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UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI



Revised Syllabus for the S.Y.B.A. (Sem III) Paper IV

Public Finance

Course: Economics

(As Per Choice Based Credit System with effect from the
academic year 2020-21)

SYBA - SEMESTER III
Economics – Paper IV
Public Finance

Preamble

Public Finance is the study of government policy from the point of economic efficiency and equity. The role and functions of the government have been changing throughout time. The existence of externalities, acceleration of economic growth, raising the level of employment, the need and concern for adjustment in the distribution of income and wealth etc. require the use of package of policies which require tax systems, expenditure programmes, rising of debt, issues of deficit etc. This paper deals with basic concepts which explain the need for government intervention. It exposes the student to public budget through issues of taxation, expenditure, debt and concepts of deficit. The last Unit is related to topics concerning Indian Public Finance.

Unit – I Introduction **(12 Lectures)**

Meaning and Scope of Public Finance; Public Finance versus Private Finance; Market Failure: Public Goods and Private Goods, Externalities, Efficiency versus Equity; Principles of Sound Finance and Functional Finance; Allocation, Distribution, Stabilisation and Growth Functions of the Government

Unit - II Fiscal Policy: Budget and Taxation **(12 Lectures)**

Dalton's and Musgrave Versions of the Law of Maximum Social Advantage; Role of Government in a Modern Economy; Types of Public Budget; Structure of Public Budget; Role of Taxation; Merits and Demerits of Direct and Indirect Tax Policy; Features of Good Tax System; Concept of Impact, Incidence and Shifting of Taxation; Elasticity and Determination of Tax Burden

Unit III Fiscal Policy: Public Expenditure and Debt **(12 Lectures)**

Canons of Public Expenditure; Classification of Public Expenditure; Wagner's Law of Public Expenditure; Public Expenditure as an Instrument of Fiscal Policy; Meaning and Types of Public Debt; Burden of Public Debt; Principles of Public Debt Management; Concepts of Deficits

Unit IV Indian Public Finance **(12 Lectures)**

Budget of The Government of India (Previous Financial Year); Sources of Public Receipts (Tax And Non-Tax, Introduction To GST); Components of Public Expenditure; Sources of Public Borrowing and Debt Liabilities; Deficits; Appraisal of FRBM Act 2004; Fiscal Federalism: Fourteenth Finance Commission Recommendations

References:

1. J. Hindriks, G. Myles, (2006), Intermediate Public Economics, MIT Press.
2. Harvey Rosen, (2005), Public Finance, Seventh Edition, McGraw Hill Publications.

3. KaushikBasu and Maertens (ed), (2013), The New Oxford Companion to Economics in India, Oxford University Press.
4. Sury M.M., (1990), Government Budgeting in India, Commonwealth Publishers.
5. Bhatia H.L., (2012), Public Finance, Vikas Publications.
6. Report of the Fourteenth Finance Commission, Government of India.