

Press Note

Rajasthan Budget 2008-09

Revenue Surplus

- Budgetary estimates (BE 2007-08) 214.76 crores (0.75% of revenue receipts)
- Revised estimates (RE 2007-08) 247.38 crores (0.82% of revenue receipts)
- Budgetary estimates (BE 2008-09) 1,183.14 crores (3.59% of revenue receipts)

Fiscal deficit

- Budgetary estimates (BE 2007-08) 5,321.52 crores (3.34% of GSDP)
- Revised estimates (RE 2007-08) 5,420.86 crores (3.40% of GSDP)
- Budgetary estimates (BE 2008-09) 5,266.91 crores (3.00% of GSDP)

Others

- Transfer of Rs.531.75 crores in Rajasthan Development & Poverty Alleviation Fund.
- Loans of Rs.1,655.81 crores at the time unbundling of erstwhile RSEB in 2000, required to be written off at the time of unbundling, at last written off now.
- Full provisioning of the estimated requirement for new schemes of Rs.1,780 crores.
- Some extracts from the report of CAG for the year 2006-07-

"The state has achieved fiscal targets as laid down in the FRBM Act much before the time line indicated therein with the current year ending in a revenue surplus of Rs. 638 crore and fiscal deficit of Rs. 3970 crore which was 2.8% of the GSDP. The ratio of outstanding debt liabilities during 2006-07 was also within the ceiling prescribed under the FRBM Act."

"The persistent negative resource gap indicates non-sustainability of debt while the positive resource gap strengthens the capacity of the state to sustain the debt. While 2001-04 reflects the negative gap, 2004-07 reflects the

positive gap indicating increasing capacity of the state to sustain the debt in the medium to long term."

"During the year - - - the focus of the government seems to be on discharging past debt obligations both on account of principal and interest payments on loans raised from the market as well as from Government of India."

"The primary deficit, which persisted in the state budget till 2004-05 also took a turn around and resulted into a primary surplus during the last two years."

"Despite an increase of Rs. 514 crores in capital expenditure and decrease of Rs. 121 crores in loans and advances - - - fiscal deficit was reduced by Rs. 1180 crores on account of surplus of Rs. 1298 crores in revenue account and increase of Rs. 275 crore in non-debt capital receipts during 2006-07 over the previous years. FD- GSDP ratio decreased from 4.1% in 2005-06 to 2.8% in 2006-07."

"The balance from current revenue which became positive during 2005-06 was Rs. 2204 crores during 2006-07 - - - indicating ample funds were available for creation of assets and to meet state plan schemes."

"Table 30 reveals that the revenue account experienced a situation of huge deficit during the period 2001-05 - - - The deficit was reduced sharply to Rs. 660 crore during 2005-06 and revenue deficit turned in to a surplus of Rs. 638 crores during the current year."

Plan Expenditure

- Approved plan for 2003-04 – Rs.4,258 crores.
- Plan expenditure as per RE 2007-08 – Rs.13,684 crores, and
- Plan expenditure as per BE of 2008-09 – Rs.15,248 crores

- Plan expenditure during 5 year period 1999-2000 to 2003-04 – Rs.22,078 crores
- In comparison plan expenditure during the period 2004-05 to 2008-09 – Rs.52,192 crores, i.e.about 2-1/2 times.

- All Inter-state border Check-Post to be abolished from May 1, 2008.
- Exemption or reduction in tax in first year of VAT 2006-07, given retrospective effect from April 1, 2006.
- Inter-State sales not supported by C forms in the period May 13 to September 25, 2005, tax above State tax rate to be written off.
- In case of failure to furnish C forms for inter-State sales during the period 26.09.2005 to 31.03.2007, the tax rate over and above State tax rate to be written off.
- For airlines setting up HUB, flying clubs for training and connecting new destination in State will get ATF at 4% instead of 20%.
- Entertainment tax to be reduced to 30% with effect from 01.04.2008.
- Cinemas with projectors in towns having population less than one lac-entertainment tax exempted from 01.04.2008.
- Flexi ticket facility to cinemas.
- DTH service providers to be taxed at 10%.
- Investment proposals exceeding Rs. 500 crores in district having no big projects, - to get customised package.
- Revival of sick industrial unit up to 31.03.2009, will get the facility of deferment for balance amount of earlier sanction.
- Burden of 50% amount to be paid before appeal, reduced to 25%.
- Cess imposed on mineral rights.
- Excluding three wheelers, green tax on motor vehicles older than 5 years raised to Rs. 500/-.

Tax Concessions:

- Wick-Stove and Kerosene-Stove, Solar Cooker Wooden Hand Blocks, pappad khar, Kangni, Gobar gas plant- exempted from tax.
- Karni, gurmala, iron chinni, sanwal, gunia, randa, basula, coal fired press, hari cutting machine, wire brush and farma for repairing shoes.

- Tax on ACSR Conductor reduced from 12.5% to 4%.
- Company stores selling vegetables and fruits to be taxed at 4%.
- Tax on marble reduced from 12.5% to 4%.
- Finished Kota Stone to be taxed at 4% instead of 12.5%.
- Luxury tax exempted on rooms in hospital providing 20%/10% free service to poor.
- Stamp duty on movable properties abolished.
- Royalty paid marble of makrana regularized at 70% after processing.
- Condemned vehicles to get tax amnesty.
- Contract carriage permit will be charged tax at pro-rata basis.
- Pulses will continue to get concessional rate of taxation for one more year.
- Registration above DLC rate will get 50% duty remission on excess amount.

Simplification of procedure:-

- Computerization of Commercial Taxes Department is in full swing. E-filing and E-payment started under RAJVISTA.
- E-refund to be available from August, 2008.
- Annual assessment facility available for dealers at their option.
- Dealers filing return electronically or on soft copy will be exempted from audit.
- Works contractors obtaining for exemption fee will file only one annual return.
- Input Tax Credit on capital goods will be given in two instalments instead of 12.
- Tax Settlement Board will have two non-official members.
- HSN system will be introduced for betterment of VAT system.
- Facility of e-filing of return and e-payment to cinemas.

Roads

- Total expenditure exceeding Rs10,000 crores during this government's tenure which is 5 times of the expenditure of Rs. 1,905 crores in 5 years of previous government.
- Rural connectivity which was at 50% lesser than the national average of 60% in 2000-01 increased to 73% which is higher than the national average of 65%.
- The targets of rural connectivity under Bharat Nirman Yojana achieved 1 year before making Rajasthan first such state in the country.
- 9,096 panchayat headquarters out of total 9,188 GP headquarters connected with pucca roads. Remaining 92 headquarters are also to be connected with tar roads before October, 2008.
- All villages with population of 500 and with population of 250 in tribal and desert areas to be connected with roads by December, 2008. Government of India has no programme to connect villages with lesser population. State Government took a policy decision to connect all villages between population of 250 to 499 in general areas and all villages in desert and tribal areas. Required Rs. 3,276 crores to be arranged by external loan.

Power

- Installed power capacity of 4,984 MW in December, 2003 raised to 6,395 MW. The installed capacity will further increase by 2,019 MW by end of financial year 2008-09.
- Generation commenced in 125 MW Giral Lignite power project and 330 MW Dholpur gas project which was in limbo for last 26 years.
- Approval given for 1,200 MW Kalisindh and 500 MW Chhabra II electricity project in addition. The work will commence in 2008-09 on these projects and will be completed by 2011-12.
- 4,916 feeders completed under Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Vijay Jyoti Feeder Renovation Programme, leading to reduction of transmission and distribution losses by 9.37%. Power similar to the nearest city being supplied in 19,000 such villages. From July, 2008 power is to be supplied like the nearest town supply in all 34,000 villages under Feeder Renovation Programme.
- 3.50 lakhs connections will be given in 4 years ending March, 2008 under Kutir Jyoti Scheme.
- Outlay for power section in 2008-09 at Rs. 6,212 crores which is 40.74% of total plan.
- 33 projects for domestic electrification in rural areas sent to Government of India for approval in 2005. Schemes of 15 districts still pending with GoI.

- 2 Sub-stations of 400 KV, 4 sub-station of 220 KV, 12 sub-stations of 132 KV and 180 sub-stations of 33 KV will be taken for work during 2008-09. In addition SCADA will be installed in all extra high voltage sub stations.
- Mukhyamantri Sabke Liye Vidhyut Scheme be launched from 2008-09. 10 or more households living within 1 km. of 33 KV feeder and applying collectively for connection will be provided domestic connections at Rs.3,500/- only.

Water Resources

- Notable progress in water resources management sector:
- Government took up the challenge for completing all 163 incomplete irrigation scheme at the time of assuming power.
- All incomplete 149 minor irrigation schemes completed.
- 6 out of 7 incomplete medium irrigation projects completed.
- 3 major irrigation schemes of Mahi, Bisalpur and Ratanpura out of 7 incomplete schemes completed.
- Irrigation capacity exceeding 1 lac hectares per year created in last 4 years.
- Mahi Basin has 147 TMC of water. Schemes of Mahi, Kadana and others formulated by the State has ensured utilization of 123 TMC of water by now.
- A master plan will be prepared and executed for full utilization of water available which will provide irrigation 1 lac additional hactare.
- Negligible financial provisions have been made for upkeep of old irrigation projects in decades. Rs.50 crores provided for the first time in the current financial year. Rs.50 crores are proposed to be provided in 2008-09 also which will include revamping of Parvati canal project.

PHED

- More than 1 lac handpumps installed since December, 2003.
- Over 7,000 tubewells constructed.
- Rs.400 to 500 crores was annually spent on drinking water schemes in the state. Stepping this up-
 - Rs.619 crores in 2004-05
 - Rs.790 crores in 2005-06
 - Rs.1,242 crores in 2006-07 and
 - Rs.2,238 crores are expected to be spent in the year 2007-08.
- The water supply rate reduced by 25% for use of recycled water for reducing the consumption of clean drinking water in industries and gardens.

Human Resources Development

- Over 2.50 lac persons provided opportunity to work with government in last 4 years.
- 33.55 lac girls were nominated in schools in 2000-01. This number increased in 2006-07 to 58.14 lac.
- Gender gap was 17% in 2001-02. It has reduced to less than 10% in 2006-07.
- Whereas number of schools sitting in 8th class examination in 2005 were 8.44 lac and 6.90 lac for the 10th class examination. This number has increased to 11.26 lac and 8.95 lac respectively.
- There were 205 colleges at the end of financial year 2002-03 in the state which has increased to 996.
- Only 91 colleges were opened in the period 1999-2003 whereas 791 new colleges have been opened in 5 years since then.
- There is one college for 57,000 population in the state which is higher than the national average of 77,000 per college.
- There were 254 technical education institutions in the state 2002-03 with total seating capacity of 26,000. The number of technical education institutions has increased to 729 and seating capacity has tripled at 82,000.
- The SSA was to be extended to the secondary school in 2007-08. The State government declared to upgrade 1,500 upper primary schools to secondary schools on this assurance and made provision for Rs.150 crores. However, the center did not implement this scheme.
- 3,108 upper primary schools will be upgraded to secondary schools in 2008-09 or opened under PPP scheme in such panchayats. A programme of Rs.400 crores to be taken up for this purpose.
- Kasturba Gandhi schools to be opened in Rajgarh, Sardarshahar, Churu, Ratangarh, Surajgarh, Jhunjhunu, Nawalgarh, Gangapurcity, Fatehpur, Sikar, Ladnun, Nagaur, Makrana and Tonk.
- A hostel each will be started for students of upper primary schools in Kolayat, Jaisalmer and Sam Panchayat Samities.
- A new “Veena-pani Scheme” started for distribution of free text books in school bags for all students of class I to VIII in 2008-09.
- Rs.2 crores to be provided for digitalization of invaluable old books in heritage libraries of state.
- Rajasthan Mantra Pratishthan to be established in Ramanand Acharya Rajasthan Sanskrit University with the assistance of state government.
- Special training to the students of SC and ST in engineering colleges for employment in IT sector. Every student to be provided with an assistance of Rs.1,000 p.m. for six months and the training shall be completely free.
- Grant of Rs.2 crores to Center for converging technologies in Rajasthan University.

- Amount of Gargi Puruskar to be raised from Rs.1,000 p.a. to Rs.1,500 p.a.
- Lumpsum amount of Rs.3,000 to be paid as prize to all girl students securing 75% marks in class 12th from 2008-09.
- All government schools whose student get selected in national talent scholarship scheme will be awarded with a prize of Rs.50,000 per such selected student. Of this amount, 35,000 rupees will be used for development of school and remaining Rs.15,000 will be distributed between 2 teachers which contributes the maximum in his selection.
- All government schools whose student get selected in IITs, IIITs or medical colleges of national standards like AIIMS, will be awarded with a prize of Rs.1.00 lac per such selected student. Of this amount, 70,000 rupees will be used for development of school and remaining Rs.30,000 will be distributed between 2 teachers which contributes the maximum in his selection.
- Report of committee formed under the chairmanship of Home Minister to go into the long pending issues of aided educational institutions broadly accepted. Freeze on increase in grant in aid to be lifted from 1st April, 2008. All schools which have filled up all posts of SCs/STs will have their grants de-frozen. Several restrictions like counting of fees while calculating grant in aid lifted from aided institutions. Two exit options also given to such institutions while protecting the interests of teachers.
- “Gyanodya” scheme launched for incentivizing charitable and private institutions to establish senior secondary and secondary schools at panchayat headquarters.
- This scheme will be based on capital grant, monthly grants by way of education vouchers and incentive money for every student passing classes.
- “Shikshak ka apna Vidhyalaya” scheme launched for encouraging unemployed trained teachers to establish schools by adopting government schools or by providing land and education vouchers for students.
- “Bal Ganesh Chiranjivi Health Insurance Scheme” launched for providing insurance cover to 10 lac students of government schools in all 33 district headquarters of the state from 2008-09.
- 1,500 trained PTIs to be appointed as Sports-coaches who would also served local schools.
- Provision of Rs.10 crores made under stadium development programme.
- Women hockey academy to be established in Ajmer in next financial year.
- Government to also complete astro-truff in the incomplete hockey stadium at state’s expense.
- Registration fee to be reduced by 50% for sports clubs and associations.

- Talented students of government schools will be given the following awards by expanding the scope of existing schemes:
Rs.10,000 on winning gold medal.
Rs.7,500 on winning silver medal.
Rs.5,000 on winning bronze medal.

Livelihood and Industries

- 1 lakh 8,000 youths equipped with employable skills by Rajasthan Mission on Livelihood established in 2004.
- First batch of 100 youths getting trained in the Animation Academy. Following the success such academies to be established in Jodhpur, Kota, Ajmer and Udaipur.
- Academies of automotive design, draftsmanship and graphic design to be also established in 2008-09.
- 23,500 applications received for unemployment allowance under Akhsat Yojana under which 16,700 persons are being provided with the allowance.
- The budget of RMoL being raised from Rs.20.80 crores to Rs.60 crores.

Following minimum wages in the state from 1st March, 2008:

क्र. सं.	श्रेणी	वर्तमान न्यूनतम मजदूरी	संशोधित न्यूनतम मजदूरी
1	Unskilled	73 रुपये से	100 रुपये
2	Semi Skilled	77 रुपये से	107 रुपये
3	Skilled	81 रुपये से	115 रुपये

- Policy to be made for regularization of Bapi pattas given in pre-independence period.

Medical & Health

- Operation theatres to be established for pile operation at each divisional headquarter.
- 40 new ayurved hospitals to be opened.
- 7 ayurved hospitals to be upgraded to A grade hospitals.
- 7 new mobile ayurved units to be established.
- A Chair to be established for study of cow improvement, Panchgavya medicine and medicinal value of cow products in ayurved university, Jodhpur.
- Rs.5 crores for expanding Janana Wing in 6 medical colleges and establishment of wellness clinics.

- Rs.1 crore for establishment of cardio-thoracic center in Ajmer Medical college.
- Rs.4 crores for strengthening of super specialities and DM courses in medical colleges including Jodhpur.
- One post of Health Manager to be created in all district hospitals for better management.
- Linear Accelerators to be installed in medical colleges of Jaipur, Udaipur, Ajmer, Jodhpur and Kota under PPP.
- New Medical college to be established at Bharatpur in PPP mode.
- ICUs to be established in PPP mode in 9 district hospitals in 2008-09.
- Gram Swasthya Yojana launched for encouraging achievement of certain health related targets. Awards of Rs.1 to 5 lacs to be given.
- The bed capacity to be raised from 200 to 300 beds in Dholpur district hospital, from 150 to 225 in Churu district hospital, from 325 to 400 beds in Bhilwara district hospital from 200 to 300 beds in Baran district hospital.
- Bed capacity of district hospital, Chittorgarh from 200 to 300 which will include expansion of Janana wing also.
- Bed capacity to be raised from 30 to 50 beds in Khanpur CHC, from 50 to 75 in Bhawanimandi, 50 to 100 beds in Salumbar and 50 to 75 in Kekri.
- Over 7,000 posts of nurses, GNMs and Health workers to be filled in 2008-09.
- Dhanwantri Ambulance services scheme to be launched for taking care of patients in emergency to hospitals. This facility will be free of cost in rural areas.
- Health Insurance scheme to be launched in all the 33 districts of Rajasthan.
- Bhamashah financial empowerment scheme launched for BPL and other poor and marginal families.
- Rs.1,500 will be given as incentive to all families covered under the health insurance scheme upon opening a bank account enabled with the smart card in the name of female member of the family.
- The scheme to be extended to other groups like SCs/STs, small and marginal farmers by June 2008. gift of Rs.1,500 to be given upon opening bank account enabled by smart card in the name of female.

Jai Jawan Jai Kisan

- Outlay of agriculture and allied sectors which was 73.88 crores in 2002-03 raised to Rs.619 crores in 2008-09.
- 65,899 applicants out of 1,70,740 applicants who had applied for agri. connections before 31st March, 2003 waiting for agriculture connections. All these will be given connections by March, 2009.
- Additional state subsidy of 10 to 20% for drip irrigation schemes.

- Reservation of 20% to be made for plots and shops in krishi upaj mandis only for women.
- All girls completing necessary agricultural education will be appointed on the post of Agriculture Supervisors.
- Interest subsidy to be given to all good borrowers of cooperative societies which have not defaulted for more than 5 years.

Animal Husbandry

- 145 vet. Hospitals to be upgraded.
- 250 vet. Doctors to be recruited.
- “Doctor ka apna clinic” to be launched for incentivising unemployed vet. doctors and livestock assistants.
- An incentive of Rs.1 crore for additional procurement of 1 lac litre of milk by milk unions from new or inactive cooperative societies.
- Rajasthan Mission on Animal Husbandry for animal development.

Sainik Kalyan

Rates revised for ex-serviemen:

S. No.	Post	Fixed remuneration (Rs. per month)
1	Security Guard	5500
2	Security Guard (armed)	6000
3	Supervisor	7500
4	Assistant Security Officer	11500
5	Security Officer	12000
6	Clerk	6000
7	Driver	7000
8	Plumber, Painter, Carpenter, Welder, Blacksmith etc.	6500

Social Justice and Empowerment

- Cut off mark decreased to 65 for the scooty scheme in tribal sub plan area.
- Government to implement the package being thrashed out by the committee headed by Shri Ram Das Agarwal for developing the Gurjar dominated areas. Required financial resources will be allocated for Devnarain Yojana for this purpose.
- 2 new residential schools for children of migrating shepherds.
- Rs.10,000 to be given if girls of BPL families marry at age 21 or more.
- Anuprati scheme to be modified to include coaching for IITs, IIMs and medical colleges.

- Proposal for reserving 20% of MLA LAD scheme for SC and ST bastis and sambal villages.
- Eklavya scheme for training 2 lac 8th passed SCs/STs students.
- Maintenance amount for scholarship for physically challenged students raised. Similarly, subsidy under Viswas scheme also raised to 30%. Mess allowance raised to 725.
- Chirayu scheme for PPP based old age homes.
- Allocation for tribal development raised from Rs.80 crores to Rs.125 crores.

Rural Development

- A saree or ghaghra orani to be given in Amrita Devi Vishnoi yojana for all females working for 100 days in NREGS scheme.
- Daily allowance amount raised from Rs.45 to Rs.75 for ZP members and from Rs. 35 to Rs.60 for PS members and from Rs.30 to Rs.40 for panchayat members.
- 20% posts of gram sevaks upgraded in the new pay scale of Rs.4,200 – 115-6500.
- Over 1,000 posts of gram sevaks to be filled up.
- Budget of Magra, Dang and Mewat Development Board raised to Rs.7 crores each.
- Abhinav Gharonda scheme for BPL families which will provide a self owned house at Rs.10 per day.

Devasthan, Toursim & Art and Culture

- The category of religious places with 5 kw load to be changed from non-domestic to domestic.
- Renovation of Sahawa Sahib and connecting roads for Sahawa Sahib and Sawarda Sahib.
- Rs.2 crores for 400 Madarsa for computer purchase.
- Rural tourism promotion scheme to be launched.

Urban Development

- Rajasthan Urban Services and Development Investment Project initiated in 15 districts.
- Urban infrastructure bonds to be issued by RUIDFCO for financing upgradation of infrastructure in 30 other cities.
- Amani Shah nala to be developed on the lines of smriti van.
- Rajsthan Mission on Urban poverty launched.

- Restricted holiday on the anniversary of Sainji Maharaj and Gadge ji Maharaj.

Good Governance

- Honrarium of aangan badi workers to be raised from Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,600, Rs.500 to Rs.1,000 for saathins and Rs.500 to Rs.800 for sahayikas.
- Awards for fire services, medals announced and amounts of awards raised for veer chakra and shourya chakra.
- Pension of freedom fighters raised from Rs.2000 to Rs.2,500 pm.
- Rs.10 crores for improving facilities in subordinate courts like litigant sheds, common rooms for advocates etc.
- 8 new police circles.
- 25 new police stations.
- 139 new police chowkies.
- New forensic science lab at Bikaner.
- 3,000 posts of constables to be filled in the first 4 months of 2008-09.
- DA instalments of 6% released.
- TA rules revised after 16 years.
- 15 days leave encashment for all employees in 2008-09.
- Government servants to get the facilities of treatment in private and charitable hospitals in Rajasthan.
- Treasuries to be computerized and online real time basis.
- Centralized pension payment system to be institutionalized in Pension Department.