

CBSE Class 12 Economics
NCERT Solutions
Chapter 05 (Macroeconomics)
The Government: Budget and the Economy

1. Explain why public goods must be provided by the government.

Ans: A good that is non-rival and non-excludable is referred to as public good. Non-rival means that consumption by one individual does not affect the consumption of another individual. Whereas, non-excludable implies that no individual can be excluded from using the good. For example, parks, roads, national defence, etc.

These goods must be provided by the government because of the following reasons:

- i.** The benefits of public goods can be easily enjoyed by anyone without affecting the consumption of other individuals. There arises market failure.
- ii.** No individual can be excluded from using public goods as it is available to all. The link between the producer and the consumer becomes non-functional, necessitating government interference through public provisions.

2. Distinguish between revenue expenditure and capital expenditure.

Ans: Revenue Expenditure: Simply put, an expenditure which neither creates assets nor reduces liability is called Revenue Expenditure, e.g., salaries of employees, interest payment on past debt, subsidies, pension, etc. These are financed out of revenue receipts. Broadly, any expenditure which does not lead to any creation of assets or reduction in liability is treated as revenue expenditure.

Generally, expenditure incurred on normal running of the government departments and maintenance of services is treated as revenue expenditure. Examples of revenue expenditure are salaries of government employees, interest payment on loans taken by the government, pensions, subsidies, grants, rural development, education and health services, etc.

Capital Expenditure: An expenditure which either creates an asset (e.g., school

building) or reduces liability (e.g., repayment of loan) is called capital expenditure.

(A) Capital expenditure which leads to creation of assets are (a) expenditure on purchase of land, buildings, machinery, (b) investment in shares, loans by Central government to state government, foreign governments and government companies, cash in hand and (c) acquisition of valuables. Such expenditures are incurred on long period development programmes, real capital assets and financial assets. This type of expenditure adds to the capital stock of the economy and raises its capacity to produce more in future.

(B) Repayment of loan is also capital expenditure because it reduces liability. These expenditures are met out of capital receipts of the government including capital transfers from rest of the world.

3. 'The fiscal deficit gives the borrowing requirement of the government'. Elucidate.

Ans: Fiscal deficit is the excess of total expenditure over total receipts. That is, when total government expenditure is greater than total government receipts, the government faces fiscal deficit.

Fiscal deficit is estimated as:

Total Expenditure (revenue + capital) - Total Receipts (excluding borrowings).

Fiscal deficit gives an indication to the government about the total borrowing requirements from all sources. Fiscal deficit can be financed through domestic borrowings and/or borrowings from abroad. Greater fiscal deficit implies greater borrowings by the government.

4. Give the relationship between the revenue deficit and the fiscal deficit.

Ans: The relationship between the revenue deficit and the fiscal deficit can be explained through the following points:

i. Revenue deficit is the difference between government's revenue expenditures and government's receipts.

Revenue deficit = Revenue expenditures - Revenue receipts

On the other hand, fiscal deficit is the difference between the total expenditure and the total receipt of the government.

Fiscal deficit = Total Expenditure - Total Receipts (excluding borrowings)

ii. The term 'fiscal deficit' is used in a broader sense than the term 'revenue deficit'.

iii. As revenue deficit increases, the proportion of fiscal deficit also increases.

5. Suppose that for a particular economy, investment is equal to 200, government purchases are 150, net taxes (that is lump-sum taxes minus transfers) is 100 and consumption is given by $C = 100 + 0.75Y$ (a) What is the level of equilibrium income? (b) Calculate the value of the government expenditure multiplier and the tax multiplier. (c) If government expenditure increases by 200, find the change in equilibrium income.

Ans: $I = 200$

$G = 150$

$T = 100$

$C = 100 + 0.75 Y$

So, C (Autonomous consumption) = 100

And, MPC (c) = 0.75

(a) Equilibrium level of income

$$= \frac{1}{1-0.75} (100 - 0.75 \times 100 + 200 + 150)$$

$$= \frac{1}{0.25} \times 375$$

= Rs 1500

(b) Government expenditure multiplier

$$\Delta Y / \Delta G = 1 / (1 - c) = 1 / (1 - 0.75) = 1 / 0.25$$

$$= \frac{1}{0.25} \times 100$$

$$= 4$$

$$\text{Tax multiplier} = \frac{\Delta Y}{\Delta T} = \frac{-c}{1-c}$$

$$= \frac{-0.75}{1-0.75} = \frac{-0.75}{0.25}$$

$$= -3$$

(c) $\Delta G = 200$

New equilibrium income

$$= \frac{1}{1-c} [\bar{C} - cT + I + G + \Delta G]$$

$$= 1 / (1 - 0.75) [100 - 0.75 \times 100 + 200 + 150 + 200]$$

$$= \frac{1}{0.25} \times 575$$

$$= \frac{100 \times 575}{25}$$

$$= \text{Rs } 2300$$

Therefore, change in equilibrium income = 2300 - 1500 = Rs 800

6. Consider an economy described by the following functions: $C = 20 + 0.80Y$, $I = 30$, $G = 50$, $TR = 100$ (a) Find the equilibrium level of income and the autonomous expenditure multiplier in the model. (b) If government expenditure increases by 30, what is the impact on equilibrium income? (c) If a lump-sum tax of 30 is added to pay for the increase in government purchases, how will equilibrium income change?

Ans: (a) $C = 20 + 0.80 Y$ [$\bar{C} = 20$]

$I = 30$

$c = 0.80$

$G = 50$

$T = 100$

Equilibrium level of income

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= \frac{1}{1-c} [\bar{C} + cT + I + G] \\ &= \frac{1}{1-0.80} [20 + 0.80 \times 100 + 30 + 50] \\ &= \frac{1}{0.20} \times 180 \\ &= \frac{180}{20} \times 100 \\ &= 900 \end{aligned}$$

Expenditure multiplier = $\frac{1}{1-c}$

$$= \frac{1}{1-0.80} = \frac{1}{0.20}$$

$$= \frac{100}{20}$$

= 5

(b) Increase in government expenditure

$$\Delta G = 30$$

New equilibrium expenditure

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{1-c} [\bar{C} + cT + I + G + \Delta G] \\ &= \frac{1}{1-0.80} [20 + 0.80 \times 100 + 30 + 50 + 30] \\ &= \frac{1}{1-0.80} [20 + 80 + 30 + 50 + 30] \\ &= \frac{1}{0.20} \times 210 \\ &= \frac{210}{0.20} \times 100 \\ &= 1050 \end{aligned}$$

Equilibrium level of income increases by 150 (1050 - 900)

(c) Tax multiplier = $\frac{-c}{1-c}$

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{\Delta T} = \frac{-c}{1-c}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta Y &= \frac{-c}{1-c} \times \Delta T \\ &= \frac{-0.80}{1-0.80} \times 30 \\ &= \frac{-0.80}{0.20} \times 30 \\ &= -120 \end{aligned}$$

New Equilibrium level of income = $Y + \Delta Y$

$$= 900 + (-120)$$

$$= \text{Rs } 780$$

7. In the above question, calculate the effect on output of a 10 per cent increase in transfers, and a 10 per cent increase in lump-sum taxes. Compare the effects of the two.

Ans: MPC = 0.80

$$\bar{C} = 20$$

$$I = 30$$

$$G = 50$$

$$TR = 100$$

$$\Delta TR = 10$$

Equilibrium level of income =

$$\frac{1}{1-c} [\bar{C} + cTR + I + G + \Delta TR]$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-0.80} [20 + 0.80 \times 100 + 30 + 50 + 0.80 \times 10]$$

$$= \frac{188}{20} \times 100$$

$$= \text{Rs } 940$$

$$\text{Change in income} = 940 - 900 = \text{Rs } 40$$

$$\text{Increase in lump-sum tax } \Delta T = 10$$

$$\text{Change in Income} = \Delta T(-c)/(1-c)$$

$$= -10 \times \frac{0.80}{0.20}$$

$$= -10 \times 4$$

$$= -40$$

From the above results, we can conclude that increase of 10 percent in transfers will raise the income by 40%.

And, increase of 10% in tax will lead to a fall in the income by 40%.

8. We suppose that $C = 70 + 0.70Y_D$, $I = 90$, $G = 100$, $T = 0.10Y$

(a) Find the equilibrium income.

(b) What are tax revenues at equilibrium Income? Does the government have a balanced budget?

Ans: (a) $C = 70 + 0.70 Y_D$

$$I = 90$$

$$G = 100$$

$$T = 0.10Y$$

$$Y = C + I + G$$

$$Y = 70 + 0.70Y_D + 90 + 100$$

$$Y = 70 + 0.70Y_D + 190$$

$$Y = 70 + 0.70(Y - T) + 190$$

$$Y = 70 + 0.70Y - 0.70T + 190$$

$$Y = 70 + 0.70Y - 0.70 \times 0.10 Y + 190$$

$$Y = 70 + 0.70Y - 0.07Y + 190$$

$$Y = 70 + 0.63Y + 190$$

$$Y = 260 + 0.63Y$$

$$Y - 0.63Y = 260$$

$$0.37Y = 260$$

$$Y = \frac{260}{0.37}$$

$$Y = 702.7$$

$$(b) T = 0.10Y$$

$$= 0.10 \times 702.7$$

$$= 70.27$$

Government expenditure = 100

Tax revenue = 70.27

As, $G > T$, Government has a deficit budget, not a balanced budget.

9. Suppose marginal propensity to consume is 0.75 and there is a 20 per cent proportional income tax. Find the change in equilibrium income for the following (a) Government purchases increase by 20 (b) Transfers decrease by 20.

Ans: In case of proportional taxes

$$(a) \Delta Y = \frac{1}{1 - c(1 - t)} \times \Delta G$$

MPC = 0.75 and $\Delta G = 20$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - 0.75(1 - 0.2)} \times 20$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - 0.75 \times 0.8} \times 20$$

$$= \frac{20}{1 - 0.60}$$

$$= \frac{20}{0.4}$$

$$= 50$$

(b) Transfer decreases by 20

$$\Delta Y = \frac{c}{1 - c} \times \Delta T$$

$$= \frac{0.75}{1 - 0.75} \times 20$$

$$= \frac{0.75}{0.25} \times 20$$

$$= 60$$

10. Explain why the tax multiplier is smaller in absolute value than the government expenditure multiplier.

Ans: The tax multiplier is smaller in absolute value than the government expenditure multiplier, as the government expenditure affects the total expenditure and taxes through the multiplier. Tax multiplier also influences disposable income that affects the overall consumption level.

The reason is explained through the following example.

Let's assume MPC be to 0.80.

Then, the government expenditure multiplier = $\frac{1}{1 - c}$

$$= \frac{1}{1-0.80}$$

$$= 100/20$$

$$= 5$$

$$\text{Tax multiplier} = \frac{-c}{1-c} = \frac{-80}{1-0.80}$$

$$= \frac{-0.80}{0.20}$$

$$= -4$$

This shows that government expenditure multiplier is more than tax multiplier.

11. Explain the relation between government deficit and government debt.

Ans: The concept of deficit and debt are closely related. Deficit can be thought of as a flow which add to the stock of the debt. If the government continues to borrow year after year, it leads to the accumulation of debt and the government has to pay more and more by way of interest. These interest payments themselves contribute to the debt.

12. Does public debt impose a burden? Explain.

Ans: Government debt or public debt refers to the amount or money that a central government owes. This amount may be borrowings of the government from banks, public financial institutions and from other external and internal sources. Public debt definitely imposes a burden on the economy as a whole, which is described through the following points.

i. Adverse effect on productivity and investment: A government may impose taxes or get money printed to repay the debt. This however reduces the peoples' ability to work, save and invest, thus hampering the development of a country.

ii. Burden on younger generations: The government transfers the burden of reduced

consumption on future generations. Higher government borrowings in the present leads to higher taxes levied in future in order to repay the past obligations. The government imposes taxes on the younger generations, lowering their consumption, savings and investments. Hence, higher public debt has negative effect on the welfare of the younger generations.

iii. Lowers the private investment: The government attracts more investment by raising rates of interests on bonds and securities. As a result, a major part of savings of citizens goes in the hands of the government, thus crowding out private investments.

iv. Leads to the drain of National wealth: The wealth of the country is drained out at the time of repaying loans taken from foreign countries and institutions.

13. Are fiscal deficits inflationary?

Ans: Yes, if fiscal deficits is financed by issuing new currency it will increase inflation. It may be worsen if new currency used to finance the current consumption expenditure of the government. If new money is used for infrastructural activities or other capital projects, then fiscal deficit will not be inflationary.

14. Discuss the issue of deficit reduction.

Ans: The ways of government budget deficit reduction are the following:

(i) Decreasing expenditure

(a) The expenditure of government should be decreased by making government activities more planned and effective.

(b) The government can encourage private sector to undertake capital projects.

(ii) Increasing revenue

(a) Higher taxes imply higher income earned by the government. Also, new taxes may add to the revenues of the government.

(b) The government can sell shares of Public Sector Undertakings (PSU disinvestment) to increase its revenue.