

# Interview Summary

## Interview 1:

**Rohith, Researcher, CBGA**

Where do you use visualization?

Papers, articles to write, ppt/conferences

How do you do it right now ?

Data in consumable format is tedious. Excel charts, Infogram(licensed software), tree maps, word cloud.

Conferences where its presented: Non-profit audiences, people who are aware of budget, academic conferences, policy researchers

Avoid whole number. Prefer percentage. Percentage of GSDP is for comparison.

This is the weight for comparing two states (i.e. size of the economy = sum of total financial activities that take place in terms of demand and supply, production and distribution)

Goa ( spending and earning is less ) while UP has high spending and earning.

Relative to the economy the states can be compared saying if its doing good or bad instead of showing the whole/absolute numbers of indicators. Indicators in % of GSDP makes more sense for comparing two or more states.

Size of the economy = GSDP

Total expenditure in some sectors of a state / total state expenditure —> this ratio makes more sense

Story generator —> Automate the comparison and bring out the insights

Most frequently used indicators —> fiscal deficit ( comes in news and people understand), tax revenue, expenditure in some imp sectors like health and education, water and sanitation etc.

Depending on the concepts the difficulty of the datasets arises. Expenditure (difficult, approximate) and taxation/revenue of sectors side of budget.

No complete education budget. Amount invested or spent on this in education sectors. Story generator should convey that. Elements of approximation is considered.

Data analysis Specific to a single state —> Fiscal profile of the state, how much the state is spending, how much its earning, what is it spending on, where is the state getting its revenue from ? (Indicators for each are there)

Each state has their own mode of raising tax + each state get some amount of grant from Union govt. Based on the constitutional responsibility, the taxing rights have been divided in various levels of government.

Union govt have right to tax on some things, state govt have right to tax some other things, local govt has right to tax on some other things. Evolution of fiscal architecture.

Finance commission —>decides how much of the money from the union govt should go to the state govt. Tax grants from union.

OTR — State which has its own state tax grants. A state is considered healthy if it can generate certain amount of tax grants on its own that means the economy is sustainable.

ONTR — Own Non-Tax revenue. Ex: Goa has a lot of mines. If state wants to give the mining rights to some company and it conducts auctions and if Jindal wins it then it has to pay tax revenue to goa government. Ex where non-tax revenue is collected on Mining, Leasing licenses, spectruming auctioning licenses. Spectruming licenses come under Union govt. and tax revenue goes to union. The transfer of tax revenue depends on under whom the licenses are registered in constitution.

tax revenue = Tax grants/aids + OTR

Modi govt declared more tax grants to the state govt. Initially 32% of the union tax revenue was allocated to state govt. Finance commission changed that to 42% from 32% in a way the state got more money.

State can ask for more money by submitting a memoranda to finance commission saying they want more money.

Revenue account: Revenue Expenditures or Revenue receipts which are re-curring over a period of time. Ex: wages to workers or salary to employee

Capital account: Expenditure or receipts which are one time investment. Ex: Money invested in infrastructure is capital expenditure whereas the money invested which goes as salary of the teachers is revenue expenditure.

Revenue Receipts = Tax revenue collected

Capital Receipts are along the lines of loan. Once the loan is paid, it is recorded as revenue expenditure in future.

According to the law called Fiscal responsibility and Budgetary management Act (FRBM), the revenue deficit has to be zero and the fiscal deficit cannot be more than 3%.

BE is a constitutional requirement that which is told to the people that this is what the govt is willing to spend on this indicator. BE reflects the govt 's intentions according to their election manifesto. Difference between BE and Actuals is to analyse if the govt has lived upto it.

Based on the 3-4 months of expenditure, the RE is decided as to how the remaining 4-5 months have to be planned (how much more or less has to be spent).

BE is set from April 1st to March 31st of next year. In between the financial year, RE is calculated but is published next year.

BE of this year = BE of last year + 10% (Ideally)

RE < BE —> shows expenditure in that scheme is less so the BE is reduced for the coming year or the scheme is done away with.

BE is more political than economical. This is to judge the government's actions. Actuals shows the accountability. BE and Actuals shows the actual picture.

Comparing both gives the political economy picture

BE = Intention (Political)

Actuals = Actions (Economical)

Comparing States doing poor or doing good. To show Inequality within the country.

no Objective data analysis —> It is context based. Comparing the state data, the common base should be taken. If the absolute number is compared for two states, the base scale should be done.

Arvind panagaria —>statistical manipulation. Ex: Gujarat and kerala Infant mortality rate.

No full liberty to users.

If the tour is given and is guided then it might get biased.

Ministries are easier. Sectors is combination of ministries.

Ex: Sector Education —> Money spent on water and sanitation in school comes under water and sanitation ministries.

Revenue receipts (one sector)—> Tax + Non-Tax

Revenue Expenditure ( number of sectors )

Story generator have datasets based on sectors only.

Demand number of each ministries has been taken and combined to form sectors.

Ex: Within Ministries, demand number is fixed for the water and sanitation in schools can be combined in education sectors. So as to make it comparable across states. As all states may not have this particular investment under the same ministries.

Some schemes have different names also across the states. Advocacy platform stating that all states should have homogenous data.

Least developed states —>

Story generator has no union budget. Its only state budget representation.