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Macro Insights

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Fiscal deficit sharply narrows to 8% of BE in the first quarter of FY25.

The government's fiscal deficit in Q1 FY25 (April-June 2024 period) came in at Rs. 1.36 lakh crore- amounting to 8% of the budget estimates vis-à-vis 25.30% of BE reached during the same period last year.

Highlights:

- Capital expenditure was robust at 16.30% of the budgeted target at Rs. 11.11 lakh crore during April-June FY 2024-25 although lower than the last fiscal's achievement of 27.80% owing to the general elections.
- On the income side, total receipts were higher at Rs. 8.34 lakh crore- reaching 27.1% of budget estimates compared to 22.1% by this time in the last fiscal being aided by robust tax collections. Net tax revenue came in at 21.1% of the budgeted target- higher than 18.6% during the same time last year.
- Revenue expenditure at 21.6% of the BE during April-June 2024 was largely at par with the expenditure last year.

	Budget Estimates 2024-2025 (Rs. Crore)	Actuals Apr'24-Jun'24 (Rs. Crore)	% of Actuals to Budget Estimates	
			Current	Corresponding Period Previous Year
Revenue Receipts	3001275	829677	27.60%	22.40%
Net Tax Revenue	2601574	549633	21.10%	18.60%
Non-Tax Revenue	399701	280044	70.10%	51.40%
Total Receipts	3080275	834197	27.10%	22.10%
Revenue Expenditure	3654657	788858	21.60%	22.00%
Capital Expenditure	1111111	181051	16.30%	27.80%
Total Expenditure	4765768	969909	20.40%	23.30%
Fiscal Deficit	1685494	135712	8.10%	25.30%
Revenue Deficit	653383	-40819	-6.20%	21.10%
Primary Deficit	495054	-128340	-25.90%	29.40%

Government of India Accounts (April-June 2024)

Source: CGA



Views and Outlook:

- India recorded a revenue surplus of Rs. 40,819 crore while the primary account was also in surplus at Rs. 1.28 lakh crore up till June 2024.
- Food subsidy bill came in higher this year reaching 30% of the annual budgeted spend compared to 21% during the same period last year. Other subsidies including petroleum, fertilizer and urea were substantially reduced this year. These amounted to 3%, 18% and 17% of the budgeted target this year till June 2024, while last year, these had reached 17%, 36%, and 22%, respectively.
- The Government has lowered its fiscal deficit target for FY25 from 5.1% to 4.9% of gross domestic product and with the kind of momentum generated in the form of higher tax collections the fiscal deficit is likely to align with the government's target.

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