

Budget Balance - February 2014

Economic Research Division



Central government budget posted a surplus of 1.7 billion TL in February.

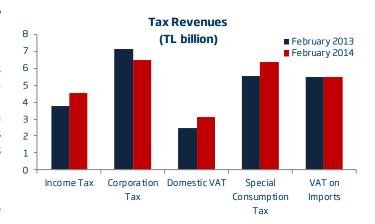
According to data announced by the Ministry of Finance, budget expenditures decreased while budget revenues increased in February compared to the same month of the previous year. In this context, central government budget, which gave 1.4 billion TL deficit in February 2013, posted a surplus of 1.7 billion TL in the same month of 2014. In this period, primary surplus increased by 40.7% and was realized as 5 billion TL.

Tax revenues lost momentum in February.

Tax revenues, which increased by 13% annually on average in last 6 months , rose only 7% in February compared to the same month of previous year. Revenues collected from VAT on imports declined during this period and pointed out a loss of momentum in imports in February due to the lagged impacts of the depreciation in TL. Besides, the decline in corporation tax was also influential in the relatively weak performance of total tax revenues. On the other hand, revenues collected from income tax and value added tax, which increased by 20.5% and 24.9%, respectively in February, limited the deceleration in tax revenues. Regarding non-tax revenues, 455 million TL privatization revenue in February also supported the budget revenues.

Budget expenditures declined in February.

Analyzing budget expenditures, it was seen that expenditures decreased by 3.5% compared to the same month of the previous year. The decrease in budget expenditures mainly stemmed from the decline in interest expenditures. During this period, the increase in personnel expenses and purchase of goods/services was compensated by the decrease in the current transfers, thus, non-interest expenditures, which constitute 90% of total budget expenditures, remained flat.



Expectations...

The central government budget figures of February 2014 showed that fiscal performance continued to remain strong. Although the impacts of the depreciation of TL on tax revenues became evident recently, there is no significant deterioration in tax revenues stemming from the slowdown in domestic consumption. However, the depreciation of TL might still create pressure on tax revenues via deceleration in imports related taxes though this pressure will be removed over the medium to long-term. The expected slowdown in domestic demand conditions might also have negative impacts on tax revenues in the coming months. Analysis of the realizations in the first two months of the year showed that the progress of budget figures was in line with the year-end targets.

Central Government Budget (TL billion)								
	February		%	January-February		% 2014 Budget		Real./
	2013	2014	Change	2013	2014	Change	Target	Target (%)
Expenditures	33.9	32.8	-3.5	64.9	68.8	6.0	436.4	15.8
Interest Expenditures	5.0	3.3	-33.4	10.2	8.3	-18.4	52.0	16.0
Non-interest Expenditures	29.0	29.4	1.7	54.7	60.4	10.5	384.4	15.7
Revenues	32.5	34.4	5.9	69.4	72.3	4.3	403.2	17.9
Tax Revenues	27.6	29.5	7.0	56.0	62.2	11.1	348.4	17.9
Other Revenues	4.9	4.9	-0.3	13.3	10.1	-24.3	54.8	18.4
Budget Balance	-1.4	1.7	-	4.5	3.6	-20.4	-33.3	-
Primary Balance	3.5	5.0	40.7	14.7	11.9	-19.0	18.7	63.6

Numbers may not add up to total due to rounding

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