15 -ാം കേരള നിയമസഭ

9 -ാം സമ്മേളനം

<u>നക്ഷത്രചിഹ്നമിട്ട ചോദ്യം നം. 49</u>

<u>09-08-2023 - ൽ മറുപടിയ്</u>ക്

സാമ്പത്തിക പ്രതിസന്ധി തരണം ചെയ്യാൻ നടപടി

ചോദ്യം		ഉത്തരം	
ശ്രീ. എൻ. എ. നെല്ലിക്കുന്ന് , ശ്രീ. പി. ഉബൈദുള്ള , ശ്രീ. മഞ്ഞളാംകുഴി അലി , ഡോ. എം. കെ. മുനീർ		ശ്രീ കെ എൻ ബാലഗോപാൽ (ധനകാര്യ വകുപ്പ് മന്ത്രി)	
(എ)	സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന് നടപ്പ് സാമ്പത്തിക വർഷം കടം എടുക്കാവുന്ന ഇകയുടെ പരിധി നിശ്ചയിച്ച് കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ അറിയിച്ചിരുന്നോ; എങ്കിൽ വിശദാംശം നൽകമോ;	വർഷ നൽക തന് ആഭ്യ അതാ മൊത സർക കോടി ത്രപയ	തം ആഭൃന്തരോത്പാദനമായി കേന്ദ്ര
(ബി)	സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ വായ്പാ പരിധി വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്ന് കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിരുന്നോ;	സർക്ക് അന്ദ് ശതമം വരുന്ന പ്രതിള പരിധ് സംസ ആവം ധനക അയച വായ്യാ ആവം സർക നിബന	വദിച്ചു നൽകിയിരുന്ന കടമെടുപ്പ് പരിധിയായ 5 റനം തിരികെ 3 ശതമാനത്തിലേയ്ക്ക് കൊണ്ടു നത് സംസ്ഥാന സമ്പദ് വ്യവസ്ഥയെ ല്ലേമായി ബാധിക്കും. സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ വായ്യാ വ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്ന് കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാരിനോട് വാന സർക്കാർ പല പ്രാവശ്യം ശുപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. 12.07.2023-ൽ സംസ്ഥാന ഓര്യ മന്ത്രി കേന്ദ്രധനകാര്യ മന്ത്രിക്ക് ച്ച കത്തിൽ സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ നിലവിലെ പരിധി 1% കൂടി വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നും

സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാരിന്റെ കീഴിൽ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്ന പ്രത്യേക ഉദ്ദേശ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ അവരുടെ സ്വന്തം നിലയ്ക്ക് എടുക്കുന്ന വായ്പ്പകൾ സംസ്ഥാന സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ കടമെടുപ്പ് പരിധി നിർണ്ണയിക്കുന്നതിൽ സർക്കാരിന്റെ പൊതുകടത്തിന്റെ നിലപാട് സ്വീകരിച്ച് ഭാഗമാണെന്ന പരിധിയിൽ സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ കടമെടുപ്പ് കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ 2022-23 സാമ്പത്തിക വർഷം മുതൽ കുറവ് വരുത്തിവരുന്നുണ്ട്. ഈ നിലപാടിൽ മാറ്റം വരുത്തണമെന്നും ഭരണഘടനയുടെ ആർട്ടിക്കിൾ 293(3), 293(4) എന്നിവയ്ക്കന്നുതമായി, 2017 ഓഗസ്റ്റിന് മുൻപ് നിലനിന്നിരുന്ന പോലെ പൊതു കണക്കിനത്തിലെ (പബ്ലിക് അക്കൗണ്ടിലെ) നീക്കിയിരിപ്പം പൊത്രമേഖലാ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളടെ വായ്പ്പകളം സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ കടമെടുപ്പ് നിർണയിക്കുന്നതിൽ നിന്തം 22.07.2022-ലെ 134/2022/ ഒഴിവാക്കണമെന്നും എം.ധന കത്ത് പ്രകാരം സംസ്ഥാന ധനകാരു മന്ത്രി കേന്ദ്രധനകാര്യ മന്ത്രിയോട് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുകയും ഈ വിഷയവുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട് ബഇ മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി 19-01-2023 ലെ 133/CM/2023 കത്ത് പ്രകാരം ഒരു നിവേദനം ബഇ. പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിക്ക് സമർപ്പിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

(സി)

കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ വായ്പാ പരിധി വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ച് നൽകാത്ത സാഹചര്യത്തിൽ സാമ്പത്തിക പ്രതിസന്ധി തരണം ചെയ്യാൻ എന്തെല്ലാം നടപടികൾ സ്വീകരിക്കാനാണ് ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നത്; വിശദമാക്കുമോ? കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ വായ്യാ പരിധി വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ച് നൽകാത്ത സാഹചര്യത്തിൽ, സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ തനത് നികതി നികതിയേതര വരുമാനം വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചും, അനാവശ്യ ചെലവുകൾ ചുരുക്കിക്കൊണ്ടും , വികസന ക്ഷേമ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്ക് ആവശ്യമായ പരമാവധി വിഭവങ്ങൾ സമാഹരിക്കാനുള്ള തീവ്ര ശ്രമമാണ് സംസ്ഥാനം നടത്തികൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്.

(സി)

ധനകാര്യ കമ്മീഷൻ നിശ്ചയിച്ചു നൽകിയിട്ടുള്ള അനുവദനീയമായ കടമെടുപ്പ് പരിധികൂടി കണക്കിലെടുത്താണ് സംസ്ഥാന ബജറ്റ് തയ്യാറാക്കാറുള്ളത്. ഇത്തരത്തിൽ കടമെടുക്കുന്ന ഇക പ്രധാനമായും അടിസ്ഥാന സൗകര്യ വികസനത്തിനാണ് ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നത്. സംസ്ഥാന നിയമസഭ ബജറ്റ് പാസാക്കിയതിന് ശേഷം പിന്നീട് കടമെടുപ്പിൽ കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ കുറവ് വതുത്തുന്നത് സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ വികസന മുൻഗണനകളെ താളം തെറ്റിക്കുകയും നടന്നു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന പദ്ധതികളുടെ പൂർത്തീകരണത്തിൽ കാലതാമസം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിന് No. 40(1)/PF-S/2023-24
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
(Public Finance - State Division)

North Block, New Delhi, Dated: the 27th March, 2023

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary (Finance),
Government of Kerala, Finance & Stores Purchase Department,
Room No-396 1st Floor, Main Block,
Government Secretariat,
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695001

Subject: Annual Borrowing Ceiling for the financial year 2023-24.

Madam/Sir,

Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance determines the Net Borrowing Ceiling (NBC) of States for each financial year on the basis of projected Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of the States and taking into consideration the recommendation of the Finance Commission. In line with the recommendations of the Fifteenth Finance Commission (FC-XV), it has been decided to fix the normal NBC for the States for the financial year 2023-24 at 3 percent of the projected GSDP.

- 2. For determining the NBC of the States for the year 2023-24, the projected GSDP of the States has been estimated as per the methodology prescribed by the FC-XV. For the State of Kerala, the projected GSDP for the year 2023-24 is Rs. 10,81,412 errore. Accordingly, NBC @3 percent of projected GSDP for the year 2023-24 for your State is Rs. 32,442 errore.
- 3. Additional borrowing ceiling of 0.50 percent of GSDP over and above the aforestated ceiling of 3 percent of GSDP will also be allowed to the State based on certain performance criteria in the power sector. The guidelines for the same have already been issued by this department vide letter no. 40(2)/PF-S/2020-21 dated 09th June 2021 read with amendment therein vide letter no. 40(2)/PF-S/2020-21 dated 18th August 2022.
- 4. If a State is not able to fully utilise its sanctioned borrowing limit (including additional borrowing for power sector reforms), in any particular year during the first four years of FC-XV award period (2021-22 to 2024-25), it will have the option of availing this unutilised borrowing amount (calculated in rupees) in any of the subsequent financial years but within the FC-XV award period.
- 5. The aforesaid NBC covers all sources of borrowings, including Open Market Borrowings, Negotiated Loans from financial institutions, National Small Saving Fund loans, Central Government loans including EAP loans, other liabilities arising out of public account transfers under small savings, Provident funds, Reserve Funds, Deposits, etc as reflected in Statement 6 of the State's Finance Accounts. The State Government is requested to ensure

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that the State's incremental borrowings remain within the aforesaid ceiling during the year 2023-24.

- 6. It has come to notice that there is an increasing divergence of practices between different State Governments in regard to method of handling pension obligations for the Government staff recruited after 2004. Some of the States have followed/have indicated a decision to follow a system of pay-as-you-go with defined benefits; others have issued orders adopting the National Pension System (NPS) but have not made due contributions; the majority of States are making the due contributions under the NPS. In case of the first two categories of States, namely, those who have been on pay-as-you-go system or have now indicated a shift to such system and those who have not made the contributions, the fiscal deficit of the States does not reflect the contributions towards future liabilities for payment of pension. On the other hand, those States who have made the necessary contributions may give the impression of a higher fiscal deficit. With a view to ensuring a proper common and complete yardstick for all the States, it has been decided that the net borrowing ceiling of each State will be augmented by the amount of pension contributions actually paid to the NPS by the State Government and its employees. This amount represents an approximate proxy for the unfunded liabilities being carried by other States without reflection in the fiscal deficit, though the true unfunded liabilities of those States are likely to be higher in view of the residual liability of the State for payment of pension under the old system.
- Accordingly, States shall be allowed extra borrowing ceiling (hereinafter referred as 'Pension funding adjustment') equivalent to the employer's and employee's share of contribution of its employees pertaining to the financial year 2023-24 actually deposited with the designated authority i.e. 'National Securities Depository limited (NSDL)/ trustee bank as per the guidelines of National Pension System (NPS), over and above, the normal net borrowing ceiling of 3% of GSDP for the year 2023-24. Voluntary contributions and contributions relating to State Autonomous bodies/PSUs shall be excluded for computing this extra borrowing. The initial borrowing permission will be based on the estimate given by the State Government of the total amount expected to be paid to the NPS during the year 2023-24. Any excess or shortfall between actual and estimate will be adjusted in the subsequent year based on actual data from Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) or during the year itself in case of large variation. In case, after availing this extra borrowing ceiling, any State makes a shift to the system of 'pay-as-you-go' with defined benefits, then an amount equal to additional borrowing allowed as 'pension funding adjustment' since the FY 2022-23, will be deducted from the borrowing ceiling of the State in the year, in which such shift takes place, or such shift comes to the notice of the Government of India, whichever is earlier.
- 8. Off-Budget Borrowings like borrowings by State Public Sector companies, Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) and other equivalent instruments, where principal and/or interest are to be serviced out of the State Budgets, have the effect of bypassing the Net Borrowing Ceiling (NBC) of the State by routing loans outside State budget through Government owned companies/statutory bodies despite being responsible for repayment of such loans. Such borrowings have impact on the Revenue Deficit and Fiscal deficit and thus have the effect of surpassing the targets set for fiscal indicators under State FRBM Act. Therefore, borrowings

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by State Public Sector companies/corporations. SPVs and other equivalent instruments (hereinafter referred as 'State owned entities'), where principal and/or interest are to be serviced out of the State Budgets and/or by assignment of taxes/cess or any other State's revenue, shall be considered as Borrowings made by the State itself for the purpose of issuing the consent under Article 293(3) of the Constitution of India.

- 9. Instances of Borrowings by some State owned entities to implement welfare schemes have come to notice. Such borrowings have also been aided by enhancement of profit margins of such entities by the State Governments. As the profit margins in such cases are determined by the State Government from time to time, such revenue stream may not be sustainable and the liability may ultimately fall upon the State Government. It has also come to notice that some of the State Governments have raised the profit margins of such entities in tandem with reduction in relevant State's taxes/duties. Such cases, not only erode the future revenue generation capacity of State, but also bypass the Net borrowing ceiling of the State. Therefore, the borrowings raised by State owned entities on the strength of their Government determined profit margin for the purpose of implementing welfare schemes unrelated to the normal commercial purview of the entity will be treated as borrowing of the State for the purpose of granting borrowing permission to States under Article 293(3) of the Constitution of India.
- 10. Pending liabilities on account of Inter-State power dues, which States are required to pay under statutory provisions or Government of India's direction should be cleared in time bounded manner, failing which the same will be deducted from the net borrowing ceiling of the State.
- 11. As per the provisions of the guidelines on UDAY and the guidelines on the conditions and performance criteria for availing additional borrowing space of 0.5% of GSDP linked to performance in Power sector, the participating States have to take over the losses of DISCOMs during the financial year in a pre-determined percentage. In case, the State fails to take over the losses, the same will be adjusted against the available borrowing ceiling of the State.
- 12. State Governments are required to ensure timely payment of electricity subsidies inline with section 65 of Electricity Act, 2003. Any unpaid subsidy pertaining to FY 2022-23 onwards, receivable by Public sector DISCOM from the State Government outstanding as at the end of the financial year shall be treated as liability of State Government, for the purpose of issuing the consent under Article 293(3) of the constitution of India.
- Any additional borrowings availed beyond the State's entitlements/FRBM eligibility during 2022-23 and earlier years shall be adjusted from Net Borrowing Ceiling of 2023-24.
- 14. In view of the above and in order to compute the Gross Borrowing Limit for the State for the year 2023-24, the State should furnish the following:

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- a) Request letter for seeking permission for borrowings under Article 293(3) of the Constitution of India. Component wise breakup for permission may be furnished in Annexure-I.
- b) Details of liabilities arising out of all sources of borrowings and repayments thereof during 2019-20 (Actuals) to 2023-24 (estimated) in the format enclosed as Annexure-II duly tallied and reconciled with State Finance Accounts. If the liabilities arising from Public Account declared by the State for the years for which State Finance Account is not available, is less than the simple average of past three years for which State Finance Accounts are available, then the average would be considered for calculation of the borrowing space available for Open Market borrowing, unless lower public account liabilities declared by the State is supported by the documentary evidence, and certified by the Accountant General of the State.
- c) Estimate of the total amount (combined share of State and its employees' contribution) expected to be paid to the NPS during the year 2023-24 as per Annexure-III.
- d) Total amount (combined share of State and its employees' contribution) actually paid to the NPS during the year 2022-23 as per Annexure-III(A).
- e) Borrowing calendar for the year 2023-24.
- f) Information on the losses of Public Sector DISCOMs of the State to be furnished by Participating States availing additional borrowing of upto 0.5% of GSDP linked to performance in Power sector in terms of guidelines issued vide letter no. 40(02)/PF-S/2020-21 dated 09.06.2021 as per Annexure-IV along with supporting documents referred therein. States not availing the additional borrowing of upto 0.5% of GSDP linked to performance in Power Sector, but are participating States under UDAY scheme are required to furnish the information on losses of Public Sector DISCOMs as per Annexure-IV(A) along with supporting documents referred therein.
- g) Details of guarantee issued by State Government and escrowing of future revenues as per Annexure-V.
- h) Detail of borrowings by State Public Sector companies/corporations, Special purpose vehicles (SPVs) and other equivalent instruments, where principal and/or interest are to be serviced out of the State Budgets and/or assignment of taxes/cess or any other State's revenue as per Annexure-VI
- Detail of borrowings raised by State owned entities on the strength of their Government determined profit margin for the purpose of implementing welfare schemes unrelated to the normal commercial purview of the entity as per Annexure-VI(A)
- j) Information regarding unpaid subsidies payable by State Government to Public Sector DISCOMs as per Annexure-VII
- k) Information on Inter-State Power Dues arising under statutory provisions or Government of India's direction.

- The annexures containing the aforesaid information should be signed by the head of the Finance Department of the State in accordance with this Department letter dated 15. 04.05.2022 (copy enclosed). The borrowing permission of the State for the first nine months of FY 2023-24 will be processed only on receipt of complete information.
- Since the primary responsibility of remaining within the borrowing ceiling shall 16. remain with the State, it is advisable to continually track the liabilities so that the State does not inadvertently breach its net annual borrowing ceiling. State may also calibrate its borrowings with expenditure requirements and approach the market after assessment of its treasury holdings.

Encl: as above

Yours faithfully

(Sumit Agrawal) Deputy Director (PF-S)

Tel: 011-23095700

Copy to

- Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi- 110001 ١. with reference to para 10, Para 11 and Para 12 of the letter.
- Chairman, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, B-14/A, Chatrapati 2. Shivaji Bhawan, Qutab Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi-110016- with reference to para 6 and para 7 of the letter.

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Yours faithfully

(Sumit Agrawal) Deputy Director (PF-S)

Tel: 011-23095700 ,

No. 40(2) PF-S/2022-23
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
(Public Finance - State Division)

North Blöck, New Dethi, the 4th May, 2022

To.

The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Finance Department, All State Governments

Subject: Annual Borrowing Ceiling for the financial year 2022-23.

Madam/ Sir.

This is with reference to this department's letter no. 40(2) PF-S/2022-23 dated 31.03.2022 vide which Net borrowing ceiling of the States for the year 2022-23 was communicated and information was sought from the States to assess the Gross borrowing space available to the States.

2. In this regard, it is requested that annexures containing the aforesaid information should be signed by the head of the Finance department of the State (i.e. Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/ Secretary, as the case may be). Where, the head of State's Finance department signing the information has less than five years of service remaining till superannuation, the information should also be counter signed by an officer of All India Service or Central Civil Service having at least 5 years of service left, indicating his name and Service/cadre.

Yours faithfully

(G S Anand) Director (PF-S)

Tel: 011-23095691

Barry