

Clarification on the issues raised by various State Governments relating to Topic Notes, Statements and Local Body formats

(A)TOPIC NOTES

Topic 23(B)(b): The intention of Topic Note 23(B)(b) is to determine whether any part of the cost of maintenance of Government owned Roads and buildings is recovered from the user. Steps for recovery could include:

- (1)Levy of Toll from users of notified roads and bridges.
- (2)Levy of user charges by private contractors who have constructed roads and are levying toll as per prior agreement with Government and sharing it with the Government.

This should form part of revenue of the concerned Government Department.

Topic Note 23(B)(b) does not cover house tax and any other taxes which are levied on privately owned houses or other private property by local bodies and from part of the revenues of Local Bodies.

Clarification on Topic N0 23-B (a) and 23-B (c) on norms for maintenance of Road and Buildings is sought by the Karnataka Government. It is clarified that the information on topic 23-B (a) may be provided. No information is required under point 23-B (c).

Sd/-
(P. K. Verma)
Director
13th Finance Commission

Dated : 07-11-08

Topic 30 & 31: These topic notes merely provide instructions to fill Statements 37 & 38 and no separate replies need to be furnished for these topic notes.

Topic 47 b, d: Under 47(b) the information sought is on status of computerization of tax administration, to what level the tax offices in the State are computerized in the state and linked to each other. Under 47(d) the information sought is on the System followed to track fund transfers and expenditures over all expenditure offices in the State. Please provide details of how funds are transferred to different offices and indicate the transit time required for funds to reach the expenditure level from the state headquarters.

(B)STATEMENTS

Statement 11: For 2008-09 Budget estimates may be provided.

Statement 15: Calls of arrears of tax and non tax revenue. Depending upon the practice in each state, the projected position of these arrears (outstanding + accretion - collection) for each of the years 2008/2009/2010 are to be filled in either as RE/BE Estimates or otherwise.

Statement 17: This information would be available from (1) the status of TFC grants for health, education roads, etc awarded to the state and (2) the documents prepared for the Planning Commission as part of the Annual Plan Exercise.

Statement 20: In the interest of accuracy and promptness these figures have been requested from the State Government.

Statement 27(b): Item 1(iv) i.e. "Central & Centrally sponsored Schemes" should be deleted from "1-Receipts". Similarly, item 5 "Outlay on Central & Centrally sponsored schemes including Loans & Advances" appearing in part-II - Disbursement of this form should also be deleted.

Statement 29: It is expected that all States will have the information requested as it would be available from the object-headwise detailed accounts maintained by them. States may have this information based on a valuation of assets in respect of some Departments. If not, particulars from Statement 13 of the Finance Accounts could be used for capital value of assets.

Statement 31: During discussions with state officials, it was noted that this information up to 2005-06 was available and that pertaining to 2006-07 was likely to be available by June 2008. Therefore all the

information should be available now. In case figures for a year are not available, the statement may be submitted with a suitable note indicating when it would be made available.

Statement 34: Please provide the estimated figure of fleet utilization for 2008-2009 as per the Business Plan of the Transport Corporation. If a reduction in any parameter is envisaged, the reasons may be provided.

(C)LOCAL BODIES

Schedule 1: Items 3-4: It is presumed that information regarding population and area of gram panchayats is available with all states. If not, the basis of state level devolution to gram panchayats may be informed.

Schedule 4(B) and 4(D): The Commission desires to know sources of revenue and expenditure for village block and district level panchayats separately in 4(A) & 4(C). As per standard accounting procedures capital and revenue expenditures are also to be shown separately in 4(A) and 4(C). These parameters can be clubbed together district-wise to get parameters required for 4(B) and 4(D).
