What is the state budget?

The state budget is a plan of how the government collects and spends money, similar to how a family plans its budget.

*Image 1*: A piggy bank with a coin inserted.

Where does the money for the budget come from?

Taxes: Money that people and businesses pay to the state for example, when they buy food or other products in a store.

*Image 2*: A shopping cart filled with various items.

European funds: Money received from cooperation with other countries in Europe.

*Image 3*: A bundle of 100 euro banknotes on a blue background, surrounded by golden stars, representing the European flag.

Contributions: Money paid as insurance po mojem pretežke besede in case of illness, unemployment, or retirement.

*Image 3*: The word “contributions” in a white speech bubble, on a red-orange background.

What does the state spend money on?

Education

*Image 4*: A teacher, with a school desk in the background, featuring a globe and a wall with planets.

Healthcare

*Image 5*: A female doctor, with a hospital bed, an X-ray, and a filing cabinet in the background.

Firefighters, police

*Image 6*: A firefighter, with a police vehicle behind, an explosion, and a cityscape in the background.

Construction of roads, bridges, railways

*Image 7*: A highway, with fences on either side, and a sunset with clouds in the sky ahead.

Assistance to people in need

*Image 8*: A man with a beard, dressed in sports clothes, sitting on the sidewalk, with a cityscape behind him.

Military, national security

*Image 9*: A soldier in military gear, with a Slovenian flag motif on his shoulder.

How is the state budget adopted?

Proposal: The government prepares a plan of how much money it will collect and how much it will spend.

*Image 10*: A smiling man in a suit and tie sitting at a desk, with notebooks in front of him, two men sitting opposite him, and the Slovenian flag in the background.

Discussion: This plan is discussed by the members of parliament in the parliament, and then they vote on whether they agree or disagree with the plan.

*Image 11*: A woman in a shirt and blazer, smiling, sitting at a desk, with a sheet of paper in front of her.

Adoption: If the majority of parliament members agree, the budget is adopted and starts to be implemented.

*Image 12*: A gavel and its base, with the gavel’s impact shown on the base.

Can the money run out?

Yes, if the government spends more than it collects, it faces problems. Therefore, it must carefully plan how much it will spend and be cautious not to overspend. If it still runs out of money, it can borrow it, but it must pay some extra money (called interest) to the lender and return the money eventually.

*Image 13*: A man in a suit and tie sitting at a desk, signing a document, with gold coins around him. The caption says "careful planning."

In case of emergencies?

In the case of floods, fires, and other disasters, money from a special reserve is used.

*Image 14*: A blue house being engulfed by red flames.

The state budget ensures funds for a safer and better life.

*Image 15*: A mother embracing her son and daughter, with a playground in the background.