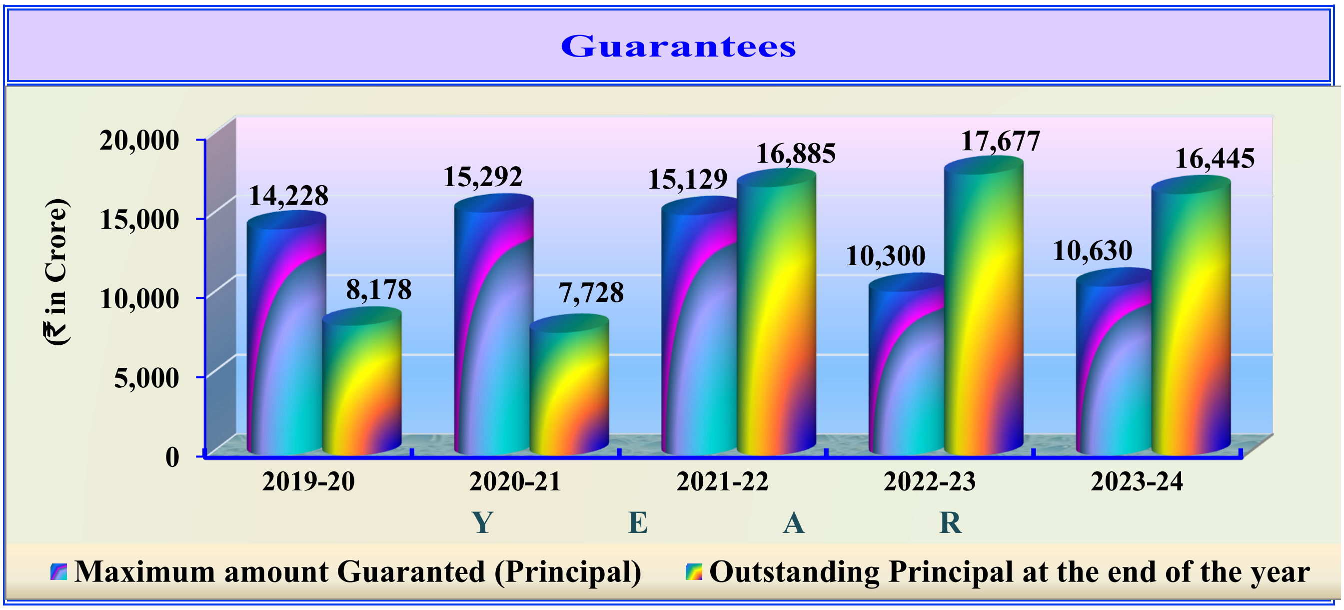
8.4. Guarantees given by the Government

In terms of the West Bengal Ceiling on Government Guarantees Act, 2001, the total outstanding Government Guarantees as on the first day of April of any year shall not exceed 90 *per cent* of the State Revenue Receipts of the second preceding year. During the year, amount guaranteed by the State Government is ₹2,557.17 crore. The outstanding guarantees of ₹16,444.55 crore as on 31 March 2024, works out to 9.23 *per cent* of the State Revenue Receipts of the year 2021-22 (₹1,78,159.35 crore) and are within the limits prescribed.

The State Government through the Government Guarantee Act, 2001, has required guarantee commission of one *per cent* on maximum guaranteed amount.

During 2023-24, the State Government received ₹5.00 crore towards guarantee commission, which constituted 0.05 *per cent* of the maximum guaranteed amount during 2023-24 (₹10,629.59 crore).

The position of guarantees by the State Government for the re-payment of loans and capital and payment of interest thereon raised by Statutory Corporations, Government Companies, Corporations, Co-operative Societies, etc. is given below:-:



***Source**: Statement No. 9 of Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

CHAPTER-IX

OTHER ITEMS

9.1. Submission of Accounts by Accounts Rendering Units

There are 91 District Treasuries in the State (including PAOs and one e-Treasury). From 1 April 2015, Government of West Bengal has done away with the Letter of Credit (LOC) system and submission of accounts by Public Works and Forest Divisions. During the year, average delay in submission of monthly accounts by the treasuries was 4.79 days. However, there was no exclusion of accounts at the end of the year.

9.2. Reconciliation of Receipts and Expenditure between CCOs and Accountant General (A&E)

All Controlling Officers are required to reconcile receipts and expenditure of the Government with the figures accounted for by the Accountant General (A&E), West Bengal.

During the year 2023-24, revenue receipts amounting to ₹2,00,267.61 crore (100 *per cent* of total revenue receipts) and revenue expenditure amounting to ₹2,25,959.47 crore (100 *per cent* of total revenue expenditure) and capital expenditure amounting to ₹28,963.09 crore (100 *per cent* of total capital expenditure) were reconciled by the State Government. Loans and Advances given by the State Government amounting to ₹794.13 crore (100 *per cent* of total loans and advances given by the State Government) was reconciled.

In comparison, during the last year 2022-23, in revenue receipt, revenue expenditure, capital receipt, capital expenditure and loans and advances was 100 *per cent* reconciled.

***Source**: Para 3(iv) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

9.3. Loans and Advances by the State Government

In respect of old loans [detailed account of which are maintained by the Accountant General (A&E)] amounting to ₹545.95 crore involving 12 Departments (82 Loanee entities) as on 31 March, 2024, recoveries of principal have not been effected during the past several years, which includes loans pending since the year 1970.

Terms and conditions of repayment of loans have not been settled for loans amounting to ₹8,183.78 crore to Statutory Bodies/Other Entities (details are in additional disclosures to Statement 18 of the Finance Accounts). Consequently, the receivables of the State Government on this account could not be estimated.

The Accountant General (A&E) annually communicates loan balances (where detailed accounts are maintained by the Accountant General) to the loan sanctioning departments for verification and acceptance. Only Six out of the 108 loanees have confirmed the balances. Details of information awaited from Departmental Officers for Reconciliation of Balances have been provided in Appendix-VII of the Finance Accounts.

***Source**: Para 3(xiv) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

9.4. Non-providing of list of beneficiaries under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)

During implementation of e-billing module in IFMS, Government of West Bengal vide their memorandum No.4879- F(Y) dated 24 June 2015 notified that one copy of the bill to be printed out, signed and submitted to the Treasury by the DDO with beneficiary's details. Further, Government of West Bengal vide their Memorandum No. 5808- F(Y) dated 10 September 2018 notified to discontinue the mandatory provision for submission of hard copy of beneficiary list with the bill/advice to Treasury, as the soft copies of the beneficiary list are readily available in IFMS.

However, there were cases such as Lakshmir Bhandar Scheme (₹13,602.73 crore), Manabik Scheme (₹847.63 crore), Pension Scheme under Jai Bangla (₹7,059.10 crore), etc., wherein the payments are drawn from Treasury to the Department's Bank accounts for further disbursement to payees but the payee details are neither made available to the Treasury/AG (A&E) nor soft copy is available in the IFMS.

***Source**: Para 2(vii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

9.5. Transfer of Funds to Single Nodal Agency (SNA)

Ministry of Finance, Government of India vide letter No. 1(13)PFMS/FCD/2020 dated 23-03-2021 had notified procedure for release of funds under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) and monitoring utilization of the funds released through Single Nodal Agency (SNA). For each CSS, SNA is set up with own Bank Account in scheduled Commercial Bank authorized to conduct Government business by the State Government.

As per MoF, GoI's letter dated 16 February, 2023, the State Government shall transfer the Central share as well as the commensurate State share to the SNA account within 30 days of receipt of Central share. Any delay beyond 30 days in transfer of Central share to the SNA account, interest on the number of days at the rate of seven *per cent* per annum has to be paid by the State Government with effect from 01-04-2023.

The State Government has not provided any information on funds transferred to the account of Single Nodal Agency. However, as per the PFMS portal (SNA 01 report) of the CGA, the State Government received ₹6,486.13 crore being Central share during the year in its Treasury account. As on 31 March 2024, the State Government transferred Central share of ₹6,702.67 crore and State share of ₹14,335.43 crore to the SNAs. Detailed vouchers and supporting documents of actual expenditure were not received by AG office from the SNAs. As per PFMS portal, ₹15,837.97 crore are lying unspent in the bank accounts of SNAs as on 31 March 2024. The difference between the Finance Accounts figures and SNA Report is under reconciliation with the State Government.

Under Jal Jeevan Mission, Central direct transfer to Escrow Account is ₹4,206.29 crore during the year 2023-24.

***Source**: Para 3(xix) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

9.6. Non-freezing of accounts by treasuries after closing monthly accounts

As per the existing practice, accounts once closed by the State and rendered to the Office of Accountant General (A&E), should not be opened for any changes, as this would misrepresent the monthly accounts. Non-freezing of accounts by treasuries after closing monthly accounts may give scope for data modification after submission of monthly accounts to AG office and may lead to mismatch of figures/data between AG office and State Government. There is provision for freezing of monthly accounts in the West Bengal Integrated Financial Management System (WBIFMS) after closure of monthly accounts and sending them to the Office of Accountant General (A&E).

***Source**: Para 2(i) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

9.7. Off-Budget Liabilities of State Government

Off-Budget Borrowing is a liability of the Government in as much as the principal and the interest thereon invariably are serviced through the Government Budget, either as assistance or grant to State entity.

The State Government did not disclose the off-budget liabilities in their budget documents/annual financial statements. However, Government of West Bengal intimated that there was no off-budget borrowing during the financial year 2023-24.

Source: *Para 3(xviii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

9.8. Cheques, Bills and Digital Payments

Credit balance under MH 8670 Cheques and Bills including Electronic Payment Advices indicates cheques/Advices issued but remaining un-encashed. The opening balance as on 01 April 2023 was ₹5,174.89 crore (Credit). During 2023-24, cheques/Electronic Payment Advices worth ₹1,75,745.78 crore were issued, against which cheques/Electronic Payment Advices worth ₹1,76,397.78 crore were encashed, leaving a closing balance of ₹4,522.89 crore (Credit) as on 31 March 2024. The closing balance represents expenditure originally booked in various financial years under different functional Major Heads, which has not resulted in any cash outflow to the Government of West Bengal till 31 March 2024.

In case of digital payments, payment orders through electronic mode are treated as expenditure as and when the transaction is completed. However, in case of failure referred to as 'e-Kuber failed' transactions, the treatment of the transaction is accounted for as suspense in 8658. In the year 2023-24, an amount of ₹153.82 (Cr.) crore and ₹143.33 (Dr.) crore was accounted for as suspense due to e-Kuber failed transactions.

Source: *Para 5(vii) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

9.9. Depiction of budget provisions under wrong classification

Budget documents of the State Government for the year 2023-24 did not depict correct classification of expenditure for an amount of ₹5,784.61 crore in 51 Schemes in respect of 28 Major Heads under 20 Grants. Five major schemes are given below:-

Sl. No.	Grant No.	Scheme Name	Incorrect Major Head	Correct Major Head	Budget Provision (₹ in Crore)
1.	40	Road Works under Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY)	4515- Capital Outlay on other Rural Dev. Programmes	3054- Roads and Bridges	1,975.30
2.	72	WB Urban Employment Scheme (UM)	2217-Urban Development	3475- Other General Economic Services'	441.59
3.	35	Samajik Suraksha Yojana	2235- Social Security and Welfare	2230- Labour, Employment and Skill Development	430.00
4.	38	Scheme for Housing for Destitute Minority Women under Destitute Minority Women Rehabilitation Programme	2235- Social Security and Welfare	2225-Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward classes and Minorities	320.00
5.	72	Development of Municipal Area	4217- Capital Outlay on Urban Development	2217- Urban Development	320.00

Source: *Para 2(iv) of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

9.10 Impact on Receipt, Expenditure and Cash Balance:

The impact on revenue expenditure of misclassifications/non-compliance to statutory provisions on the states' finances as brought out in the preceding paras is tabulated below :-

(₹ in Crore):

Para No.	Item (Illustrative)	O/S RE	U/S of RE	O/S CE	U/S of CE	O/S RR	U/S of RR	U/S CB	O/S of CB
3.16	Misclassification between revenue and capital	---	908.17	908.17	---	---	---	---	---
4	Non-recoupment of Contingency Fund	---	0.32	---	52.66	---	---	---	---
5.1	Non-transfer of NPS amount to NSDL								1.00
5.6.1	Non-transfer of Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Cess								2,484.54
5.6.3	Non-Transfer of Cess	---	1,543.47	---	---	---	---	---	---
5.7	Non-Transfer of amount to NMET								0.09
Total (Net) Impact	**Overstatement ((O/S)/ Understatement (U/S)**	**---**	**2,451.96**	**908.17**	**52.66**	**---**	**---**	**---**	**2,485.63**

Source: *Para 6 of Notes to Finance Accounts, 2023-24.*

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