

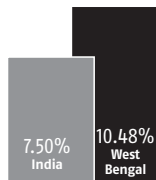
West Bengal's development story in numbers

Ahead of the three-day Bengal Global Business Summit 2016, the state is hard-selling its growth story. Primary among the maze of numbers that are being highlighted to project a shining West Bengal is a high GVA (Gross Value Added) growth rate of 10.48 per cent in 2014-15, compared to the national average of 7.5 per cent. However, in a recent polemic, Sidharth Nath Singh, Bharatiya Janata Party National Secretary, termed the growth figures to be "blatant distortion of statistics". West Bengal has woken up to the fact that industrialisation is key to



development, as is evident from its eleventh rank in the recent World Bank report on state-wise rankings for ease of doing business. On the fiscal front, the state's tax reforms are slowly paying off as the ratio of its own tax revenue to GDP has been on the rise ever since Amit Mitra took charge of the state's finance ministry. Yet, Singh's claim cannot be dismissed. West Bengal's debt to GDP ratio remains significantly high and its own tax revenue to GDP ratio is much lower than other major states. A look at the growth story of West Bengal through numbers.

WEST BENGAL GOVERNMENT'S CLAIM ON GROWTH IN GROSS VALUE-ADDED IN 2014-15



COUNTER CLAIM BY BJP

"West Bengal's economic base is very low compared to India. So, when GDP is calculated on a low base, the percentage is always higher."

DATA FROM PLANNING COMMISSION ARCHIVES

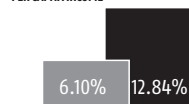
GSDP and year-on-year GSDP % growth at constant price (2004-05)

Year	GSDP (₹cr)	% Growth
2005-06	2,21,789	6.29
2006-07	2,39,007	7.79
2007-08	2,57,632	7.76
2008-09	2,70,248	4.90
2009-10	2,91,955	8.03
2010-11*	3,08,837	5.78
2011-12	3,23,419	4.72
2012-13	3,45,156	6.72
2013-14	3,74,899	8.62**
2014-15	NA	NA

*Beginning of TMC rule; **provisional
Source: Planning Commission: planningcommission.nic.in/data/datatable/data_2312/DataBookDec2014%202015.pdf

WEST BENGAL GOVERNMENT'S CLAIM ON GROWTH IN PER CAPITA INCOME, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE IN 2014-15

India West Bengal
PER CAPITA INCOME



INDUSTRY



AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERY

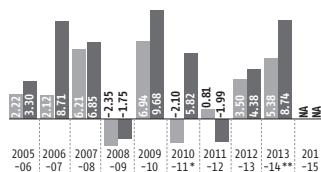


COUNTER CLAIM BY BJP

"The advertisement has shown high growth in per capita income, Industry and Agriculture including Forestry / Fishery for the year 2014-15. If there is genuine growth in all these sectors then revenue generation of the State should have increased many folds. However as per RBI the Own Tax Revenue ratio to GSDP is 5.7 per cent, which is amongst the lowest in India. Lower than Nagaland and Manipur. To substantiate this, one should look at the state debt to GSDP. High dependence on debt means the State's own revenue generation exercise has not been good. To give some figures of debt to GSDP in percentage: WB (35 per cent), MP (20.9 per cent), Rajasthan (24.9 per cent), Chhattisgarh (15.2 per cent). These are non-special category states."

YEAR-WISE GROWTH IN AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTORS AND INDUSTRY IN WEST BENGAL

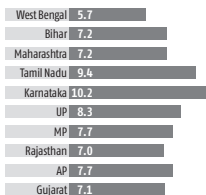
■ Agriculture ■ Industry



*Beginning of TMC rule; ** provisional

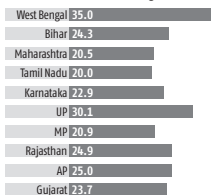
Source: Planning Commission

OWN TAX REVENUE AS PER CENT OF GSDP IN MAJOR STATES 2014-15 (BE)

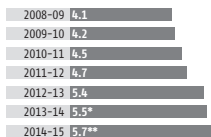


Source: State Finances: A study of Budgets 2014-15; GSDP figures at current prices

STATE-WISE DEBT AS PER CENT OF GSDP IN MAJOR STATES 2014-15 (Budget Estimates)



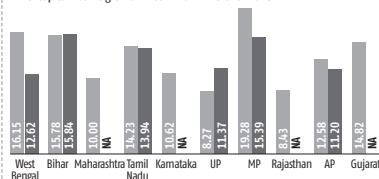
YEAR-WISE GROWTH IN OWN TAX REVENUE AS PER CENT OF GSDP IN WEST BENGAL



*Budget Estimates; **Revised Estimates

PER CAPITA INCOME GROWTH AT CURRENT PRICES IN MAJOR STATES

■ Per capita income growth in % in 2013-14 over 2012-13
■ Per capita income growth in % in 2014-15 over 2013-14



Source: PIB Press Release 2014-15

Compiled by Namrata Acharya; graphics by Vikash Sharma