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Paper-4

Topic: 12th Finance Commission

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12th Finance Commission:

The Twelfth Finance Commission of India was appointed on 1 November 2002 to make recommendations on the distribution of net proceeds of sharable taxes between union and states. The commission was headed by C.Rangarajan. The commission submitted its report on 30 November 2004 and covered the period from 2005-10.

Members:

The members of the Commission were:

- Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman
- Shri T.R Prasad, IAS (retired)
- Prof. D.K Srivastava
- Shri Som Pal, Part time Member, resigned 14 May 2004
- Dr. Shankar N. Acharya, Part time Member,

Recommendations:

Recommendations of the Twelfth Finance Commission Restructuring Public Finances:

- (i) Centre and States to improve the combined tax-GDP ratio to **17.6** per cent by 2009-10.
- (ii) Combined debt-GDP ratio, with external debt measured at historical exchange rates, to be brought down to **75** per cent by 2009-10.
- (iii) Fiscal deficit to GDP targets for the Centre and States to be fixed at 3 per cent.
- (iv) Revenue deficit of the Centre and States to be brought down to zero by 2008-09.
- (v) Interest payments relative to revenue receipts to be brought down to 28 per cent and 15 per cent in the case of the Centre and States, respectively.
- (vi) States to follow a recruitment policy in a manner so that the total salary bill, relative to revenue expenditure, net of interest payments, does not exceed 35 per cent.

- (vii) Each State to enact a fiscal responsibility legislation providing for elimination of revenue deficit by 2008-09, and reducing fiscal deficit to **3** per cent of State Domestic Product.
- (viii) The system of on-lending to be brought to an end over time. The long-term goal should be to bring down debt-GDP ratio to **28** per cent, each for the Centre and the States.

References:

- "Members of the previous Finance Commissions"
- Sansar Singh Janjua (1999). Centre State Financial Relations in India and Finance Commission. New Delhi, India: Anmol Publications. ISBN 8126102233.
- "Finance Commission India". New Delhi, India: Fourteenth Finance Commission. Retrieved 22 July 2017.