

FY27 PSUs + States + Centre capex = INR28.4t/7.1% of GDP/11% YoY

Public capex is improving across the Center, states and PSUs, and so is growth visibility across infrastructure, CVs, logistics, certain capital goods, cement demand, and metals.

- **FYTD26 state capex:** The quality of state expenditure has improved, with capital expenditure (capex) materially outperforming revenue expenditure (revex). States' capex grew 14.4% YoY in 9MFY26, a sharp turnaround from the 0.6% contraction in 9MFY25. In 3QFY26 alone, capex surged 23.9% YoY, significantly outpacing revex growth. Capex utilization has reached 49% of BEs, consistent with historical patterns that see a strong 4Q push. Despite revenue headwinds, states are prioritizing asset creation, which is a positive signal for infrastructure, construction, and investment-linked sectors.
- **FY27 capex projections:** Based on the historical execution trends, we estimate FY26 states' capex at INR10.3t (97.5% of BEs). Looking ahead, FY27 budgets from MP, TN, AP, and UP indicate steady expansion, with combined capex up 13.5% YoY in FY27BE vs. FY26RE. We project total states' capex at INR11.3t in FY27BE (+10% YoY), reinforcing the state-led capex cycle.
- **FY27 Center + states + PSU capex:** With the Centre budgeting INR12.2t (3.1% of GDP) in FY27BE and states' capex projected at INR11.5t, combined general government (GG) capex is estimated at INR23.5t, or 5.9% of GDP. Adding PSU capex of INR4.8t, total public sector capex stands at INR28.4t in FY27, equivalent to 7.1% of GDP, implying growth of ~11% YoY (vs. 4.6% YoY in FY26). This scale of public investment keeps India's capex intensity structurally elevated, sustains infrastructure momentum across sectors, strengthens the crowding-in effect on private investment, and supports medium-term growth even as fiscal consolidation gradually progresses.

Recap of 9MFY26 state finances:

- States' fiscal position in 9MFY26 reflects slower revenue growth but stronger capital spending momentum. Aggregate receipts of 27 states grew 7.2% YoY in 9MFY26 (vs. 10.3% last year), reaching 65% of BEs, led by weaker SGST growth and a continued contraction in grants. At the same time, total spending rose 8.5% YoY, with the fiscal deficit at INR6.5t (2.5% of GDP), or 44% of BEs — the highest utilization in four years.
- Slowing revenue growth and a likely year-end surge in capex may challenge states' FY26 fiscal deficit target of ~3.3% of GSDP. States have already raised INR7.5t via market borrowings in Apr-Dec'25, and election-related DBT expansion could further lift borrowing needs. The VB-G RAM G Bill, with its 60:40 cost-sharing model and expanded 125-day guarantee, will also increase states' committed expenditure, reducing fiscal flexibility. For FY27, the deficit is seen near 3.3% of GSDP, with net borrowings of INR9.7t and gross SDL issuances of INR13.2t.
- The combined GG fiscal deficit stood at 5.7% of GDP in 9MFY26, lower than 6.1% in 9MFY25, with 45.2% of the full-year target already utilized, indicating gradual fiscal consolidation.

Strong capex expansion visible in FY27 state budgets

The FY27 budgets presented by the four large states—MP, TN, AP and UP—indicate a continued and deliberate push toward higher capex, reinforcing the broader public investment cycle at the state level. Combined capex for these states rises from INR2,058b in FY23 to INR3,802b in FY27BE (INR3,349b in FY26RE; 13.5% YoY growth for FY27BE), up nearly 85%.

UP remains the largest capital spender, with capex scaling to INR1,864b in FY27BE (INR1,693b; 10.1% YoY), while MP also demonstrates steady and consistent expansion. Notably, AP records the sharpest acceleration, with capex rising six-fold compared to FY23, signaling an aggressive asset creation and infrastructure build-out phase. Even TN, despite a relatively moderate growth trajectory, shows a clear upward bias in FY27BE allocations.

AP has allocated a sizable portion toward capital outlay on irrigation, roads, urban infrastructure and industrial corridors while continuing welfare commitments. UP's

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record-sized budget emphasizes transport infrastructure (expressways, metro expansion), energy, rural development and housing, alongside higher allocations for agriculture and social sector schemes. MP has focused on roads, urban development, water resources and women-centric welfare programs, reflecting a balanced push between asset creation and social inclusion. TN’s interim budget maintains strong allocations for transport, energy transition, urban infrastructure and industrial development while safeguarding spending on education, healthcare and social protection (*Exhibit 19*).

Exhibit 1: Strong capex expansion visible in FY27 state budgets - Capital spending (INR b)

States	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26BE	FY26RE	FY26RE/BE (%)	FY27BE	FY27BE (% YoY)
MP	468	573	706	851	747	88	803	7.5
TN	468	493	471	661	514	78	596	15.8
AP	90	241	212	468	395	84	539	36.5
UP	1,032	1,186	1,223	1,742	1,693	97	1,864	10.1
Total	2,058	2,493	2,612	3,721	3,349	90	3,802	13.5

9MFY26 state finances

States’ fiscal deficit at 44% of BEs in 9MFY26: Based on the provisional data of 27 states, total receipts of all the states grew at a five-year low pace of 7.2% YoY in 9MFY26 (vs. +10.3% in 9MFY25), achieving 65% of BEs, lower than 67% in the same period last year (*Exhibit 2*).

At the same time, their total spending grew 8.5% YoY in 9MFY26 (vs. +10.6% in 9MFY25), achieving 60% of BEs, the highest in at least a decade (*Exhibit 3*). Consequently, the states’ aggregate fiscal deficit stood at INR6.5t (or 2.5% of GDP) in 9MFY26, compared to INR5.7t (or 2.3% of GDP) in 9MFY25. States have achieved 44.4% of their full-year target in 9MFY26, higher than 39.1% of BEs in 9MFY25 and the highest in four years (*Exhibits 4, 5*).

States’ fiscal deficit was 44% of BEs in 9MFY26, highest in four years

Exhibit 2: Total receipts stood at 65% of BEs in 9MFY26...

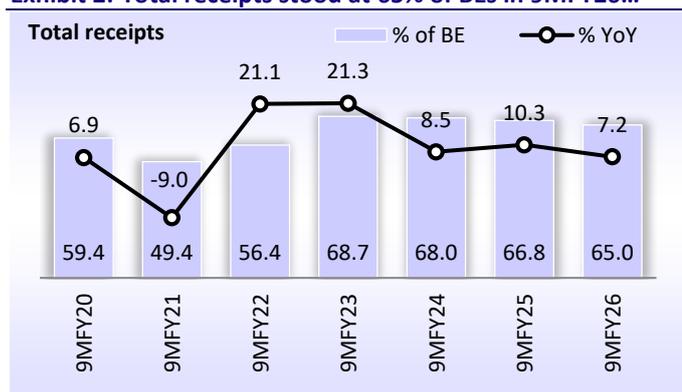
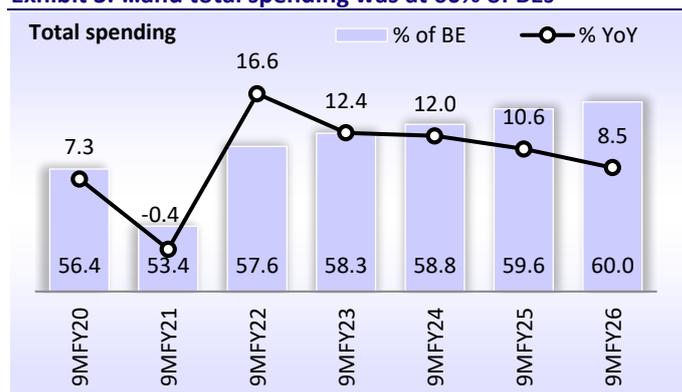


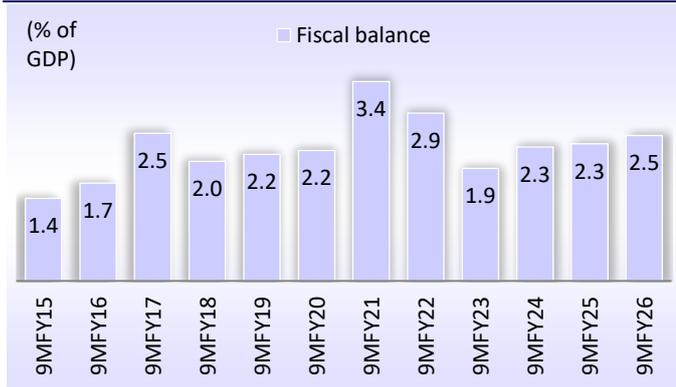
Exhibit 3: ...and total spending was at 60% of BEs



Data of 27 states

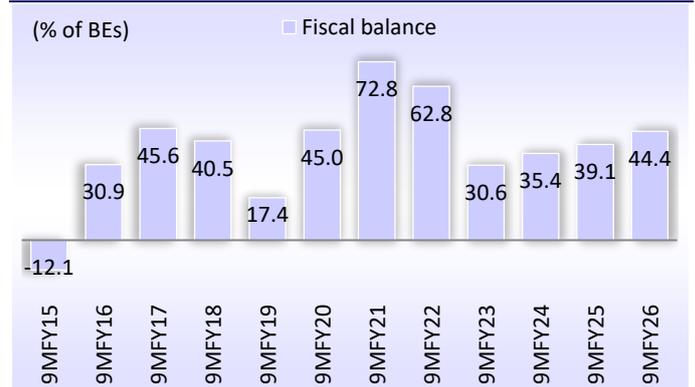
Note: Data for all states is based on 27 states, for which monthly data up to Dec’25 is available. These states account for >95% of all states’ Budget. The states/UT covered in this report are Andhra Pradesh (AP), Assam (AS), Bihar (BH), Chhattisgarh (CT), Gujarat (GJ), Haryana (HR), Himachal Pradesh (HP), Jammu & Kashmir (JK), Jharkhand (JH), Karnataka (KA), Kerala (KL), Madhya Pradesh (MP), Maharashtra (MH), Odisha (OD), Punjab (PB), Rajasthan (RJ), Tamil Nadu (TN), Telangana (TS), Uttarakhand (UK), Uttar Pradesh (UP), West Bengal (WB), Arunachal Pradesh (AR), Meghalaya (MG), Nagaland (NG), Mizoram (MZ), Sikkim (SK), and Tripura (TR)

Exhibit 4: States' aggregate fiscal deficit was 1.7% of GDP in 3QFY26*...



* Assuming nominal GDP growth of 10% YoY in 3QFY26

Exhibit 5: ...and stood at 44.4% of BEs in 9MFY26, higher than 39.1% of BEs in 9MFY25



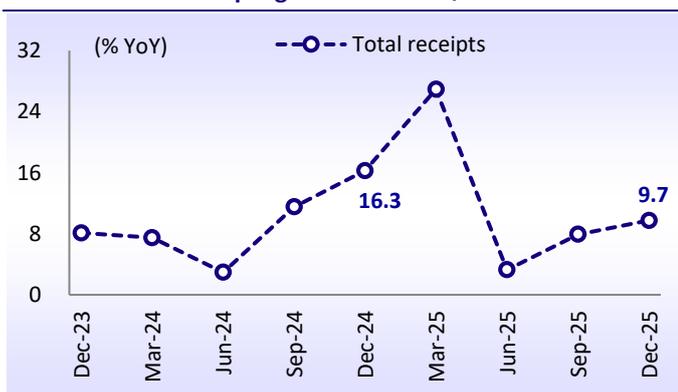
Source: Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), CEIC, MOFSL

Receipts growth moderates sharply in 9MY26, mainly led by weakness in tax receipts and contraction in grants received from the center.

Receipt growth moderates, mainly led by contraction in grants

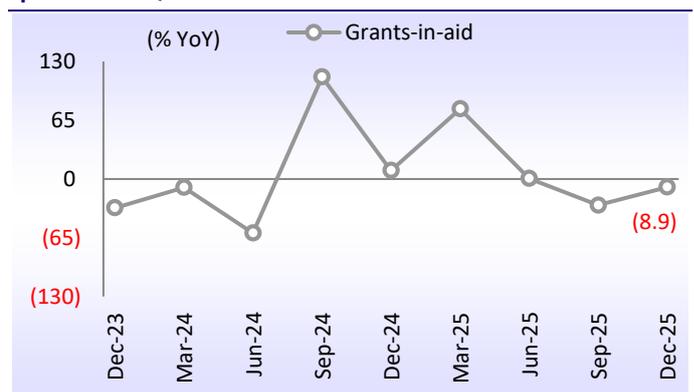
- Total states' revenue trajectory shows a clear sequential slowdown over the past two fiscal years. Growth in total receipts has moderated from 10.3% in 9MFY25 to 7.2% in 9MFY26, pointing to a normalization after the post-pandemic revenue surge. Revenue receipts followed a similar pattern, easing to 7% in 9MFY26 (Exhibit 2).
- Tax revenue growth has gradually softened, declining to 9.2% in 9MFY26 after expanding at double-digit rates in the previous two years (~14%). The moderation is largely attributable to a sharp deceleration in state GST collections, where growth has fallen to 4.1%, significantly lower than the strong expansion seen earlier.
- Encouragingly, several other tax streams have shown resilience. Stamp duty and registration fees recorded double-digit growth, supported by steady real estate activity, while state excise collections remained robust. States' share of Union taxes continues to grow at a healthy pace, though the expansion is slower than in prior years, limiting its ability to fully offset GST weakness (Exhibits 8, 9).
- Grants-in-aid continue to contract for the third consecutive year (-15.3% in 9MFY26) and remain significantly below budgeted levels, with barely one-third of the annual target realized so far (Exhibits 7,8).
- In contrast, non-tax revenue has rebounded after last year's near stagnation, providing some cushion to overall receipts. Capital receipts have also strengthened compared with FY25 (Exhibit 8).

Exhibit 6: Total receipts grew 9.7% in 3QFY26



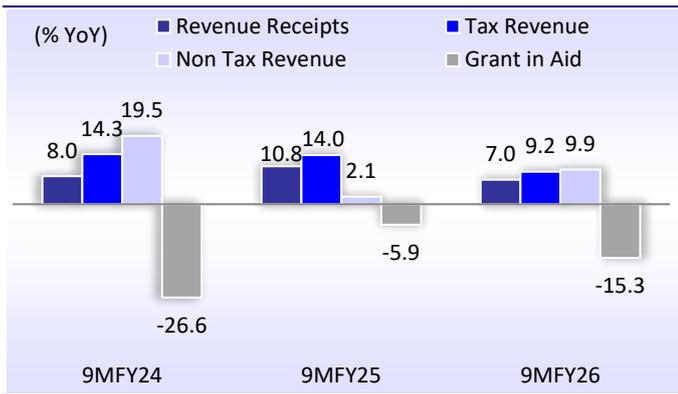
Data of 27 states

Exhibit 7: Grants contracted for the third consecutive quarter in 3QFY26



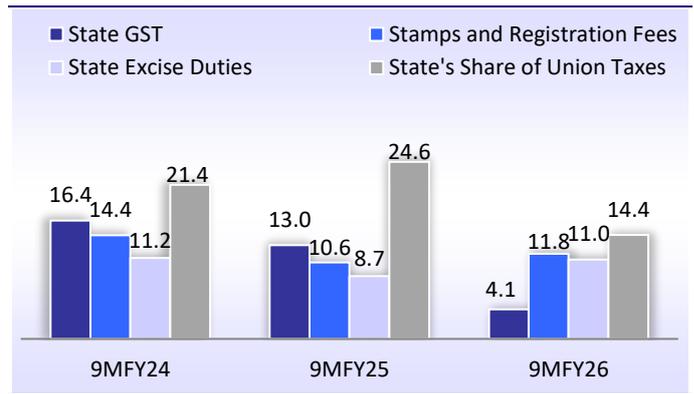
Source: CEIC, CAG, MOFSL

Exhibit 8: States' revenue receipt growth slows in 9MFY26



Data of 27 states

Exhibit 9: SGST growth remains weak in 9MFY26



Source: CEIC, CAG, MOFSL

States' capex up 14.4% YoY in 9MFY26, following a contraction of 0.6% in 9MFY25

States' capital spending improves sharply while revex eases in 9MFY26

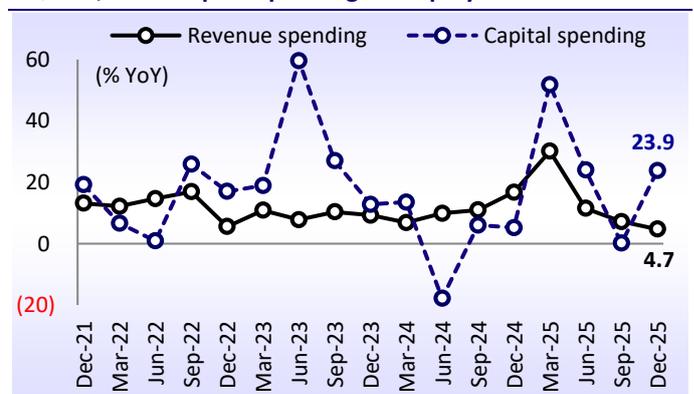
- Within states' spending, growth in capital spending outpaced growth in revenue spending in 3QFY26. Capital spending grew 23.9% YoY in 3QFY26, compared to a growth of 4.7% in revenue spending. In 9MFY26, states' capex was up by 14.4% YoY, compared to a contraction of 0.6% in 9MFY25 (*Exhibits 11, 15*).
- On the other hand, revex growth has slowed notably from last year's pace (7.6% in 9MFY26 vs. 12.6% in 9MFY25) partly reflecting moderation in salaries and a contraction in subsidy spending. (*Exhibits 12 and 13*).
- At the same time, interest payments are growing at their fastest pace in three years, highlighting the impact of elevated debt levels, while pension spending remains structurally high and has already crossed nearly two-thirds of the annual budget (*Exhibit 14*).
- **States have so far utilized about 49% of their full-year capex budget, in line with historical patterns that typically see a sharp acceleration in spending during the final quarter of the fiscal year. This suggests that a sharper acceleration in capital spending is likely in the latter part of the fiscal year, which could place additional pressure on state finances if revenue growth does not improve. The back-loaded nature of capital spending warrants close monitoring, particularly given the historical tendency for underutilization of budgeted capex (*Exhibit 15*).**

Exhibit 10: Total spending of states grew 7.5% YoY in 3QFY26



Data of 27 states

Exhibit 11: Revenue spending of states grew 4.7% YoY in 3QFY26, while capital spending was up by 23.9%



Source: CEIC, CAG, MOFSL

Exhibit 12: Revenue spending slowed sharply in 9MFY26...

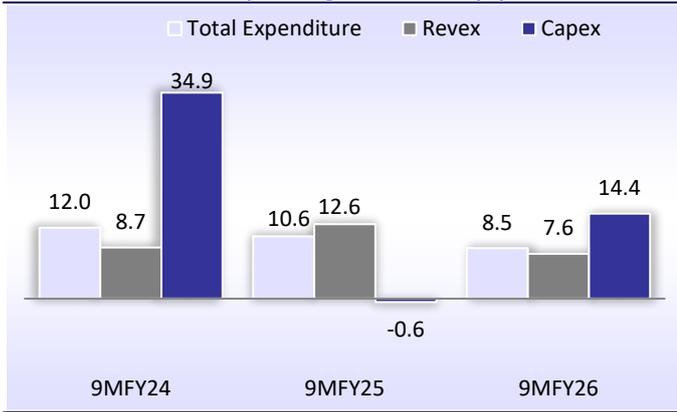
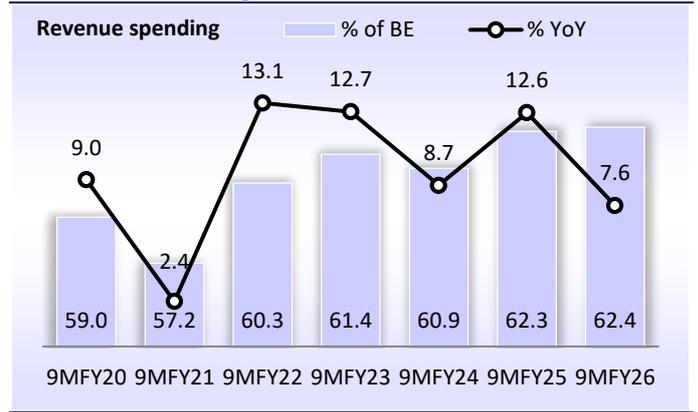
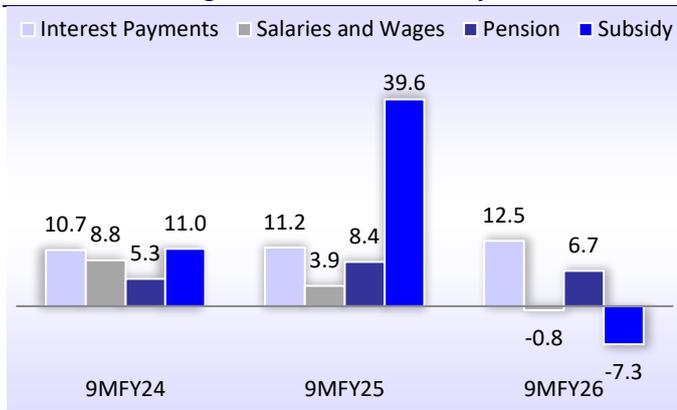


Exhibit 13: ...reaching 62% of BEs in 9MFY26



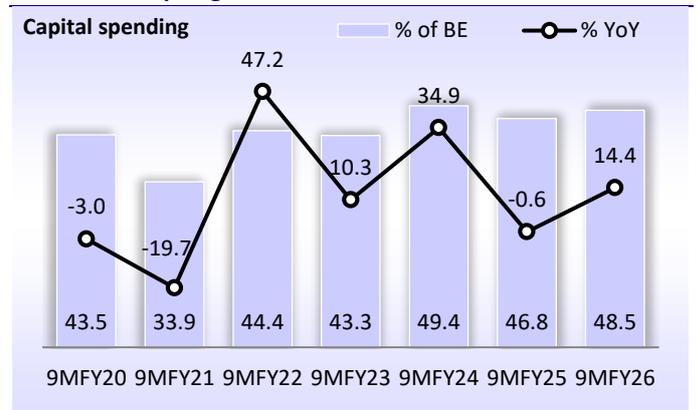
Source: Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), CEIC, MOFSL

Exhibit 14: Revex growth moderated led by subsidies



Data of 27 states

Exhibit 15: Capex grew 14.4% in 9MFY26



Source: CEIC, MOFSL

Fiscal risks

Slowing revenue growth, alongside a likely year-end pickup in capital spending, could make it difficult for states to meet their FY26 fiscal deficit target of ~3.3% of GSDP. Reflecting these pressures, states have already raised about INR7.5t through market borrowings during Apr-Dec'25. With the 2026 state assembly elections approaching for Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, the probability of new or expanded DBT schemes has increased, which may further strain revenues and elevate borrowing requirements. Additionally, the implementation of the VB-G RAM G Bill, which shifts rural employment to a Centre-state cost-sharing framework (60:40 for most states) and expands the guarantee to 125 days, is likely to raise committed expenditure for states, increasing revenue pressures and reducing fiscal flexibility.

For FY27, the fiscal deficit is expected to remain around 3.3% of GSDP, with net borrowings estimated at INR9.7t and gross SDL issuances near INR13.2t. Overall, rising welfare commitments, higher interest payments, and increased statutory spending obligations risk crowding out capex and could delay post-election fiscal consolidation unless revenue growth meaningfully improves.

Exhibit 16: Finances of 27 states

(% YoY)	9MFY24	9MFY25	9MFY26	(FYTD 26 % of BE)
Total Receipts	8.5	10.3	7.2	65.0
Revenue Receipts	8.0	10.8	7.0	65.5
Tax Revenue	14.3	14.0	9.2	66.3
State GST	16.4	13.0	4.1	57.3
Stamps and Registration Fees	14.4	10.6	11.8	57.2
Land Revenue	36.6	-14.7	13.4	50.1
Sales Tax	-1.0	4.3	4.1	56.1
State Excise Duties	11.2	8.7	11.0	58.2
State's Share of Union Taxes	21.4	24.6	14.4	63.3
Other Taxes and Duties	16.4	7.2	15.1	55.6
Non Tax Revenue	19.5	2.1	9.9	53.1
Grant in Aid	-26.6	-5.9	-15.3	33.7
Capital Receipts	35.6	8.7	15.1	39.5
Recovery of Loans and Advances	201.2	-70.5	111.2	19.7
Other Receipts	-6.6	-38.5	-8.2	0.1
Borrowings and Other Liabilities	33.4	10.7	14.7	40.6
Total Expenditure	12.0	10.6	8.5	60.0
Revex	8.7	12.6	7.6	62.4
Interest Payments	10.7	11.2	12.5	55.0
Salaries and Wages	8.8	3.9	-0.8	53.2
Pension	5.3	8.4	6.7	65.5
Subsidy	11.0	39.6	-7.3	51.5
Capex	34.9	-0.6	14.4	48.5
Loans and Advances Disbursed	-1.7	22.4	9.7	59.5
Fiscal Balance				44.4

Source: CGA, CEIC, MOFSL; Data of 27 states

Finances of the General Government (States + Centre)

Combined capital spending picked up sharply in 9MFY26

A combined analysis of the central and state governments confirms that total receipts grew 9.2% YoY in 9MFY26 (12.1% in 9MFY25) and total spending growth moderated to 7.5% YoY in 9MFY26 (8.9% in 9MFY25). In other words, total receipts were at 68% of BEs in 9MFY26, in line with the last few years. At the same time, total spending was at 61% of BEs in 9MFY26 (*Exhibits 17, 18*).

Exhibit 17: Combined receipts grew 9.2% YoY in 9MFY26

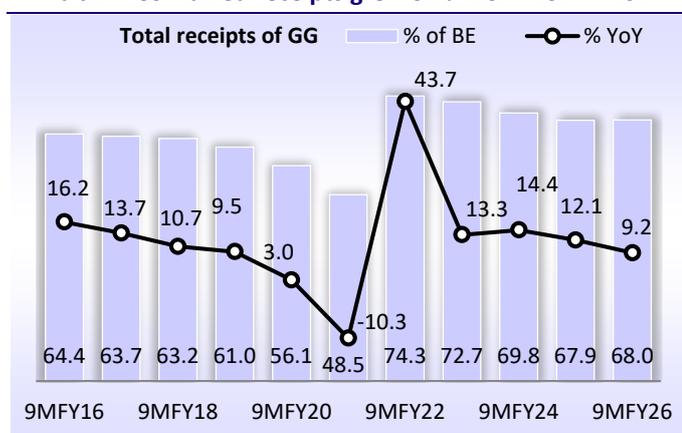
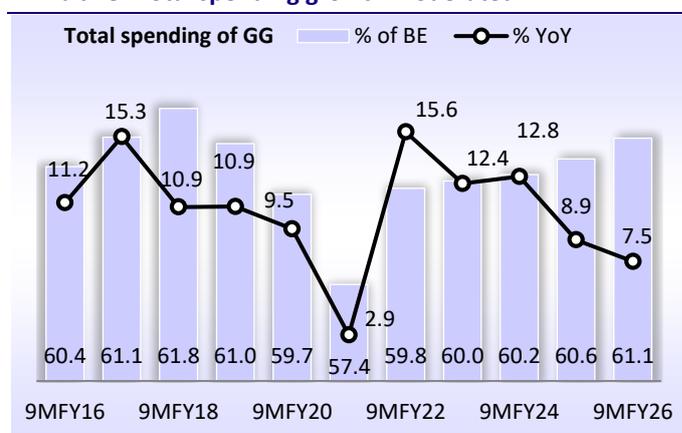


Exhibit 18: Total spending growth moderated



Source: CEIC, CAG, Controller General of Accounts (CGA), MOFSL

Exhibit 19: GG revex growth eased to a 5-year low of 5.9% YoY in 9MFY26

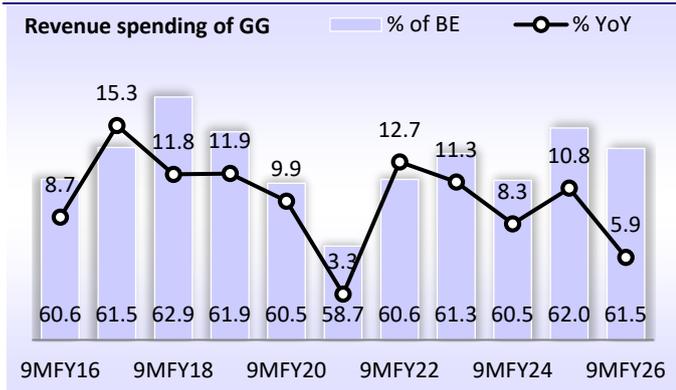
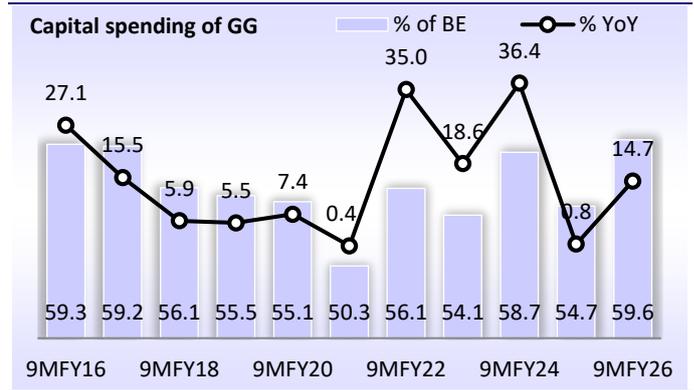


Exhibit 20: GG Capex growth picked up to 14.4% in 9MFY26 vs. 0.8% in 9MFY25



Source: CEIC, CAG, Controller General of Accounts (CGA), MOFSL

The combined capital spending grew 14.4% YoY and was 60% of BEs in 9MFY26.

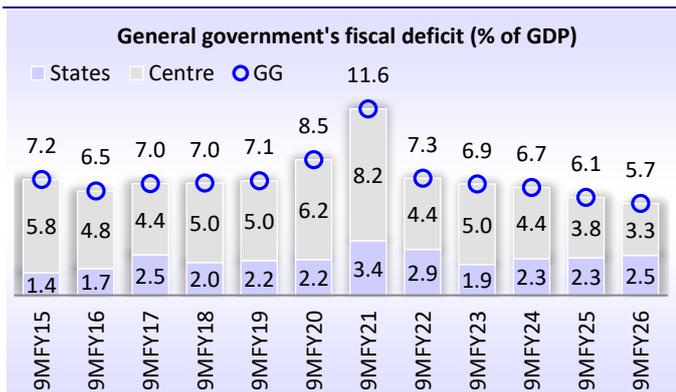
Our calculations suggest that the GG fiscal deficit stood at 5.7% of GDP in 9MFY26 vs. 6.1% in 9MFY25.

Further, revenue spending grew at a five-year low pace of 5.9% YoY in 9MFY26. On the other hand, combined capital spending surged 14.4% YoY in 9MFY26, following a growth of 0.8% in 9MFY25 (*Exhibits 19, 20*). Capital spending, thus, was 60% of BEs in 9MFY26 (vs. 54.7% in 9MFY25), the highest in at least a decade.

Combined fiscal deficit was 5.7% of GDP and 45.2% of BEs in 9MFY26: As a % of BEs, states' aggregate fiscal deficit was at 44% of BEs in 9MFY26, while it was 54.5% for the Center, implying a combined fiscal deficit of 45.2% of BEs in 9MFY26, the highest in past five years.

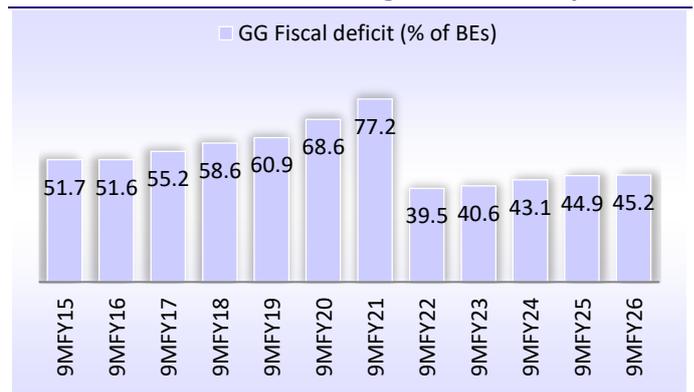
Assuming a 10% YoY nominal GDP growth in 3QFY26, our calculations suggest that the GG fiscal deficit stood at 5.7% of GDP in 9MFY26, lower than 6.1% of GDP in 9MFY25 and the average of 7.0% of GDP in the past decade (excluding FY21) (*Exhibits 21 and 22*).

Exhibit 21: Combined fiscal deficit was 5.7% of GDP in 9MFY26 vs. 6.1% in 9MFY25



Assuming 10% nominal GDP growth in 3QFY26

Exhibit 22: Combined fiscal deficit of the government stood at 45.2% of BEs in 9MFY26, the highest in last five years



Source: CEIC, CAG, CGA, MOSPI, MOFSL

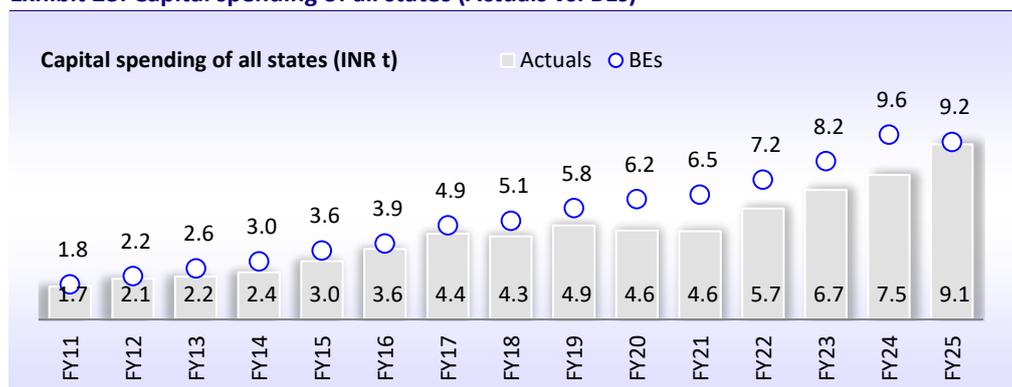
States' capex to rise to INR11.3t in FY27

Historically, actual states' capex numbers have broadly tracked budget estimates, typically achieving 85-100% of BEs, with a long-term average in the low-to-mid 90s (*Exhibit 23*). Although execution tends to soften in years of sharp budget expansion, recent trends indicate improving spending efficiency, with actual numbers nearing full utilization. Provisional data of 27 states also show that states' capex has reached INR5.2t in 9MFY26, reaching 49% of BEs, in line with the historical trends that typically see a sharp acceleration in spending during the final quarter of a fiscal year.

Accordingly, we assume total states' capex at INR10.3t in FY26, equivalent to 97.5% of BEs (*Exhibit 24*), reflecting strong implementation while remaining marginally conservative.

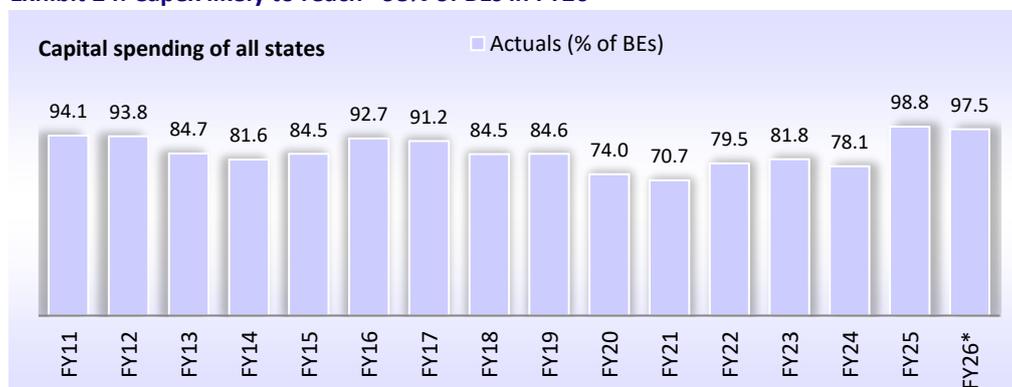
Looking ahead to FY27, based on the four states that have already presented their budgets and the continued emphasis on infrastructure creation, we assume total states' capex at INR11.3t in FY27BE (10% YoY, in line with the Centre's capex target in FY27BE) (*Exhibit 25*). The early budget signals suggest a continued public investment push, supporting the ongoing state-led capex cycle and reinforcing medium-term growth prospects.

Exhibit 23: Capital spending of all states (Actuals vs. BEs)



Source: MOSPI, MOFSL

Exhibit 24: Capex likely to reach ~98% of BEs in FY26



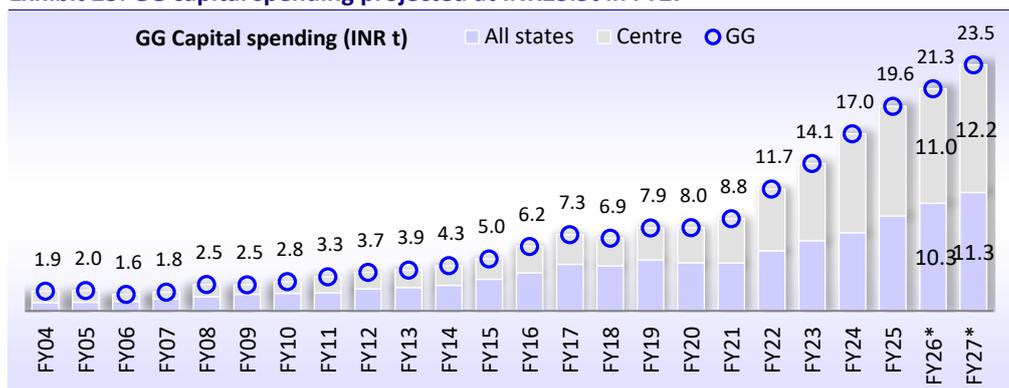
Source: MOSPI, MOFSL

GG capex likely at ~6% of GDP in FY27

Our calculations suggest that the GG capital spending would be around INR23.5t in FY27, reaching 5.9% of GDP

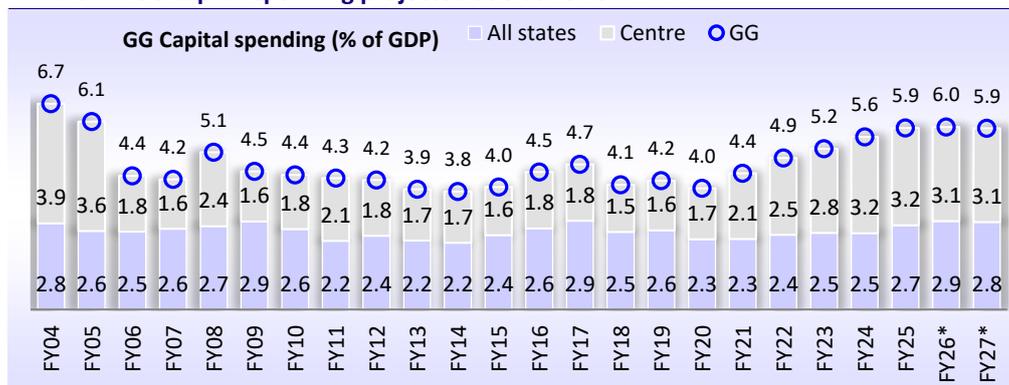
The Centre has already budgeted capex of INR 12.2t for FY27BE, equivalent to 3.1% of GDP, maintaining a structurally elevated public investment push. Combining this with our assumption of states' capex at INR11.3t in FY27BE, aggregate GG capex is estimated at INR23.5t, or 5.9% of GDP. This keeps overall public capital formation at elevated levels, sustaining the infrastructure-led growth momentum built over recent years. A GG capex ratio of around 6% of GDP underscores continued prioritization of asset creation, supports crowding-in of private investment, and reinforces medium-term growth prospects even as fiscal consolidation gradually advances (*Exhibits 25 and 26*).

Exhibit 25: GG capital spending projected at INR23.5t in FY27



Source: MOSPI, MOFSL

Exhibit 26: GG capital spending projected at 5.9% of GDP in FY27



Source: MOSPI, MOFSL

Note: FY26* and FY27*: Centre's and PSUs capex data (revised estimates for FY26 and budget estimates for FY27) is taken from the budget documents; States' capex is our estimate.

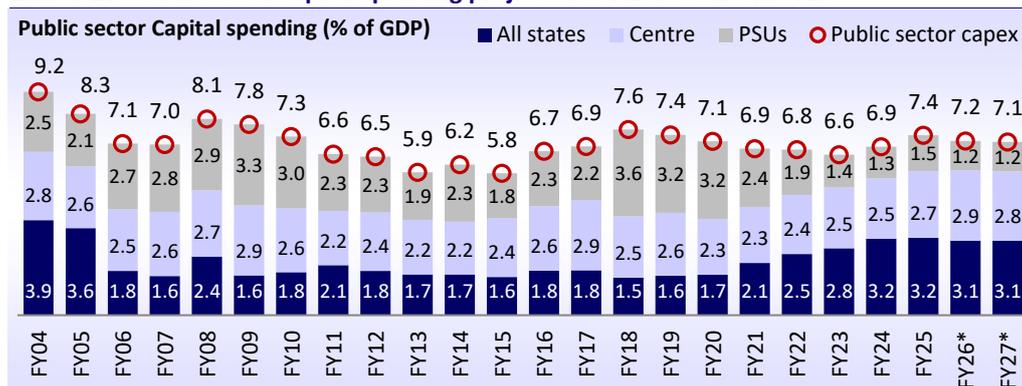
Public sector capex projected at 7.1% of GDP in FY27

Our calculations suggest that public sector capital spending would be around INR28.4t in FY27 (11% YoY), reaching 7.1% of GDP

Public sector capital spending has expanded sharply over the past two decades. It is projected at INR28.4t in FY27 (INR25.6t in FY26), growing by 10.9% (vs. 4.6% YoY in FY26). The recent acceleration has been particularly strong after FY20, led by a sustained push from the Centre and steady expansion in states' capex. While PSU spending has remained relatively stable in recent years, the overall investment cycle is now being driven primarily by GG capex.

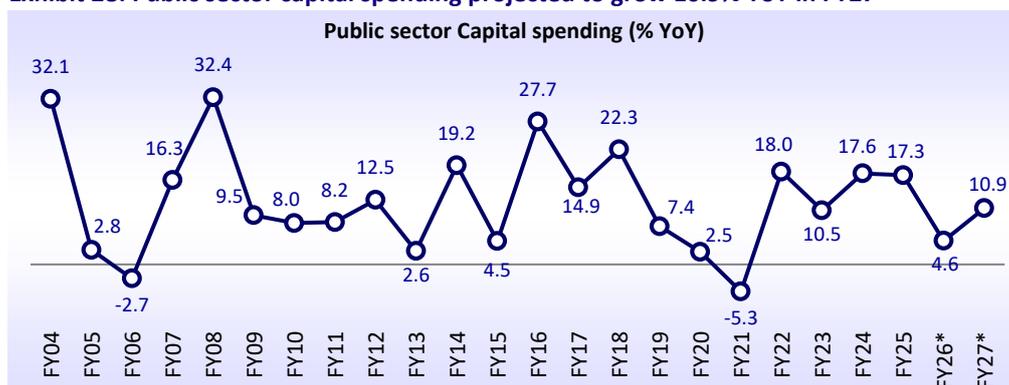
As a share of GDP, total public sector capex has largely remained in the 6-8% range over the past two decades, though its composition has shifted meaningfully. In the early 2000s, PSUs accounted for a larger share of investments, but over time the Centre and states have taken the lead. In recent years, central capex has risen structurally above 3% of GDP, while states' capex has strengthened toward 2.7-2.9% of GDP. Even as PSU capex has moderated to nearly 1.0-1.5% of GDP, overall public sector capex remains elevated at around 7.1% of GDP in FY27 (Exhibits 27, 28 and 29).

Exhibit 27: Public sector capital spending projected at 7.1% of GDP in FY27



Source: CGA, Union budget, CEIC, MOFSL

Exhibit 28: Public sector capital spending projected to grow 10.9% YoY in FY27



Source: CGA, Union budget, CEIC, MOFSL

Exhibit 29: Public sector capital spending (INR t)

	Centre	States	PSUs	Public sector
FY03	0.7	0.5	0.7	1.9
FY04	1.1	0.8	0.7	2.6
FY05	1.1	0.8	0.7	2.6
FY06	0.7	0.9	1.0	2.6
FY07	0.7	1.1	1.2	3.0
FY08	1.2	1.3	1.4	4.0
FY09	0.9	1.6	1.8	4.3
FY10	1.1	1.7	1.9	4.7
FY11	1.6	1.7	1.8	5.1
FY12	1.6	2.1	2.0	5.7
FY13	1.7	2.2	1.9	5.8
FY14	1.9	2.4	2.6	7.0
FY15	2.0	3.0	2.3	7.3
FY16	2.5	3.6	3.1	9.3
FY17	2.8	4.4	3.4	10.7
FY18	2.6	4.3	6.1	13.1
FY19	3.1	4.9	6.1	14.0
FY20	3.4	4.6	6.4	14.4
FY21	4.3	4.6	4.8	13.6
FY22	5.9	5.7	4.4	16.1
FY23	7.4	6.7	3.6	17.7
FY24	9.5	7.5	3.9	20.9
FY25	10.5	9.1	4.9	24.5
FY26*	11.0	10.3	4.3	25.6
FY27*	12.2	11.3	4.8	28.4

Source: CGA, Union budget, CEIC, MOFSL

Note: FY26* and FY27*: Centre's and PSUs capex data (revised estimates for FY26 and budget estimates for FY27) is taken from the budget documents; States' capex is our estimate

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SELL	< - 10%
NEUTRAL	> - 10 % to 15%
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation

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