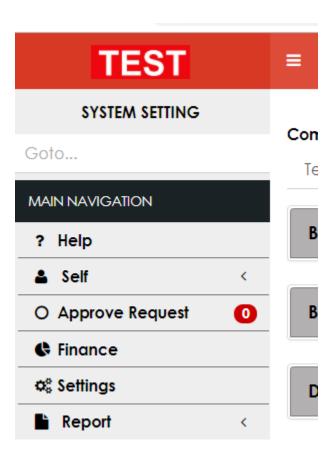
# **BUDGET MODULE**

This module is responsible for the automated guidance on expenses, funds disbursement and approvals on converge. It allows budget details to be created at the beginning of a financial year, gets approved and provides detailed reporting on the organisation financial position in comparison with the approved budget at any time of the year.

This module has six main menus – Help, Self, Approve Request, Finance, Settings and Report:



- Help This menu gives us access to the help guide for the current module
- Self This menu has 4 different submenus which are Summary, Initiate Budget, Budget Items Setup, and History
- Approve Request This is used for approving a raised budget
- Finance This menu allows the finance team to change a budget detail if need be
- Settings This allows for setting up various parameters for the proper running of the budget module
- Report This provides access to various reports, it has 3 submenus which include Departmental Report, Variance Report and Summary Report

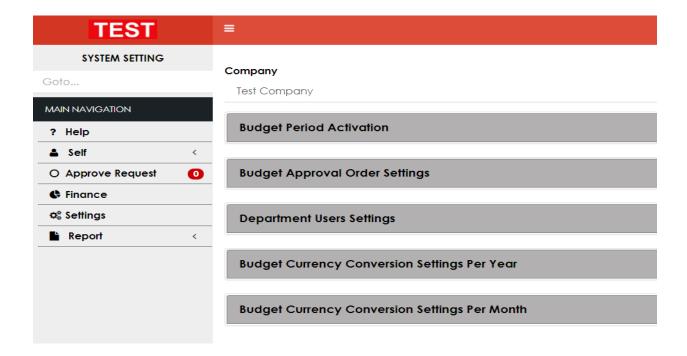
The first three menus, Help, Self and Approve Request, are available to all staff while the last three are privileged menus available only to staff that has been assigned a privileged role.

For the Proper running of a budget, right from the moment the budget detail is entered, to its approvals and budget usage, various parameters have to be set to ensure proper budget details is associated with the appropriate department, company or session and in fact using appropriate currency conversion rates.

To set up all this, we use the settings menu.

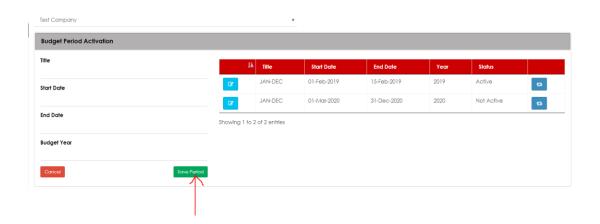
#### **SETTINGS**

On the settings page, we have the sections for setting up Budget Period, Approval Route, Assigning the staff to initiate budget, Yearly and Monthly currency conversion



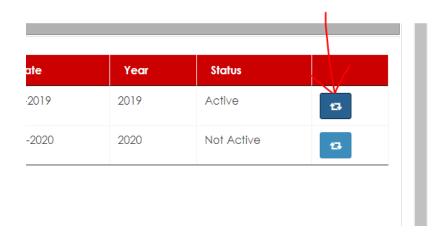
#### **BUDGET PERIOD**

This is where we set up the budget spanning duration. To do this click on **Settings** - **Budget Period Activation** to expand it

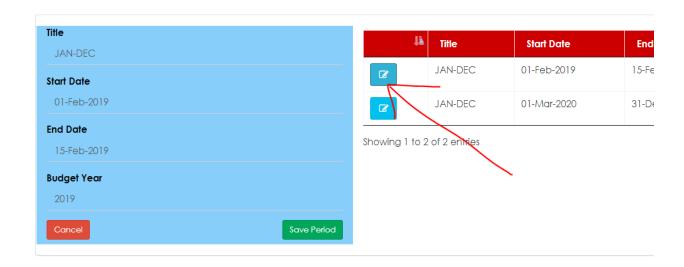


You can then provide the Title which normally identifies the period of the budget, provide the start date, the end date, the budget year and then click on save period.

This saves and activates the budget period. To deactivate any period, click on the blue button to the right end of the budget period details

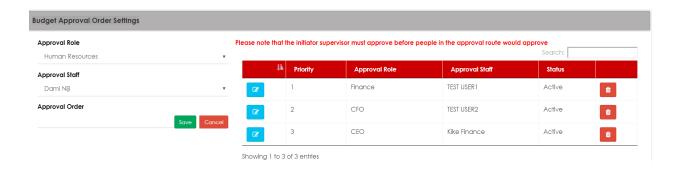


To edit a budget period, click on the blue button to the left of the budget period details



### **Budget Approval Order Settings**

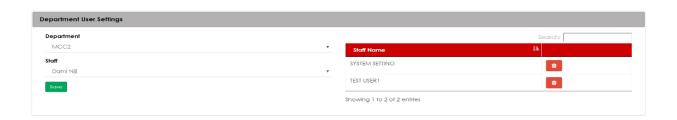
This section is used to set the approval route for a budget in the company. Once budget detail has been provided for a department and submitted, the line supervisor of the initiating staff would then approve, after which the request is routed to the people that have been set up using the **Budget Approval Order Settings** 



To add staff in the approval route, **click on settings** – **budget approval order settings** and provide the staff role, the name of the Staff and an integer number that signifies the order of approval, 1 for the first person to approve, 2 for the second person to approve and so on.

### **Department User Settings**

This section is used to set up staff from a department that has been granted the privilege to create budget details. Staff from the same department who is not set up in this section would not be able to create and submit a budget for that department.

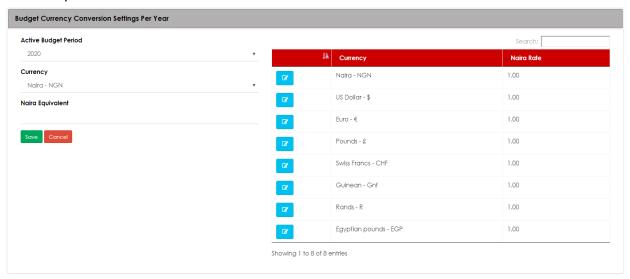


To add staff to the list of users with the privilege to create a budget, We provide the department name and the staff name by clicking on **settings – department user settings**. We can delete any staff using the red button to the right column for the staff

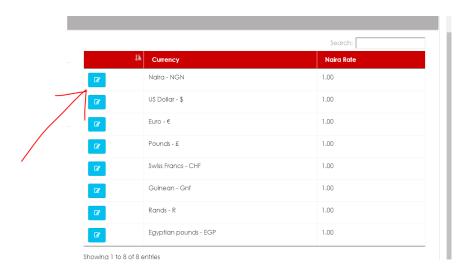


### **Budget Currency Conversion Settings Per Year**

This section is used to set up the currency conversion value that is adopted for the company for the year if no conversion value has been specified for a month.

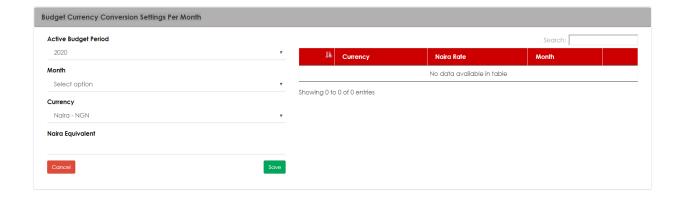


To provide a conversion value, select the budget period, select the currency name, provide the local currency value and save. You can edit any currency conversion value by clicking the blue button to the right of the conversion details



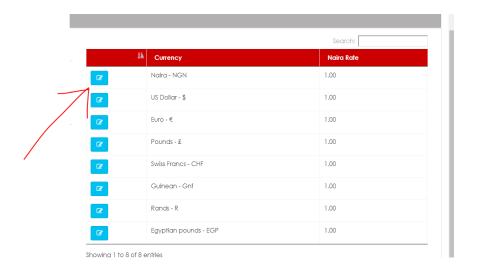
## **Budget Currency Conversion Settings Per Month**

This section is used to set up the currency conversion for any month in a year. This takes precedence over the yearly conversion rate set up in the yearly setting.



To provide a monthly conversion value, select the budget period, select the month, select the currency name, provide the local

currency value and then save. You can edit any currency conversion value by clicking the blue button to the right of the conversion details

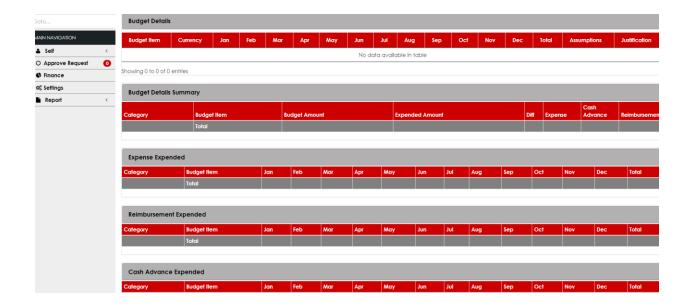


#### **SELF**

This menu is available to all staff, it has 4 other submenus in the form of, summary, initiate budget, budget item setup and History

## **Summary**

The summary menu gives the summarised details of the budget at any given point in time, it displays the approved budget for a department, the number of expenses raised, reimbursement, cash advance and the variances as compared to the approved budget.



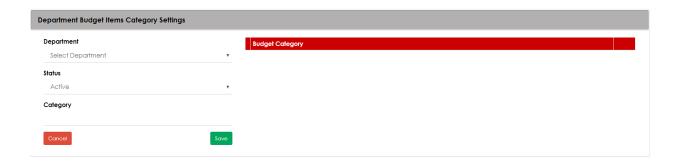
## **Budget Item Setup**

When preparing a budget, funds are allocated to individual items. These Items differ from department to department. Therefore, to be able to view appropriate Items for your department you need to set it up using this section

On the **Budget Item Setup** page we have the **Category Settings** and then the section where we attach category created to an item **Items Settings** 

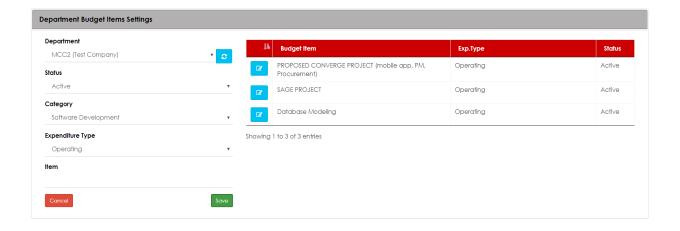
## **Department Budget Items Category Settings**

Here we create the category that a budget item should belong to. To do this, we select our department, select the status, provide the category name and then save



#### **Department Budget Items Settings**

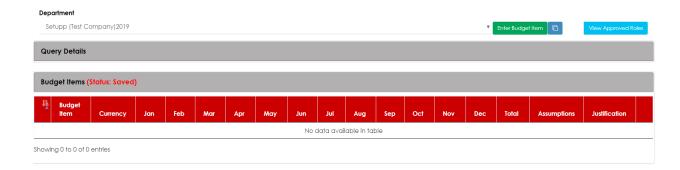
Here is where we attach the category to the budget item. we select our department, select the status, select category, select the expenditure type as operating or capital expenditure and then provide the budget item name then save



With this the budget item will be created and depending on the status, will be made available for use when we are initiating the department's budget

## **Initiate Budget**

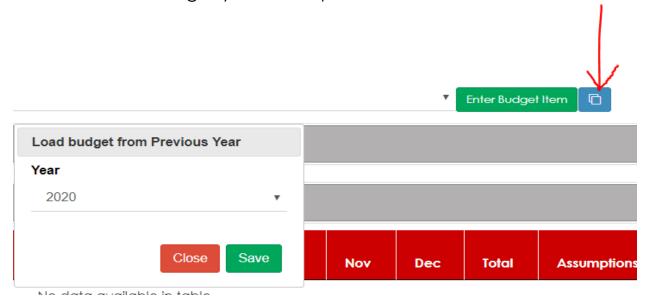
This is another submenu under self where we create the department budget



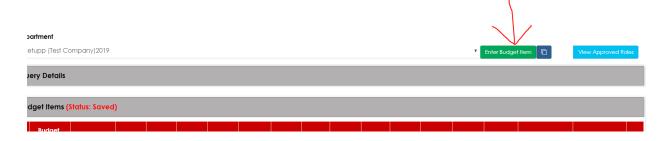
Here, only the staff that has been set up in the department settings will be able to create a budget for the department.

To create a budget, we have two options – by entering the budget items one after the other or duplicating the previous year's budget

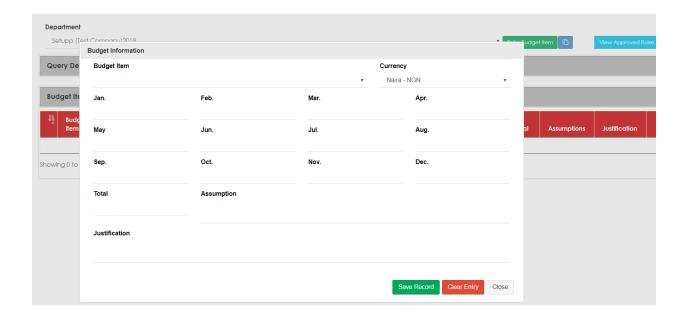
To duplicate previous year budget click the blue small middle button and select the budget year for duplication and then save.



For fresh budget item entry, click the Enter Budget Item (green button)

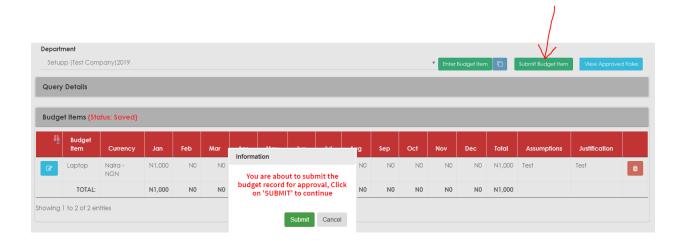


This will load up the popup for providing each budget line item's details



Select the budget item, Select the currency, provide the monthly budget values, the assumption and justification for the budget then save. Do this for all the budget item in the departments budget till you are ready to send to your line supervisor for approval.

To send to your line supervisor, click on the green button with inscription "submit budget item

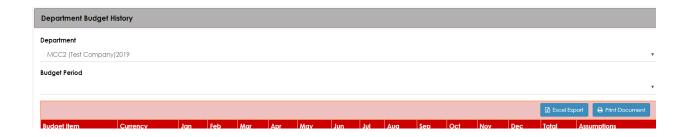


This sends the approval request to your line supervisor and when he approves the request is routed to the staff lined up in the approval route settings

#### **History**

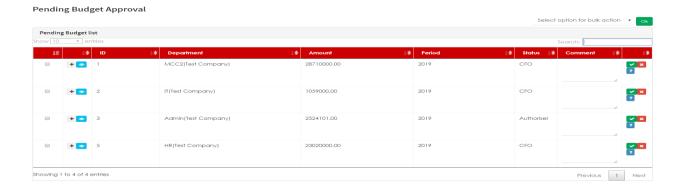
This provides us with the historical details of all the budgets that have been raised and approved for the current logged in staffs' department

To view the budget for previous years, select your department and the budget period



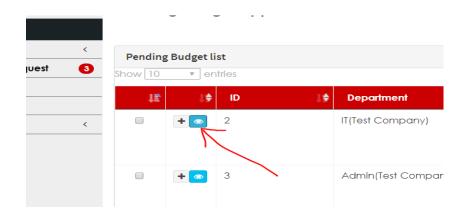
### **Approve Request**

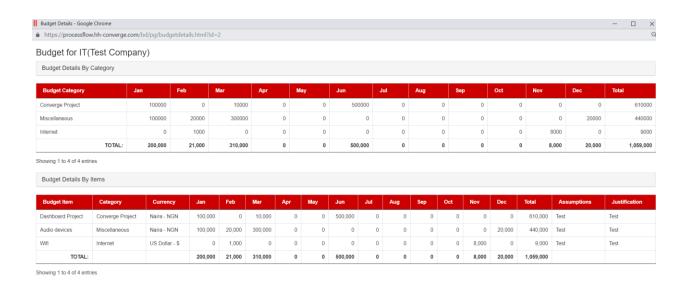
You can approve, decline or query a department's budget from this menu



To approve, we click the green button, to decline, we use the red button and to query, we use the blue button

To view the budget details, click on the blue (eyed) button to the left



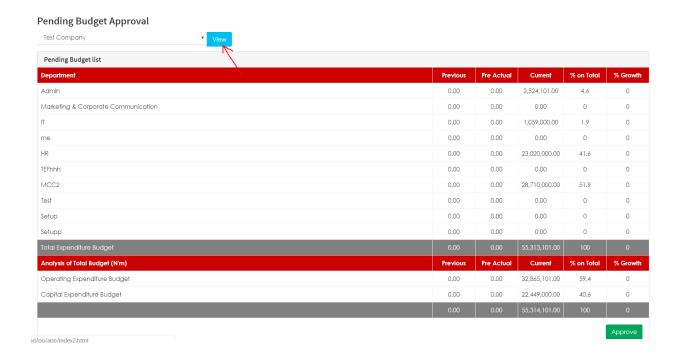


# **Final Approval**

This is the menu used for performing the final approval for the budget by the designated staff



This loads the budget details for all the departments in the selected company



The Final Approving Staff can select any company he has access to, so as to view and approve.

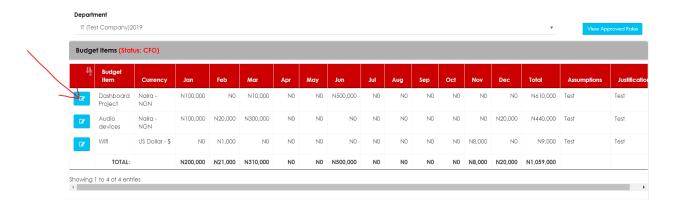
#### **Finance**

This is a privileged menu available only to the finance staff, it allows for modification of budget details

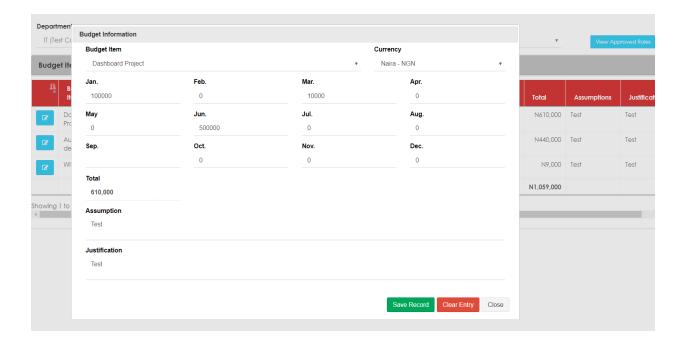
To modify the budget, Select the department



Click the blue button to the right of the budget item.



### And then modify the budget item details as appropriate

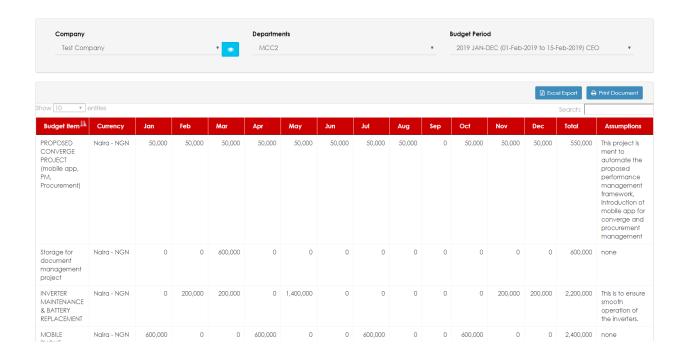


# **Report**

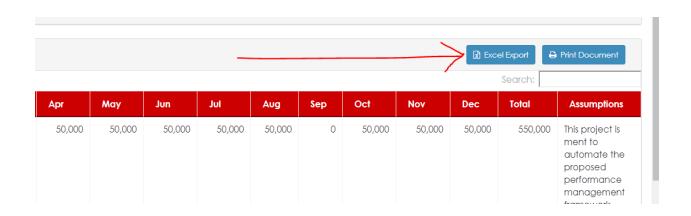
This is another privileged menu available only to the staff that has been granted access to report. It has 3 other submenus, Departmental Report, Variance Report and Summary Report

## **Departmental Report**

This is menu provides details of the approved budget for various departments. To generate a report, select company, select department and then select the budget period



# This can be exported to excel or printed

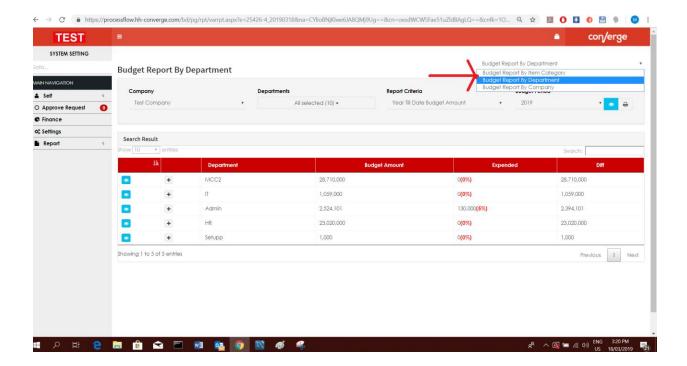


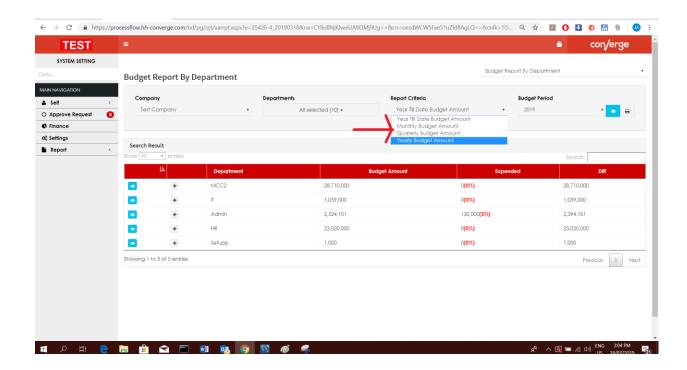
### **Variance Report**

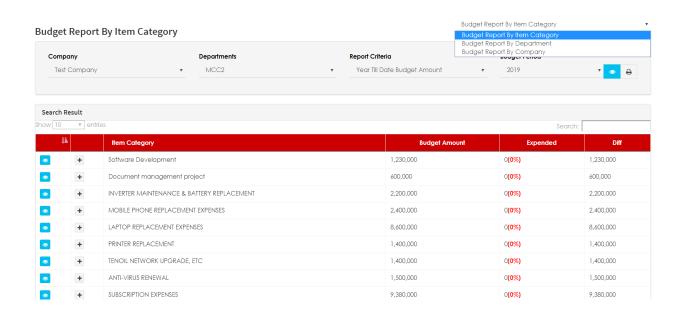
This report provides the details of how each department is performing as compared to the approved budget at any point in time of the year.

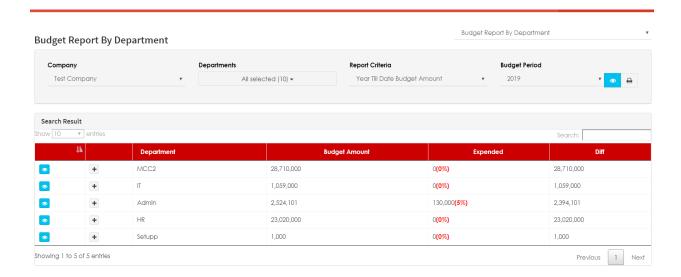
This provides a detailed report using various search filters. Here you can generate reports using budget item category, company or department. The report can be filtered using year till date, monthly, quarterly or yearly budget.

To generate budget details, Provide the Company, Department Report Criteria, Budget Period and Other filters





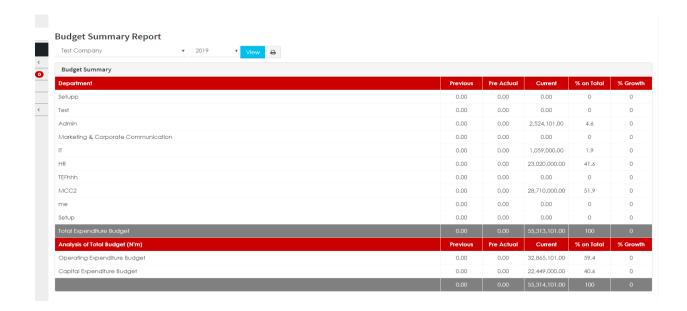




### **Summary Report**

This provides a summarised comparison using previous year budget and current year budget for all the department in the company.

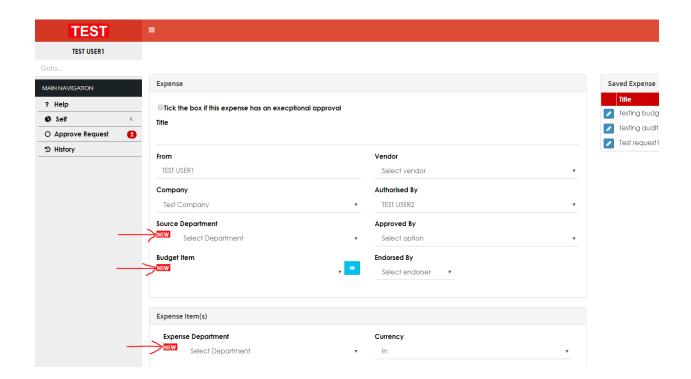
To generate this report, select the company and the budget period then view.



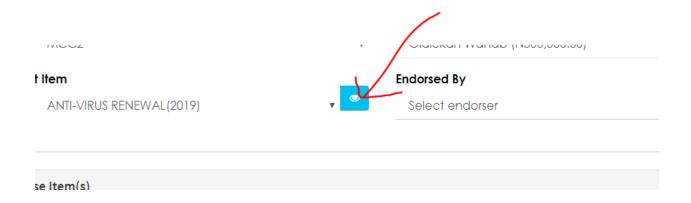
### **Budget Impacts on Other Module**

The budget module impacts the way funds are being raised, approved or disbursed on converge. This has led to the introduction of new fields like (**Source Department**, **Budget Item** and **Expense Department**) to **expenses**, reimbursement and cash advance modules.

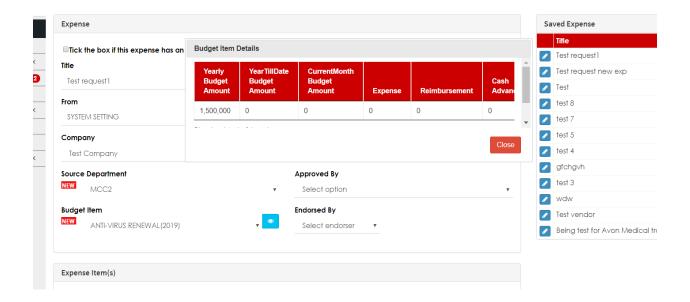
- 1. **Source Department** This is the department whose budget's fund we wish to expend
- 2. **Budget Item** This is the item for which we are making the expenses
- 3. **Expense Department** This is the department for which expense item is procured



Before raising an expense, we now have the ability to check the budget for that item by clicking the blue button to the right of the budget item



This will fetch the budget details for the item or appropriate warning message if the staff doesn't have access to view such budget



Once expense has been saved successfully appropriate warning feedback is displayed to the user only when the expense being raised is outside the year till date budget

Data Saved

Total amount has exceeded item(s) budget. Year Till Date:- 0.00 Expended Amount:- 0.00 Yearly Budget Amount:- 1,500,000.00

New Entry

Saved Expense

Title

Test request 1

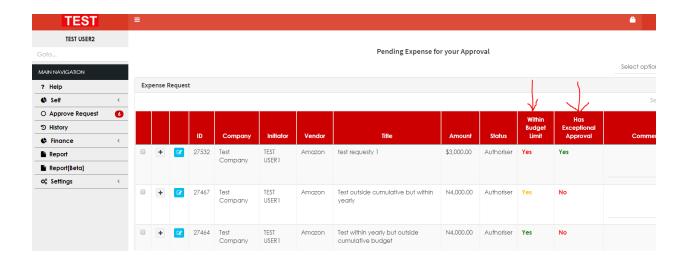
Test request 1

Test request new exp

Vendor

#### Introduction of new columns to Approval Process

The approval process now has two additional column



1. Within Budget Limit -- This tells if the raised expense is within the budget limit

Where the different colour indicators mean

GREEN -- Within my current monthly budget or Year till date budget

AMBER -- Exceeds my Year Till Date Budget but Within my

#### Yearly Budget

RED -- Exceeds my yearly budget limit

2. **Has Exceptional Approval** -- This tells if the raised expense has board's exceptional approval

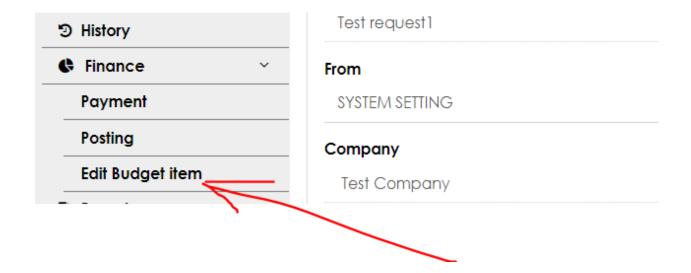
Where the different colour indicators mean

GREEN -- Has approval

RED -- Does not have approval

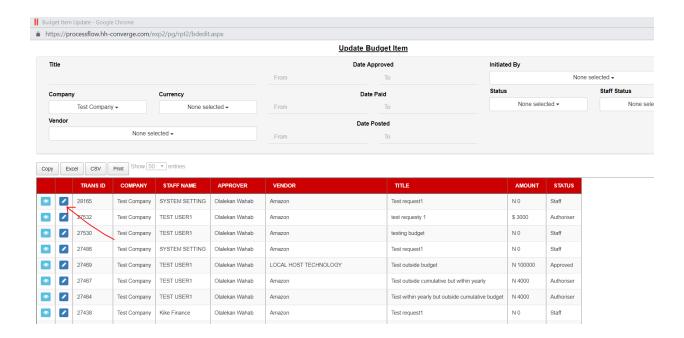
#### **EDITING BUDGET ITEM**

This is a privileged menu available only to the finance staff.

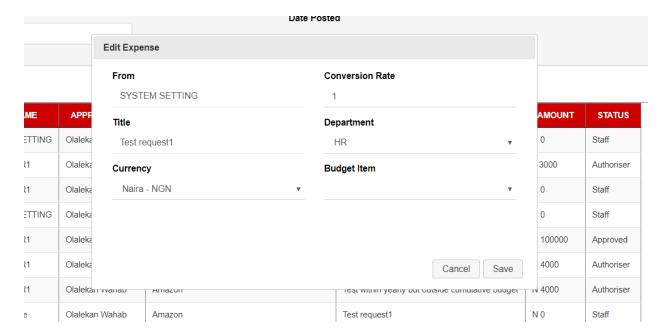


With this, the finance team can modify an expense and attach it to a budget item if it is lacking one, they can specify the currency conversion rate for foreign denominated expenses.

To do this, click on Edit budget Item and search for the expenses using available filters and then click the blue edit button to the left of the expense details



This loads a popup from which we can modify the expense, its budget item or currency conversion rate



A similar process for expense goes for other modules like cash advance and reimbursement