

Generic Elective (GE-22): Public Finance in India

Semester	Course title & Code	Credits	Duration (per week)			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite
			Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
IV/VI/VIII	Public Finance in India – ECON072	4	3	1	0	Class 12th Pass	NIL

Course Objectives:

- This course covers an overview of recent trends and issues in government finances of India.
- It will look into the recent trends in budget, deficits, reforms in taxes of the centre, states and the local governments and the issues of fiscal federalism and decentralisation in India.
- It also offers an overview of principles and finances of India's flagship welfare programs.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- The students will learn India's recent trends and issues in direct and indirect taxes, intergovernmental transfers and welfare policies.
- It will enable them to compare and contrast India's public sector performance with the conceptual standards and performances of other nations.
- It will also equip them to engage in empirical based public policy debates around taxation, fiscal federalism and welfare policies.
- The course will be useful for students aiming towards careers in the government sector, policy analysis, business and journalism.

Content (Unit-wise):

Unit 1 : Current Issues of India's Tax system (12 hours)

Overview of India's tax system and performance; GST; Issues in Direct Taxes; other issues in indirect taxes (eg. taxes on petroleum products)

Unit 2 . Analysis of Budget and Deficits: (12 hours)

Union and State Budget analysis; Deficit and Debt Management; Unit

3 Fiscal Federalism in India (12 hours)

Theories of Fiscal Federalism; Overview of Fiscal Federalism Structure in India; Intergovernmental Transfers; Local Finances in India

Unit 4 : Development and Welfare Policies- (9 hours)

India's Flagship Programs- Public Distribution system, National Health Mission, Universal Health Insurance, Education, other Central and State sponsored schemes

Suggested Readings:

- Relevant chapters from Latest Finance Commission Reports
- Relevant chapters from the latest Economic Survey

- Latest Budget Document
- Rangarajan, Chakravarthy, and D. K. Srivastava. "Fiscal deficits and government debt: implications for growth and stabilisation." *Economic and Political Weekly* (2005): 2919-2934
- Rao, M. Govinda. "Central transfers to states in India: rewarding performance while ensuring equity." Final report submitted to NITI Aayog (2017).
- Relevant articles from reputed journals

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.