

PAPER – 6: AUDITING AND ASSURANCE

PART – I : ACADEMIC UPDATE

**(Legislative Amendments / Notifications / Circulars / Rules / Guidelines issued by
Regulating Authority)**

1. Duty to report on Frauds

I. Reporting to the Central Government- As per sub-section (12) of section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013, if an auditor of a company in the course of the performance of his duties as auditor, has reason to believe that an offence of fraud involving such amount or amounts as may be prescribed, is being or has been committed in the company by its officers or employees, the auditor shall report the matter to the Central Government within such time and in such manner as may be prescribed.

In this regard, Rule 13 of the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014 has been prescribed. Sub-rule (1) of the said rule states that if an auditor of a company, in the course of the performance of his duties as statutory auditor, has reason to believe that an offence of fraud, which involves or is expected to involve individually an amount of ₹ 1 crore or above, is being or has been committed against the company by its officers or employees, the auditor shall report the matter to the Central Government.

The manner of reporting the matter to the Central Government is as follows:

- (a) the auditor shall report the matter to the Board or the Audit Committee, as the case may be, immediately but not later than 2 days of his knowledge of the fraud, seeking their reply or observations within 45 days;
- (b) on receipt of such reply or observations, the auditor shall forward his report and the reply or observations of the Board or the Audit Committee along with his comments (on such reply or observations of the Board or the Audit Committee) to the Central Government within 15 days from the date of receipt of such reply or observations;
- (c) in case the auditor fails to get any reply or observations from the Board or the Audit Committee within the stipulated period of 45 days, he shall forward his report to the Central Government along with a note containing the details of his report that was earlier forwarded to the Board or the Audit Committee for which he has not received any reply or observations;
- (d) the report shall be sent to the Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs in a sealed cover by Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due or by Speed Post followed by an e-mail in confirmation of the same;
- (e) the report shall be on the letter-head of the auditor containing postal address, e-mail

address and contact telephone number or mobile number and be signed by the auditor with his seal and shall indicate his Membership Number; and

- (f) the report shall be in the form of a statement as specified in Form ADT-4.

II. Reporting to the Audit Committee or Board - Sub-section (12) of section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 further prescribes that in case of a fraud involving lesser than the specified amount [i.e. less than ₹ 1 crore], the auditor shall report the matter to the audit committee constituted under section 177 or to the Board in other cases within such time and in such manner as may be prescribed.

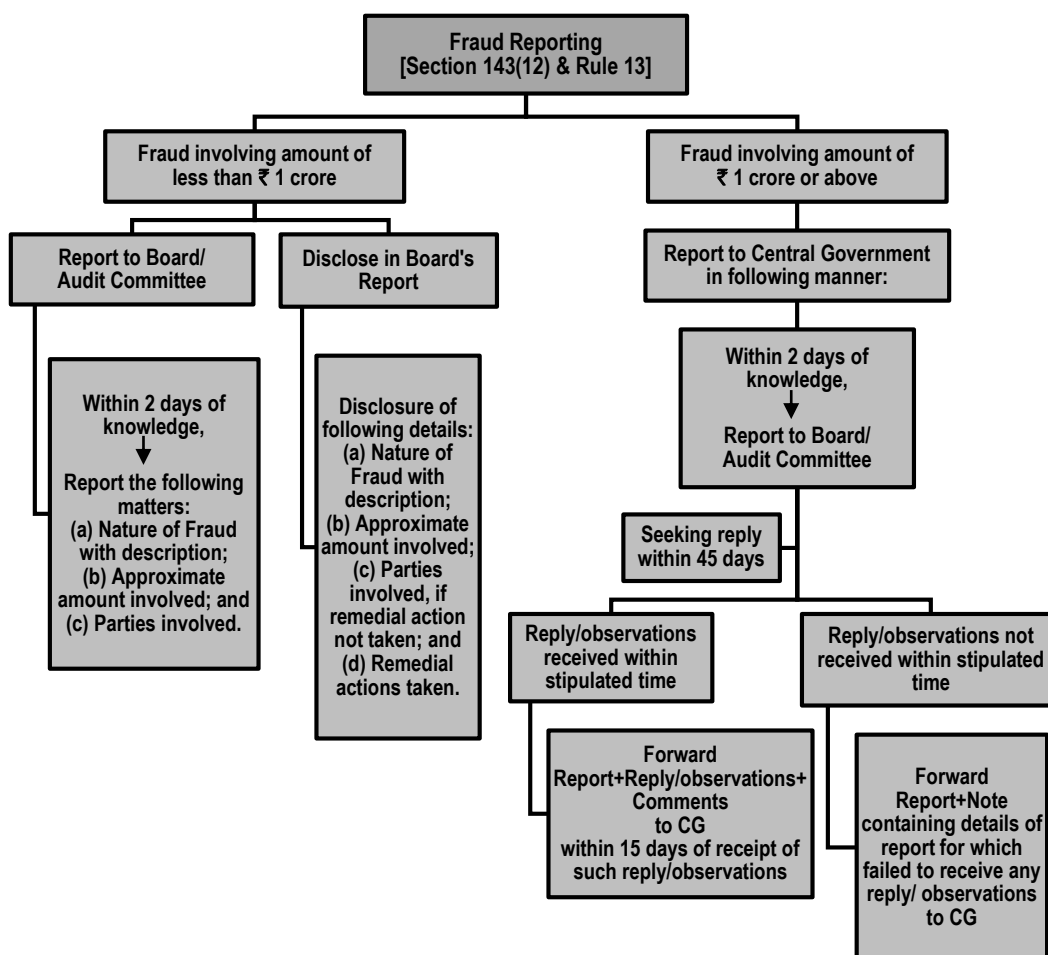
In this regard, sub-rule (3) of Rule 13 of the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014 states that in case of a fraud involving lesser than the amount specified in sub-rule (1) [i.e. less than ₹ 1 crore], the auditor shall report the matter to Audit Committee constituted under section 177 or to the Board immediately but not later than 2 days of his knowledge of the fraud and he shall report the matter specifying the following:

- (a) Nature of Fraud with description;
- (b) Approximate amount involved; and
- (c) Parties involved.

III. Disclosure in the Board's Report - Sub-section (12) of section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 furthermore prescribes that the companies, whose auditors have reported frauds under this sub-section (12) to the audit committee or the Board, but not reported to the Central Government, shall disclose the details about such frauds in the Board's report in such manner as may be prescribed.

In this regard, sub-rule (4) of Rule 13 of the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014 states that the auditor is also required to disclose in the Board's Report the following details of each of the fraud reported to the Audit Committee or the Board under sub-rule (3) during the year:

- (a) Nature of Fraud with description;
- (b) Approximate Amount involved;
- (c) Parties involved, if remedial action not taken; and
- (d) Remedial actions taken.



2. Ceiling on Number of Company Audits

As per section 141(3)(g) of the Companies Act, 2013, a person shall not be eligible for appointment as an auditor if he is in full time employment elsewhere or a person or a partner of a firm holding appointment as its auditor, if such person or partner is at the date of such appointment or reappointment holding appointment as auditor of more than twenty

companies, other than one person companies, dormant companies, small companies and private companies having paid-up share capital less than ₹ 100 crore.

3. Reporting under Companies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2016 [CARO, 2016]

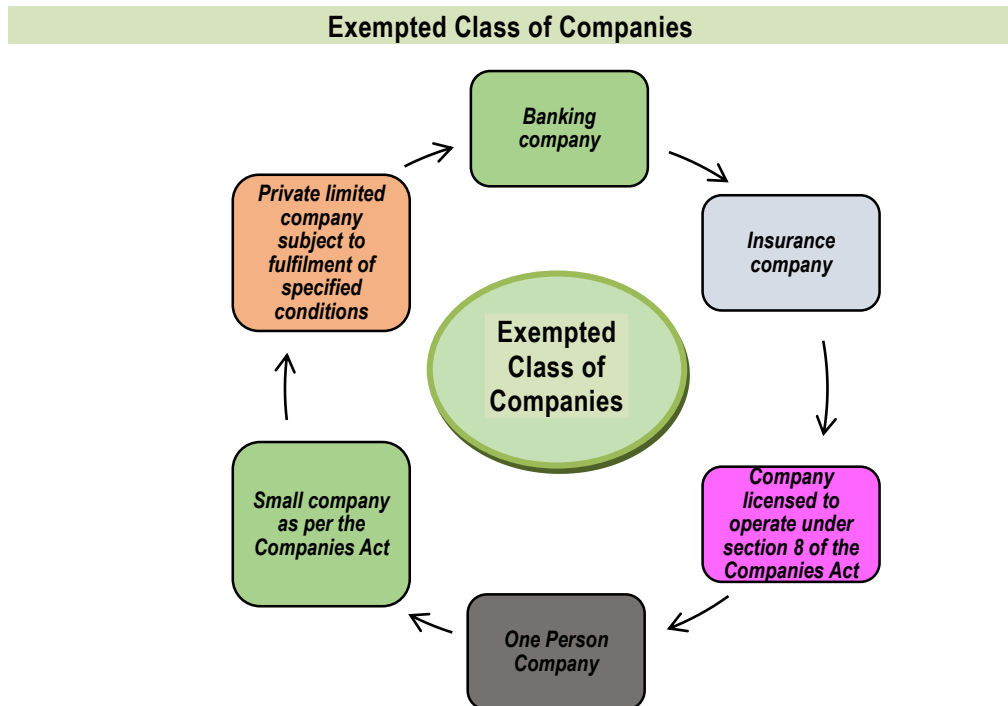
In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (11) of section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) and in supersession of the Companies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2015 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), vide number S.O. 990 (E), dated the 10th April, 2015, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government, after consultation with the, committee constituted under proviso to sub-section (11) of section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 hereby makes the following Order dated 29th March, 2016, namely:—

I. Short title, application and commencement-

- (1) This Order may be called the Companies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2016.
- (2) **Applicability of the Order:** The CARO, 2016 is an additional reporting requirement Order. The order applies to every company including a foreign company as defined in clause (42) of section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013 [hereinafter referred to as the Companies Act],

However, the Order specifically exempts the following class of companies-

- (i) a banking company as defined in clause (c) of section 5 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (10 of 1949);
- (ii) an insurance company as defined under the Insurance Act, 1938 (4 of 1938);
- (iii) a company licensed to operate under section 8 of the Companies Act;
- (iv) a One Person Company as defined under clause (62) of section 2 of the Companies Act and a small company as defined under clause (85) of section 2 of the Companies Act; and
- (v) a private limited company, not being a subsidiary or holding company of a public company, having a paid up capital and reserves and surplus not more than rupees one crore as on the balance sheet date and which does not have total borrowings exceeding rupees one crore from any bank or financial institution at any point of time during the financial year and which does not have a total revenue as disclosed in Scheduled III to the Companies Act, 2013 (including revenue from discontinuing operations) exceeding rupees ten crore during the financial year as per the financial statements.



- II. Auditor's report to contain matters specified in paragraphs 3 and 4** - Every report made by the auditor under section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 on the accounts of every company audited by him, to which this Order applies, for the financial years commencing on or after 1st April, 2015, shall in addition, contain the matters specified in paragraphs 3 and 4, as may be applicable:

It may be noted that the Order shall not apply to the auditor's report on consolidated financial statements.

- III. Matters to be included in the auditor's report** - The auditor's report on the accounts of a company to which this Order applies shall include a statement on the following matters, namely:-

- (i) (a) whether the company is maintaining proper records showing full particulars, including quantitative details and situation of fixed assets;
- (b) whether these fixed assets have been physically verified by the management at reasonable intervals; whether any material discrepancies were noticed on such verification and if so, whether the same have been properly dealt with in the books of account;
- (c) whether the title deeds of immovable properties are held in the name of the

company. If not, provide the details thereof;

- (ii) whether physical verification of inventory has been conducted at reasonable intervals by the management and whether any material discrepancies were noticed and if so, whether they have been properly dealt with in the books of account;
- (iii) whether the company has granted any loans, secured or unsecured to companies, firms, Limited Liability Partnerships or other parties covered in the register maintained under section 189 of the Companies Act, 2013. If so,
 - (a) whether the terms and conditions of the grant of such loans are not prejudicial to the company's interest;
 - (b) whether the schedule of repayment of principal and payment of interest has been stipulated and whether the repayments or receipts are regular;
 - (c) if the amount is overdue, state the total amount overdue for more than ninety days, and whether reasonable steps have been taken by the company for recovery of the principal and interest;
- (iv) in respect of loans, investments, guarantees, and security whether provisions of section 185 and 186 of the Companies Act, 2013 have been complied with. If not, provide the details thereof.
- (v) in case, the company has accepted deposits, whether the directives issued by the Reserve Bank of India and the provisions of sections 73 to 76 or any other relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules framed there under, where applicable, have been complied with? If not, the nature of such contraventions be stated; If an order has been passed by Company Law Board or National Company Law Tribunal or Reserve Bank of India or any court or any other tribunal, whether the same has been complied with or not?
- (vi) whether maintenance of cost records has been specified by the Central Government under section 148(1) of the Companies Act, 2013 and whether such accounts and records have been so made and maintained.
- (vii) (a) whether the company is regular in depositing undisputed statutory dues including provident fund, employees' state insurance, income-tax, sales-tax, service tax, duty of customs, duty of excise, value added tax, cess and any other statutory dues to the appropriate authorities and if not, the extent of the arrears of outstanding statutory dues as on the last day of the financial year concerned for a period of more than six months from the date they became payable, shall be indicated;

- (b) where dues of income tax or sales tax or service tax or duty of customs or duty of excise or value added tax have not been deposited on account of any dispute, then the amounts involved and the forum where dispute is pending shall be mentioned. (A mere representation to the concerned Department shall not be treated as a dispute).
- (viii) whether the company has defaulted in repayment of loans or borrowing to a financial institution, bank, Government or dues to debenture holders? If yes, the period and the amount of default to be reported (in case of defaults to banks, financial institutions, and Government, lender wise details to be provided).
- (ix) whether moneys raised by way of initial public offer or further public offer (including debt instruments) and term loans were applied for the purposes for which those are raised. If not, the details together with delays or default and subsequent rectification, if any, as may be applicable, be reported;
- (x) whether any fraud by the company or any fraud on the Company by its officers or employees has been noticed or reported during the year; If yes, the nature and the amount involved is to be indicated;
- (xi) whether managerial remuneration has been paid or provided in accordance with the requisite approvals mandated by the provisions of section 197 read with Schedule V to the Companies Act? If not, state the amount involved and steps taken by the company for securing refund of the same;
- (xii) whether the Nidhi Company has complied with the Net Owned Funds to Deposits in the ratio of 1: 20 to meet out the liability and whether the Nidhi Company is maintaining ten per cent unencumbered term deposits as specified in the Nidhi Rules, 2014 to meet out the liability;
- (xiii) whether all transactions with the related parties are in compliance with sections 177 and 188 of Companies Act, 2013 where applicable and the details have been disclosed in the Financial Statements etc., as required by the applicable accounting standards;
- (xiv) whether the company has made any preferential allotment or private placement of shares or fully or partly convertible debentures during the year under review and if so, as to whether the requirement of section 42 of the Companies Act, 2013 have been complied with and the amount raised have been used for the purposes for which the funds were raised. If not, provide the details in respect of the amount involved and nature of non-compliance;
- (xv) whether the company has entered into any non-cash transactions with directors or persons connected with him and if so, whether the provisions of section 192

of Companies Act, 2013 have been complied with;

- (xvi) whether the company is required to be registered under section 45-IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 and if so, whether the registration has been obtained.

IV. Reasons to be stated for unfavourable or qualified answers -

- (1) Where, in the auditor's report, the answer to any of the questions referred to in paragraph 3 is unfavourable or qualified, the auditor's report shall also state the basis for such unfavourable or qualified answer, as the case may be.
- (2) Where the auditor is unable to express any opinion on any specified matter, his report shall indicate such fact together with the reasons as to why it is not possible for him to give his opinion on the same.

4. Amendment in Companies (Cost Records and Audit) Rules, 2014

- (I) **Maintenance of Cost Records:** Rule 3 of the Companies (Cost Records and Audit) Rules, 2014 provides the classes of companies, engaged in the production of goods or providing services, having an overall turnover from all its products and services of ₹ 35 crore or more during the immediately preceding financial year, required to include cost records in their books of account. These companies include Foreign Companies defined in sub-section (42) of section 2 of the Act, but exclude a company classified as a Micro enterprise or a Small enterprise including as per the turnover criteria provided under Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006.

The said rule has divided the list of companies into regulated sectors (Part A) and non-regulated sectors (Part B).

Additionally, as per clause (vi) to Paragraph 3 of the CARO, 2016, where maintenance of cost records has been specified by the Government under section 148(1) of the Companies Act, 2013, the auditor has to report whether such accounts and records have been made and maintained.

- (II) **Appointment of Cost Auditor:** Rule 6 of the Companies (Cost Records and Audit) Rules, 2014 requires the companies prescribed under the said Rules to appoint an auditor within one hundred and eighty days of the commencement of every financial year. However, before such appointment is made, the written consent of the cost auditor to such appointment and a certificate from him or it shall be obtained.

The certificate to be obtained from the cost auditor shall certify that the-

- (a) the individual or the firm, as the case may be, is eligible for appointment and is not disqualified for appointment under the Companies Act, 2013, the Cost and

Works Accountants Act, 1959 and the rules or regulations made thereunder;

- (b) the individual or the firm, as the case may be, satisfies the criteria provided in section 141 of the Companies Act, 2013 so far as may be applicable;
- (c) the proposed appointment is within the limits laid down by or under the authority of the Companies Act, 2013; and
- (d) the list of proceedings against the cost auditor or audit firm or any partner of the audit firm pending with respect to professional matters of conduct, as disclosed in the certificate, is true and correct.

(III) Removal of Cost Auditor: The cost auditor may be removed from his office before the expiry of his term, through a board resolution after giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard to the cost auditor and recording the reasons for such removal in writing.

It may be noted that the Form CRA-2 to be filed with the Central Government for intimating appointment of another cost auditor shall enclose the relevant Board Resolution to the effect.

It may further be noted that the above provisions shall not prejudice the right of the cost auditor to resign from such office of the company.

(IV) Submission of Cost Audit Report to the Central Government: A company shall within thirty days from the date of receipt of a copy of the cost audit report prepared (in pursuance of a direction issued by Central Government) furnish the Central Government with such report along with full information and explanation on every reservation or qualification contained therein, in Form CRA-4 in Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) format in the manner as specified in the Companies (Filing of Documents and Forms in Extensible Business Reporting language) Rules, 2015 along with fees specified in the Companies (Registration Offices and Fees) Rules, 2014.

(V) Cost Audit Rules not to apply in certain cases: The requirement for cost audit under these rules shall not be applicable to a company which is covered under rule 3, and,

- (i) whose revenue from exports, in foreign exchange, exceeds 75% of its total revenue; or
- (ii) which is operating from a special economic zone.
- (iii) which is engaged in generation of electricity for captive consumption through Captive Generating Plant.

5. Direction by Tribunal in case auditor acted in a fraudulent manner

As per sub-section (5) of the section 140, the Tribunal either *suo motu* or on an application made to it by the Central Government or by any person concerned, if it is satisfied that the auditor of a company has, whether directly or indirectly, acted in a fraudulent manner or abetted or colluded in any fraud by, or in relation to, the company or its directors or officers, it may, by order, direct the company to change its auditors.

However, if the application is made by the Central Government and the Tribunal is satisfied that any change of the auditor is required, it shall within fifteen days of receipt of such application, make an order that he shall not function as an auditor and the Central Government may appoint another auditor in his place.

It may be noted that an auditor, whether individual or firm, against whom final order has been passed by the Tribunal under this section shall not be eligible to be appointed as an auditor of any company for a period of five years from the date of passing of the order and the auditor shall also be liable for action under section 447.

It is hereby clarified that the case of a firm, the liability shall be of the firm and that of every partner or partners who acted in a fraudulent manner or abetted or colluded in any fraud by, or in relation to, the company or its director or officers.

6. Curtailing right of the auditor regarding circulation of copy of representation in the case of appointment of Auditor other than retiring Auditor under section 140(4) of the Companies Act, 2013

If the Tribunal is satisfied on an application either of the company or of any other aggrieved person that the rights conferred by section 140(4) of the Companies Act, 2013 are being abused by the auditor, then, the copy of the representation may not be sent and the representation need not be read out at the meeting.

7. Re-opening of accounts on Court's or Tribunal's Orders

Section 130 of the Companies Act, 2013 states that a company shall not re-open its books of account and not recast its financial statements, unless an application in this regard is made by the Central Government, the Income-tax authorities, the Securities and Exchange Board, any other statutory regulatory body or authority or any person concerned and an order is made by a court of competent jurisdiction or the Tribunal to the effect that—

- (i) the relevant earlier accounts were prepared in a fraudulent manner; or
- (ii) the affairs of the company were mismanaged during the relevant period, casting a doubt on the reliability of financial statements.

However, a notice shall be given by the Court or Tribunal in this regard and shall take into consideration the representations, if any.

8. Voluntary revision of financial statements or Board's report

Section 131 of the Companies Act, 2013 states that if it appears to the directors of a company that—

- (a) the financial statement of the company; or
- (b) the report of the Board,

do not comply with the provisions of section 129 (Financial statement) or section 134 (Financial statement, Board's report, etc.) they may prepare revised financial statement or a revised report in respect of any of the three preceding financial years after obtaining approval of the Tribunal on an application made by the company in such form and manner as may be prescribed and a copy of the order passed by the Tribunal shall be filed with the Registrar.

9. In exercise of powers conferred by section 143 read with sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 469 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013), the Central Government hereby inserted the clause "(d) whether the company had provided requisite disclosures in its financial statements as to holdings as well as dealings in Specified Bank Notes during the period from 8th November, 2016 to 30th December, 2016 and if so, whether these are in accordance with the books of accounts maintained by the company.", after clause (c) in rule 11 of the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014.

10. In exercise of the powers conferred by section 139 read with sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 469 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014, namely:—

"In the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014, in rule 5, in clause (b), for the word "twenty", the word "fifty" shall be substituted"

The impact of this amendment on the study material would be :

1. Point no. (II) - para 7.3.1 on page number 7.10 be read as -
all private limited companies having paid up share capital of rupees fifty crores or more ;
2. In diagram appearing at page number 7.10, line in the middle box be read as -
all private limited companies having paid up share capital $\geq$ Rs 50 crore

For more details students may refer below mentioned link:
<http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/CompaniesAuditandAuditorsSecondAmendmentRules2017.pdf>

11. MCA vide Notification S.O. 2218(E) dated 13th July 2017 with respect to the Notification G.S.R. 583(E) Dated 13th June, 2017 (Corrigendum), stated that for the words "statement or" to read as "statement and" under section 143(3)(i).

12. Notification No. G.S.R. 583(E) dated 13th June, 2017 stated that requirements of reporting under section 143(3)(i) read Rule 10 A of the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014 of the Companies Act 2013 shall not apply to certain private companies. Clarification regarding applicability of exemption given to certain private companies under section 143(3)(i) (vide circular no. 08/2017 dated 25th July 2017) clarified that the exemption shall be applicable for those audit reports in respect of financial statements pertaining to financial year, commencing on or after 1st April, 2016, which are made on or after the date of the said notification.
13. The Central Government amends the Notification G.S.R. 464(E), dated 5th June 2015 Vide Notification G.S.R. 583(E) Dated 13th June, 2017. Amendments are given below:
- (1) Section 143(3)(i), shall not apply to a private company:-
- (i) which is a one person company or a small company; or
which has turnover less than rupees fifty crore as per latest audited financial **statement** or which has aggregate borrowings from banks or financial institutions or anybody corporate at any point of time during the financial year less than rupees twenty five crore."
14. **Quality Control and Engagement Standards:** The Council of the ICAI has inserted/ revised following Quality Control and Engagement Standards which are applicable for May 2018 and onward examination:

S. No.	No. of Standard	Title of the Standard
(1)	SA 260 (Revised)	Communication with Those Charged with Governance
(2)	SA 570 (Revised)	Going Concern
(3)	SA 610 (Revised)	Using the Work of Internal Auditors
(4)	SA 700 (Revised)	Forming an Opinion and Reporting on Financial Statements
(5)	SA701(New)	Communicating Key Audit Matters in the Independent Auditor's Report
(6)	SA 705 (Revised)	Modifications to the Opinion in the Independent Auditor's Report
(7)	SA 706 (Revised)	Emphasis of Matter Paragraphs and Other Matter Paragraphs in the Independent Auditor's Report

Note- Students are advised to refer Auditing Pronouncements for Intermediate Course – New Scheme.

Note: Students are also advised to refer RTP of Paper 1 Accounting and Paper 5 Advanced Accounting (for AS, Ind AS etc.) and Paper 2 Business Laws, Ethics and Communication (for academic updates relating to Company Law).

PART – II: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS

1. State with reason (in short) whether the following statements are true or false:
 - (i) The objective of audit is to obtain absolute assurance and to report on the financial statements.
 - (ii) Teeming and lading is one of the techniques of suppressing cash receipts.
 - (iii) There is direct relationship between materiality and the degree of audit risk.
 - (iv) As per SA 230 on “Audit Documentations”, the working papers are not the property of the auditor.
 - (v) Control risk is the susceptibility of an account balance or class of transactions to misstatement that could be material either individually or, when aggregated with misstatements in other balances or classes, assuming that there were no related internal controls.
 - (vi) As per section 138 of the Companies Act, 2013 private companies are not required to appoint internal auditor.
 - (vii) The term “internal audit” is defined as the “checks on day to day transactions which operate continuously as part of the routine system whereby the work of one person is proved independently or is complementary to the work of another, the object being the prevention or early detection of errors or fraud”.
 - (viii) A Chartered Accountant holding securities of S Ltd. having face value of ₹ 950 is qualified for appointment as an auditor of S Ltd.
 - (ix) Manner of rotation of auditor will not be applicable to company A, which is having paid up share capital of ₹ 15 crores and having public borrowing from nationalized bank of ₹ 50 crore because it is a Private Limited Company.
 - (x) If an LLP (Limited Liability Partnership Firm) is appointed as an auditor of a company, every partner of a firm shall be authorized to act as an auditor.

Nature of Auditing

2. (a) Saburi Yarns Ltd is engaged in manufacturing and trading of yarns of different types. Its huge amount is locked up in account receivables. Moreover, Management of Saburi Yarns Ltd is worried about its Internal Control system over receipts from

account receivables and other receipts. Management wants to understand from you as an auditor few techniques as to how receipts can be suppressed resulting into frauds and finally incurring losses.

- (b) As per SA 220, "Quality Control for an Audit of Financial Statements" the auditor should obtain information considered necessary in the circumstances before accepting an engagement with a new client, when deciding whether to continue an existing engagement and when considering acceptance of a new engagement with an existing client. Explain
- 3. (a) State the significant difficulties encountered during audit with reference to SA-260 (communication with those charged with governance).
(b) Discuss the principal aspects to be covered in an audit concerning final statements of account.
- 4. (a) As part of the risk assessment, the auditor shall determine whether any of the risks identified are, in the auditor's judgment, a significant risk.
In exercising judgment as to which risks are significant risks, state the factors which shall be considered by the auditor.
Explain the above in context of SA-315.
(b) The matter of difficulty, time, or cost involved is not in itself a valid basis for the auditor to omit an audit procedure for which there is no alternative or to be satisfied with audit evidence that is less than persuasive. Explain.

Basic Concepts in Auditing

- 5. (a) Evaluating responses to inquiries is an integral part of the inquiry process. Explain
(b) Audit evidence includes both information contained in the accounting records underlying the financial statements and other information. Discuss
- 6. (a) The quantity of audit evidence needed is affected by the auditor's assessment of the risks of misstatement. Auditor's judgment as to sufficiency may be affected by few factors. Explain
(b) "Even when information to be used as audit evidence is obtained from sources external to the entity, circumstances may exist that could affect its reliability". Explain. Also state clearly generalisations about the reliability of audit evidence.
- 7. (a) "The nature and timing of the audit procedures to be used may be affected by the fact that some of the accounting data and other information may be available only in electronic form or only at certain points or periods in time". Explain
(b) The auditor P of PAR and Co., a firm of Chartered Accountants is conducting audit of AB Industries Ltd. The auditor requests management to provide Banker's certificate

in support of Fixed deposits whereas management provides only written representation on the matter.

Discuss how would you deal as an auditor

Preparation for an Audit

8. (a) "An auditor who before the completion of the engagement is requested to change the engagement to one which provides a lower level of assurance should consider the appropriateness of doing so." Discuss.
- (b) Planning an audit involves establishing the overall audit strategy for the engagement and developing an audit plan. Adequate planning benefits the audit of financial statements in several ways. Discuss
9. (a) Evolving one audit programme applicable to all audit engagements under all circumstances is not practicable. Explain
- (b) State what special points you would keep in mind for the purpose of construction of an Audit programme. Explain.

Internal Control

10. (a) "A satisfactory control environment is not an absolute deterrent to fraud although it may help reduce the risk of fraud." Explain
- (b) Discuss what is included in risk assessment procedures to obtain audit evidence about the design and implementation of relevant controls.
- (c) How would you assess the reliability of internal control system in Computerised Information System (CIS) environment?
11. (a) "Examination in Depth implies examination of a few selected transactions from the beginning to the end through the entire flow of the transaction" Explain
- (b) "When auditor delegates work to assistants or uses work performed by other auditors or experts, the auditor should have sufficient knowledge of CIS" Discuss
- (c) State any four important elements of input control in processing of data in a computerised accounting system.

Vouching & Verification of Assets and Liabilities

12. (a) How will you vouch/verify Repair to Assets.
- (b) "Vouching which has traditionally been the backbone of auditing does not merely involve checking arithmetical accuracy but goes much beyond and aims to check the genuineness as well as validity of transactions contained in accounting records". Explain
13. How will you vouch and/or verify the following:
 - (a) Profit or Loss Arising on Sale of Plots Held by Real Estate Dealer.

- (b) Trade Marks and Copyrights.
 - (c) Machinery acquired under Hire-purchase system.
 - (d) Refund of General Insurance Premium Paid
14. (a) Point out any eight areas where external confirmation are used as an audit procedure.
- (b) Indicate expenses which are essentially of a revenue nature, if incurred for creating an asset, are also regarded as expenditure of a capital nature.

The Company Audit

15. Discuss the following:
- (a) "Section 139(1) of the Companies Act, 2013 provides that every company shall, at the first annual general meeting appoint an auditor who shall hold office till the conclusion of its sixth annual general meeting" Explain
 - (b) Filling of a casual vacancy of auditor in respect of a company audit.
16. (a) Discuss the matters to be included in the auditor's report regarding statutory dues and repayment of loans or borrowing to a financial institution, bank, Government or dues to debenture holders as per CARO, 2016.
- (b) "Auditor of a company shall have a right of access to the books of account and vouchers of the company" Explain
17. (a) "The auditor's report shall also state the observations or comments of the auditors on financial transactions or matters which have any adverse effect on the functioning of the company." Discuss with relevance to Companies Act, 2013.
- (b) Discuss the rules contained in the Companies Act, 2013 regarding the books of account and other relevant books and papers maintained in electronic mode.
18. (a) Explain the Director's responsibility statement in brief.
- (b) Briefly discuss the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 with regard to issue of shares at a discount.

Special Audits

19. (a) An audit of Expenditure is one of the major components of Government Audit. In the context of 'Government Expenditure Audit', write in brief, what do you understand by:
- (i) Audit against Rules and Orders
 - (ii) Audit of Sanctions
 - (iii) Audit against Provision of Funds
 - (iv) Propriety Audit
 - (v) Performance Audit.

- (b) Explain in detail the duties of Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
20. What are the special steps involved in conducting the audit of an Educational Institution?

SUGGESTED ANSWERS / HINTS

1. (i) **Incorrect:** As per SA-200 "Overall Objectives of the Independent Auditor", in conducting an audit of financial statements, the overall objectives of the auditor are:
- (a) To obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement; and
 - (b) To report on the financial statements, and communicate as required by the SAs, in accordance with the auditor's findings.
- (ii) **Correct:** Teeming and Lading is one of the techniques of suppressing cash receipts. Money received from one customer is misappropriated and the account is adjusted with the subsequent receipt from another customer and so on.
- (iii) **Incorrect:** There is an inverse relationship between materiality and the degree of audit risk. The higher the materiality level, the lower the audit risk and vice versa. For example, the risk that a particular account balance or class of transactions could be misstated by an extremely large amount might be very low but the risk that it could be misstated by an extremely small amount might be very high.
- (iv) **Incorrect:** As per SA 230 on "Audit Documentations" the working papers are the property of the auditor and the auditor has right to retain them. He may at his discretion make available working papers to his client. The auditor should retain them long enough to meet the needs of his practice and legal or professional requirement.
- (v) **Incorrect:** Inherent risk is the susceptibility of an account balance or class of transactions to misstatement that could be material either individually or, when aggregated with misstatements in other balances or classes, assuming that there were no related internal controls.
- (vi) **Incorrect:** Section 138 of the Companies Act, 2013 requires every private company to appoint an internal auditor having turnover of ₹ 200 crore or more during the preceding financial year; or outstanding loans or borrowings from banks or public financial institutions exceeding ₹ 100 crore or more at any point of time during the preceding financial year.
- (vii) **Incorrect:** The term "internal check" is defined as the "checks on day to day transactions which operate continuously as part of the routine system whereby the work of one person is proved independently or is complementary to the work of another, the object being the prevention or early detection of errors or fraud".

- (viii) **Incorrect:** Incorrect: As per the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, a person is disqualified to be appointed as an auditor of a company if he is holding any security of or interest in the company.

As the chartered accountant is holding securities of S Ltd. having face value of ₹ 950, he is not eligible for appointment as an auditor of S Ltd.

- (ix) **Incorrect:** According to section 139 of the Companies Act, 2013, the provisions related to rotation of auditor are applicable to all private limited companies having paid up share capital of ₹ 50 crore or more; and all companies having paid up share capital of below threshold limit mentioned above, but having public borrowings from financial institutions, banks or public deposits of ₹ 50 crore or more.

Although company A is a private limited company yet it is having public borrowings from nationalized bank of ₹ 50 crores, therefore it would be governed by provisions of rotation of auditor.

- (x) **Incorrect:** As per section 141(2) of the Companies Act, 2013, where a firm including a limited liability partnership (LLP) is appointed as an auditor of a company, only the partners who are Chartered Accountants shall be authorised to act and sign on behalf of the firm.

2. (a) Few Techniques of how receipts are suppressed are:

- (1) *Teeming and Lading:* Amount received from a customer being misappropriated; also to prevent its detection the money received from another customer subsequently being credited to the account of the customer who has paid earlier. Similarly, moneys received from the customer who has paid thereafter being credited to the account of the second customer and such a practice is continued so that no one account is outstanding for payment for any length of time, which may lead the management to either send out a statement of account to him or communicate with him.
- (2) Adjusting unauthorised or fictitious rebates, allowances, discounts, etc. to customer's accounts and misappropriating amount paid by them.
- (3) Writing off as debts in respect of such balances against which cash has already been received but has been misappropriated.
- (4) Not accounting for cash sales fully.
- (5) Not accounting for miscellaneous receipts, e.g., sale of scrap, quarters allotted to the employees, etc.
- (6) Writing down asset values in entirety, selling them subsequently and misappropriating the proceeds.

- (b) **Information which assist the Auditor in accepting and continuing of relationship with Client:** As per SA 220, "Quality Control for an Audit of Financial Statements" the

auditor should obtain information considered necessary in the circumstances before accepting an engagement with a new client, when deciding whether to continue an existing engagement and when considering acceptance of a new engagement with an existing client. The following information would assist the auditor in accepting and continuing of relationship with the client:

- (i) The integrity of the principal owners, key management and those charged with governance of the entity;
- (ii) Whether the engagement team is competent to perform the audit engagement and has the necessary capabilities, including time and resources;
- (iii) Whether the firm and the engagement team can comply with relevant ethical requirements; and
- (iv) Significant matters that have arisen during the current or previous audit engagement, and their implications for continuing the relationship.

3. (a) Significant Difficulties Encountered During the Audit: As per SA 260 "Communication with Those Charged with Governance", significant difficulties encountered during the audit may include such matters as:

- ◆ Significant delays in management providing required information.
- ◆ An unnecessarily brief time within which to complete the audit.
- ◆ Extensive unexpected effort required to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.
- ◆ The unavailability of expected information.
- ◆ Restrictions imposed on the auditor by management.
- ◆ Management's unwillingness to make or extend its assessment of the entity's ability to continue as a going concern when requested.

(b) Aspects to be covered in Audit: The Principal Aspect To Be Covered In An Audit Concerning Final Statements Of Account Are The Following:

- (i) An examination of the system of accounting and internal control to ascertain whether it is appropriate for the business and helps in properly recording all transactions. This is followed by such tests and enquiries as are considered necessary to ascertain whether the system is in actual operation. These steps are necessary to form an opinion as to whether reliance can be placed on the records as a basis for the preparation of final statements of account.
- (ii) Reviewing the system and procedures to find out whether they are adequate and comprehensive and incidentally whether material inadequacies and weaknesses exist to allow frauds and errors going unnoticed.
- (iii) Checking of the arithmetical accuracy of the books of account by the verification

of postings, balances, etc.

- (iv) Verification of the authenticity and validity of transaction entered into by making an examination of the entries in the books of accounts with the relevant supporting documents.
- (v) Ascertaining that a proper distinction has been made between items of capital and of revenue nature and that the amounts of various items of income and expenditure adjusted in the accounts corresponding to the accounting period.
- (vi) Comparison of the balance sheet and profit and loss account or other statements with the underlying record in order to see that they are in accordance therewith.
- (vii) Verification of the title, existence and value of the assets appearing in the balance sheet.
- (viii) Verification of the liabilities stated in the balance sheet.
- (ix) Checking the result shown by the profit and loss and to see whether the results shown are true and fair.
- (x) Where audit is of a corporate body, confirming that the statutory requirements have been complied with.
- (xi) Reporting to the appropriate person/body whether the statements of account examined do reveal a true and fair view of the state of affairs and of the profit and loss of the organisation.

4. (a) **Identification of Significant Risks:** SA 315 "Identifying and Assessing the Risk of Material Misstatement through understanding the Entity and its Environment" defines 'significant risk' as an identified and assessed risk of material misstatement that, in the auditor's judgment, requires special audit consideration.

As part of the risk assessment, the auditor shall determine whether any of the risks identified are, in the auditor's judgment, a significant risk. In exercising this judgment, the auditor shall exclude the effects of identified controls related to the risk.

In exercising judgment as to which risks are significant risks, the auditor shall consider at least the following-

- (i) Whether the risk is a risk of fraud;
- (ii) Whether the risk is related to recent significant economic, accounting or other developments like changes in regulatory environment etc. and therefore requires specific attention;
- (iii) The complexity of transactions;
- (iv) Whether the risk involves significant transactions with related parties;
- (v) The degree of subjectivity in the measurement of financial information related to the risk, especially those measurements involving a wide range of measurement

uncertainty; and

- (vi) Whether the risk involves significant transactions that are outside the normal course of business for the entity or that otherwise appear to be unusual.

(b) Timeliness of Financial Reporting and the Balance between Benefit and Cost:

The matter of difficulty, time, or cost involved is not in itself a valid basis for the auditor to omit an audit procedure for which there is no alternative or to be satisfied with audit evidence that is less than persuasive. Appropriate planning assists in making sufficient time and resources available for the conduct of the audit. Notwithstanding this, the relevance of information, and thereby its value, tends to diminish over time, and there is a balance to be struck between the reliability of information and its cost. There is an expectation by users of financial statements that the auditor will form an opinion on the financial statements within a reasonable period of time and at a reasonable cost, recognising that it is impracticable to address all information that may exist or to pursue every matter exhaustively on the assumption that information is in error or fraudulent until proved otherwise.

5. (a) **Inquiry – Audit Procedure to obtain Audit Evidence:** Inquiry consists of seeking information of knowledgeable persons, both financial and non- financial, within the entity or outside the entity. Inquiry is used extensively throughout the audit in addition to other audit procedures. Inquiries may range from formal written inquiries to informal oral inquiries. Evaluating responses to inquiries is an integral part of the inquiry process.

Responses to inquiries may provide the auditor with information not previously possessed or with corroborative audit evidence. Alternatively, responses might provide information that differs significantly from other information that the auditor has obtained, for example, information regarding the possibility of management override of controls. In some cases, responses to inquiries provide a basis for the auditor to modify or perform additional audit procedures.

Although corroboration of evidence obtained through inquiry is often of particular importance, in the case of inquiries about management intent, the information available to support management's intent may be limited. In these cases, understanding management's past history of carrying out its stated intentions, management's stated reasons for choosing a particular course of action, and management's ability to pursue a specific course of action may provide relevant information to corroborate the evidence obtained through inquiry. In respect of some matters, the auditor may consider it necessary to obtain written representations from management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance to confirm responses to oral inquiries.

- (b) Audit evidence may be defined as the information used by the auditor in arriving at the conclusions on which the auditor's opinion is based. Audit evidence includes both

information contained in the accounting records underlying the financial statements and other information.

Explaining this further, audit evidence includes:-

- (1) **Information contained in the accounting records:** Accounting records include the records of initial accounting entries and supporting records, such as checks and records of electronic fund transfers; invoices; contracts; the general and subsidiary ledgers, journal entries and other adjustments to the financial statements that are not reflected in journal entries; and records such as work sheets and spreadsheets supporting cost allocations, computations, reconciliations and disclosures.
 - (2) Other information that authenticates the accounting records and also supports the auditor's rationale behind the true and fair presentation of the financial statements: Other information which the auditor may use as audit evidence includes, for example minutes of the meetings, written confirmations from trade receivables and trade payables, manuals containing details of internal control etc. A combination of tests of accounting records and other information is generally used by the auditor to support his opinion on the financial statements.
6. (a) **Sufficiency of Audit Evidence:** Sufficiency is the measure of the quantity of audit evidence. The quantity of audit evidence needed is affected by the auditor's assessment of the risks of misstatement (the higher the assessed risks, the more audit evidence is likely to be required) and also by the quality of such audit evidence (the higher the quality, the less may be required). Obtaining more audit evidence, however, may not compensate for its poor quality. **Auditor's judgment as to sufficiency may be affected by the factors such as:**
- (i) **Materiality**
 - (ii) **Risk of material misstatement**
 - (iii) **Size and characteristics of the population.**
- (i) **Materiality** may be defined as the significance of classes of transactions, account balances and presentation and disclosures to the users of the financial statements. Less evidence would be required in case assertions are less material to users of the financial statements. But on the other hand if assertions are more material to the users of the financial statements, more evidence would be required.
 - (ii) **Risk of material misstatement** may be defined as the risk that the financial statements are materially misstated prior to audit. This consists of two components described as follows at the assertion level (a) Inherent risk—The susceptibility of an assertion to a misstatement that could be material before consideration of any related controls. (b) Control risk—The risk that a misstatement that could occur in an assertion that could be material will not be

prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis by the entity's internal control. Less evidence would be required in case assertions that have a lower risk of material misstatement. But on the other hand if assertions have a higher risk of material misstatement, more evidence would be required.

- (iii) **Size of a population** refers to the number of items included in the population. Less evidence would be required in case of smaller, more homogeneous population but on the other hand in case of larger, more heterogeneous populations, more evidence would be required.

(b) **Reliability of Audit Evidence:** SA 500 on "Audit Evidence" provides that the reliability of information to be used as audit evidence, and therefore of the audit evidence itself, is influenced by its source and its nature, and the circumstances under which it is obtained, including the controls over its preparation and maintenance where relevant. Therefore, generalisations about the reliability of various kinds of audit evidence are subject to important exceptions. Even when information to be used as audit evidence is obtained from sources external to the entity, circumstances may exist that could affect its reliability. For example, information obtained from an independent external source may not be reliable if the source is not knowledgeable, or a management's expert may lack objectivity. While recognising that exceptions may exist, the following generalisations about the reliability of audit evidence may be useful:

- (1) The reliability of audit evidence is increased when it is obtained from independent sources outside the entity.
- (2) The reliability of audit evidence that is generated internally is increased when the related controls, including those over its preparation and maintenance, imposed by the entity are effective.
- (3) Audit evidence obtained directly by the auditor (for example, observation of the application of a control) is more reliable than audit evidence obtained indirectly or by inference (for example, inquiry about the application of a control).
- (4) Audit evidence in documentary form, whether paper, electronic, or other medium, is more reliable than evidence obtained orally (for example, a contemporaneously written record of a meeting is more reliable than a subsequent oral representation of the matters discussed).
- (5) Audit evidence provided by original documents is more reliable than audit evidence provided by photocopies or facsimiles, or documents that have been filmed, digitized or otherwise transformed into electronic form, the reliability of which may depend on the controls over their preparation and maintenance.

7. (a) **Nature and Timing of the Audit Procedures:** The nature and timing of the audit procedures to be used may be affected by the fact that some of the accounting data and other information may be available only in electronic form or only at certain points

or periods in time. For example, source documents, such as purchase orders and invoices, may exist only in electronic form when an entity uses electronic commerce, or may be discarded after scanning when an entity uses image processing systems to facilitate storage and reference.

Certain electronic information may not be retrievable after a specified period of time, for example, if files are changed and if backup files do not exist. Accordingly, the auditor may find it necessary as a result of an entity's data retention policies to request retention of some information for the auditor's review or to perform audit procedures at a time when the information is available.

- (b) Although written representations provide necessary audit evidence, they do not provide sufficient appropriate audit evidence on their own about any of the matters with which they deal. Furthermore, the fact that management has provided reliable written representations does not affect the nature or extent of other audit evidence that the auditor obtains about the fulfillment of management's responsibilities, or about specific assertions.

Applying the above to the given problem, the auditor would further request the management to provide him with the Banker's certificate in support of fixed deposits held by the company.

8. (a) **Acceptance of a Change in Engagement:** An auditor who, before the completion of the engagement, is requested to change the engagement to one which provides a lower level of assurance, should consider the appropriateness of doing so.

A request from the client for the auditor to change the engagement may result from a change in circumstances affecting the need for the service, a misunderstanding as to the nature of an audit or related service originally requested or a restriction on the scope of the engagement, whether imposed by management or caused by circumstances. The auditor would consider carefully the reason given for the request, particularly the implications of a restriction on the scope of the engagement, especially any legal or contractual implications.

If the auditor concludes that there is reasonable justification to change the engagement and if the audit work performed complied with the SAs applicable to the changed engagement, the report issued would be appropriate for the revised terms of engagement. In order to avoid confusion, the report would not include reference to-

- (i) the original engagement; or
- (ii) any procedures that may have been performed in the original engagement, except where the engagement is changed to an engagement to undertake agreed-upon procedures and thus reference to the procedures performed is a normal part of the report.

The auditor should not agree to a change of engagement where there is no reasonable justification for doing so.

If the terms of the audit engagement are changed, the auditor and management shall agree on and record the new terms of the engagement in an engagement letter or other suitable form of written agreement.

If the auditor is unable to agree to a change of the terms of the audit engagement and is not permitted by management to continue the original audit engagement, the auditor shall-

- (i) Withdraw from the audit engagement where possible under applicable law or regulation; and
 - (ii) Determine whether there is any obligation, either contractual or otherwise, to report the circumstances to other parties, such as those charged with governance, owners or regulators.
- (b) Planning an audit involves establishing the overall audit strategy for the engagement and developing an audit plan. Adequate planning benefits the audit of financial statements in several ways, including the following:
- 1. Helping the auditor to devote appropriate attention to important areas of the audit.
 - 2. Helping the auditor identify and resolve potential problems on a timely basis.
 - 3. Helping the auditor properly organize and manage the audit engagement so that it is performed in an effective and efficient manner.
 - 4. Assisting in the selection of engagement team members with appropriate levels of capabilities and competence to respond to anticipated risks, and the proper assignment of work to them.
 - 5. Facilitating the direction and supervision of engagement team members and the review of their work.
 - 6. Assisting, where applicable, in coordination of work done by auditors of components and experts.
9. (a) Businesses vary in nature, size and composition; work which is suitable to one business may not be suitable to others; efficiency and operation of internal controls and the exact nature of the service to be rendered by the auditor are the other factors that vary from assignment to assignment. On account of such variations, evolving one audit programme applicable to all businesses under all circumstances is not practicable. However, it becomes a necessity to specify in detail in the audit programme the nature of work to be done so that no time will be wasted on matters not pertinent to the engagement and any special matter or any specific situation can be taken care of.

(b) For the purpose of programme construction, the following points should be kept in mind

- (1) Stay within the scope and limitation of the assignment.
- (2) Determine the evidence reasonably available and identify the best evidence for deriving the necessary satisfaction.
- (3) Apply only those steps and procedures which are useful in accomplishing the verification purpose in the specific situation.
- (4) Consider all possibilities of error.
- (5) Co-ordinate the procedures to be applied to related items.

- 10. (a) Satisfactory Control Environment** - not an absolute deterrent to fraud: The existence of a satisfactory control environment can be a positive factor when the auditor assesses the risks of material misstatement. However, although it may help reduce the risk of fraud, a satisfactory control environment is not an absolute deterrent to fraud. Conversely, deficiencies in the control environment may undermine the effectiveness of controls, in particular in relation to fraud. For example, management's failure to commit sufficient resources to address IT security risks may adversely affect internal control by allowing improper changes to be made to computer programs or to data, or unauthorized transactions to be processed. As explained in SA 330, the control environment also influences the nature, timing, and extent of the auditor's further procedures.

The control environment in itself does not prevent, or detect and correct, a material misstatement. It may, however, influence the auditor's evaluation of the effectiveness of other controls (for example, the monitoring of controls and the operation of specific control activities) and thereby, the auditor's assessment of the risks of material misstatement.

(b) Risk assessment procedures to obtain audit evidence about the design and implementation of relevant controls may include-

- ◆ Inquiring of entity personnel.
- ◆ Observing the application of specific controls.
- ◆ Inspecting documents and reports.
- ◆ Tracing transactions through the information system relevant to financial reporting.

(c) Reliability of Internal Control System in CIS Environment: For evaluating the reliability of internal control system in CIS environment, the auditor would consider the following-

- (i) That authorised, correct and complete data is made available for processing.

- (ii) That it provides for timely detection and corrections of errors.
- (iii) That in case of interruption due to mechanical, power or processing failures, the system restarts without distorting the completion of entries and records.
- (iv) That it ensures the accuracy and completeness of output.
- (v) That it provides security to application softwares & data files against fraud etc.
- (vi) That it prevents unauthorised amendments to programs.

11. (a) Examination in Depth: It implies examination of a few selected transactions from the beginning to the end through the entire flow of the transaction, i.e., from initiation to the completion of the transaction by receipt of payment of cash and delivery or receipt of the goods. This examination consists of studying the recording of transactions at the various stages through which they have passed. At each stage, relevant records and authorities are examined; it is also judged whether the person who has exercised the authority in relation to the transactions is fit to do so in terms of the prescribed procedure. For example, if payment to a creditor is to be verified "in depth", it would be necessary to examine the following documents:

- (a) The invoice and statement of account received from the supplier.
- (b) The entry in the inventory record showing that the goods were received.
- (c) The Goods Received Note and Inspection Certificate showing that the goods on receipt were verified and inspected.
- (d) The copy of the original order and authority showing that the goods in fact were ordered by an authority which was competent to do so.

It is to be emphasised that, so far as the management is concerned, the internal control should have willing acceptance at the hands of the employees and there should exist proper mechanism for such motivation.

(b) Work Performed by Others: The auditor is never able to delegate his responsibility for forming important audit conclusions or for forming and expressing his opinion on the financial information. Accordingly, when he delegates work to assistants or uses work performed by other auditors or experts, the auditor should have sufficient knowledge of CIS to direct, supervise and review the work of assistants with CIS skills or to obtain reasonable assurance that the work performed by other auditors or experts with CIS skills is adequate for his purpose, as applicable.

(c) Control Over Input in a Computerised Data System:

- (i) The input fed into the computer should be authorized. The authorization levels should be checked. The authorization is effected by levels of access to the entry for the computer system. The access control is operated through use of password and logging procedures.
- (ii) The system should devise controls to check that data input are accurate.

- (iii) The input document should be reviewed and verified by another person after preparation.
- (iv) Transaction should be accurately converted into machine readable language and recorded in a computer data file.
- (v) The transactions are not lost, duplicated, or changed without authorization.
- (vi) There should be validity and cross reference checks inbuilt in the system to throw light on errors which appear in the process of feeding input.
- (vii) Incorrect transactions are thrown out by a list which must be corrected, resubmitted before the process could run on the inputs.
- (viii) The check digit total of financial information contained in the document or hash total may be used to act as a control tool.
- (ix) The serial control may be used in inputting data that are to follow serial sequence. Any deviation in serial sequence will have to be automatically signalled out.

12. (a) Repair to Assets:

- (i) Since the line demarcating repairs from renewals is slender, usually it is not a simple matter to determine the amount of the expenditure, if any, included as charges for repairs, which should be considered as that incurred for renewal of an asset and added to its cost.
- (ii) It may sometimes be possible to determine this on a consideration of the nature of repairs carried out. The proportion of the charges which had the effect of increasing the value of an asset or enhancing its capacity or life should be treated as capital expenditure.
- (iii) Where, however, it is not possible to form an opinion accurately on the basis of evidence as regards the nature of repairs, a certificate from the engineer under whose supervision the repairs were carried out, confirming the classification of expenditure should be obtained.
- (iv) It should be ensured that Repairs to 'Certain Assets' like Building and Machinery have been separately disclosed as per the requirements of Schedule III to the Companies Act, 2013.

- (b) Vouching- Backbone of Auditing:** Vouching is a substantive audit procedure which aims at verifying the genuineness and validity of a transaction contained in the accounting records. It involves examination of documentary evidence to support the genuineness of transaction. Thus the object of vouching is not merely to ascertain that money has been paid away; but the auditor aims to obtain reasonable assurance in respect of following assertions in regard to transactions recorded in the books of account that –

- (i) a transaction is recorded in the proper account and revenue or expense is properly allocated to the accounting period;
- (ii) a transaction pertains to entity and took place during the relevant period;
- (iii) all transactions which have actually occurred have been recorded;
- (iv) all transactions were properly authorised; and
- (v) transactions have been classified and disclosed in accordance with recognised accounting policies and practices.

Thus, it is through vouching that the auditor comes to know the genuineness of transactions recorded in the client's books of account wherefrom the financial statements are drawn up.

Apart from genuineness, vouching also helps the auditor to know the regularity and validity of the transaction in the context of the client's business, nature of the organisation and organisational rules.

Thus, the auditor's basic duty is to examine the accounts, not merely to see its arithmetical accuracy but also to see its substantial accuracy and then to make a report thereon.

This substantial accuracy of the accounts and emerging financial statements can be known principally by examination of vouchers which are the primary documents relating to the transactions. If the primary document is wrong or irregular, the whole accounting statement would, in turn, become wrong and irregular. Precisely auditor's role is to see whether or not the financial statements are wrong or irregular, and for this, vouching is simply imperative. Thus, vouching which has traditionally been the backbone of auditing does not merely involve checking arithmetical accuracy but goes much beyond and aims to check the genuineness as well as validity of transactions contained in accounting records.

- 13 (a)** Profit or Loss Arising on Sale of Plots Held by Real Estate Dealer: The land holding in the case of real estate dealer will be a current asset and not a fixed asset. The same should, therefore, be valued at cost or market value, whichever is less.

Profit or loss arising on sale of plots of land by Real Estate Dealer should be verified as follows-

- (i) Each property account should be examined from the beginning of the development with special reference to the nature of charges so as to find out that only the appropriate cost and charges have been debited to the account and the total cost of the property has been set off against the price realised for it.
- (ii) This basis of distribution of the common charges between different plots of land developed during the period, and basis for allocation of cost to individual

properties comprised in a particular piece of land should be scrutinised.

- (iii) If land price lists are available, these should be compared with actual selling prices obtained. And it should be verified that contracts entered into in respect of sale have been duly sanctioned by appropriate authorities.
- (iv) Where part of the sale price is intended to reimburse taxes or expenses, suitable provisions should be maintained for the purpose.
- (v) The prices obtained for various plots of land sold should be checked with the plan map of the entire tract and any discrepancy or unreasonable price variations should be inquired into. The sale price of different plots of land should be verified on a reference to certified copies of sale deeds executed.
- (vi) Out of the sale proceeds, provision should be made for the expenditure incurred on improvement of land, which so far has been accounted for.

(b) Trade Marks and Copyrights:

- (i) Obtain schedule of Trade Marks and Copyrights duly signed by the responsible officer and scrutinise the same and confirm that all of them are shown in the Balance Sheet.
- (ii) Examine the written agreement in case of assignment of Copyrights and Assignment Deed in case of transfer of trade marks. Also ensure that trade marks and copyrights have been duly registered.
- (iii) Verify existence of copyright by reference to contract between the author & the entity and note down the terms of payment of royalty.
- (iv) See that the value has been determined properly and the costs incurred for the purpose of obtaining the trade marks and copyrights have been capitalised.
- (v) Ascertain that the legal life of the trade marks and copyrights have not expired.
- (vi) Ensure that amount paid for both the intangible assets is properly amortised having regard to appropriate legal and commercial considerations, as per the principles enunciated under AS 26 on Intangible Assets.

(c) Machinery Acquired Under Hire-Purchase System:

- (i) Examine the Board's Minute Book approving the purchase on hire-purchase terms.
- (ii) Examine the hire-purchase agreement carefully and note the description of the machinery, cost of the machinery, hire purchase charges, and terms of payment and rate of purchase.
- (iii) Assets acquired under Hire Purchase System should be recorded at the full cash value with corresponding liability of the same amount. In case cash value is not readily available, it should be calculated presuming an appropriate rate of

interest.

- (iv) Hire purchased assets are shown in the balance sheet with an appropriate narration to indicate that the enterprise does not have full ownership thereof. The interest payable along with each installments, whether separately or included therein should be debited to the interest account and not to the asset account.

(d) Refund of General Insurance Premium Paid: The refund of insurance premium may be because of earlier provisional payment of premium or may be a policy might have been cancelled at a later date. The auditor should take following steps while vouching such refunds-

- (i) Ascertain the reasons for refund of insurance premium.
- (ii) Examine insurance policy or cover note to find out the amount of premium.
- (iii) Verify advice of refund received from the insurance company. When refund is admitted, the insurance company sends the advice. This will be evidence as a covering letter to the cheque for the refund. Sometimes, a cheque is issued after a receipt is sent in advance to the insurance company.
- (iv) Scrutinise correspondence between the insurance company and the client.
- (v) Check entries in the bank book or the bank statement. If necessary, the counterfoil of the pay-in-slips can also be verified.

14. (a) External Confirmation as an Audit Procedure: SA 505, "External Confirmations", lays down standards for external confirmation of balances. External confirmations are frequently used in relation to account balances and their components but need not be restricted to these items. For example, the auditor may request external confirmation of the terms of agreements or transactions an entity has with third parties. The confirmation request is designed to ask if any modifications have been made to the agreement, and if so, the relevant details thereof. Other areas where external confirmations may be used include the following:

- Bank balances and other information from bankers.
- Accounts receivable balances.
- Inventories held by third parties.
- Property title deeds held by third parties.
- Investments purchased but delivery not taken.
- Loans from lenders.
- Accounts payable balances.
- Long outstanding share application money.

- (b) Expenses which are essentially of a revenue nature, if incurred for creating an asset or adding to its value for achieving higher productivity, are also regarded as expenditure of a capital nature.

Examples-

- (i) Material and wages: capital expenditure when expended on the construction of a building or erection of machinery.
- (ii) Legal expenses: capital expenditure when incurred in connection with the purchase of land or building.
- (iii) Freight: capital expenditure when incurred in respect of purchase of plant and machinery.
- (iv) Repair: Major repairs of a fixed asset that increases its productivity.
- (v) Wages: Wages paid on installation costs incurred in Plant & Machinery.
- (vi) Interest: Interest paid for the qualification period as per AS-16 i.e. before the asset is constructed.

Whenever, therefore, a part of the expenditure, ostensibly of a revenue nature, is capitalized, it is the duty of the auditor not only to examine the precise particulars of the expenditure but also the considerations on which it has been capitalised.

15. (a) **Appointment of Subsequent Auditors in case of Non Government Companies:** **Section 139(1)** of the Companies Act, 2013 provides that every company shall, at the first annual general meeting appoint an individual or a firm as an auditor who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting till the conclusion of its sixth annual general meeting and thereafter till the conclusion of every sixth meeting.

The following points need to be noted in this regard-

- (i) The company shall place the matter relating to such appointment of ratification by member at every Annual General Meeting.
- (ii) Before such appointment is made, the written consent of the auditor to such appointment, and a certificate from him or it that the appointment, if made, shall be in accordance with the conditions as may be prescribed, shall be obtained from the auditor.
- (iii) The certificate shall also indicate whether the auditor satisfies the criteria provided in **section 141**.
- (iv) The company shall inform the auditor concerned of his or its appointment, and also file a notice of such appointment with the Registrar within 15 days of the meeting in which the auditor is appointed.

- (b) **Filling of a Casual Vacancy**

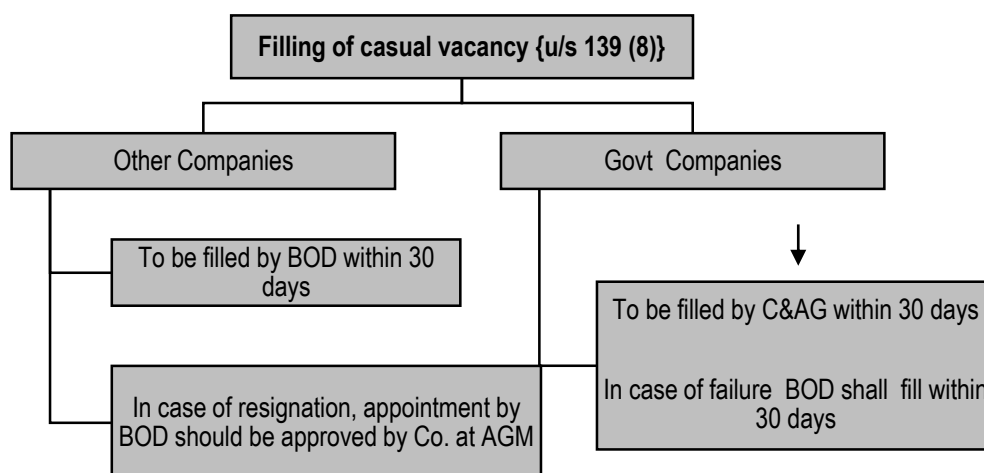
As per **Section 139(8)**, any casual vacancy in the office of an auditor shall-

- (i) In the case of a company other than a company whose accounts are subject to audit by an auditor appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, be filled by the Board of Directors within 30 days.

If such casual vacancy is as a result of the resignation of an auditor, such appointment shall also be approved by the company at a general meeting convened within three months of the recommendation of the Board and he shall hold the office till the conclusion of the next annual general meeting.

- (ii) In the case of a company whose accounts are subject to audit by an auditor appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, be filled by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India within 30 days.

It may be noted that in case the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India does not fill the vacancy within the said period the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy within next 30 days.



Casual Vacancy by Resignation: As per **section 140(2)** the auditor who has resigned from the company shall file within a period of 30 days from the date of resignation, a statement in the prescribed **Form ADT-3** (as per Rule 8 of CAAR) with the company and the Registrar, and in case of the companies referred to in **section 139(5)** i.e. Government company, the auditor shall also file such statement with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, indicating the reasons and other facts as may be relevant with regard to his resignation. In case of failure the auditor shall be punishable with fine which shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees but which may extend to five lakh rupees as per **section 140(3)**.

16. (a) **Matters to be included in the auditor's report- statutory dues and repayment of loans or borrowing to a financial institution, bank, Government or dues to debenture holders (CARO, 2016) –**

Clause (vii)(a) whether the company is regular in depositing undisputed statutory dues including provident fund, employees' state insurance, income-tax, sales-tax, service tax, duty of customs, duty of excise, value added tax, cess and any other statutory dues with the appropriate authorities and if not, the extent of the arrears of outstanding statutory dues as at the last day of the financial year concerned for a period of more than six months from the date they became payable, shall be indicated;

Clause (vii)(b) where dues of income tax or sales tax or service tax or duty of customs or duty of excise or value added tax have not been deposited on account of any dispute, then the amounts involved and the forum where dispute is pending shall be mentioned. (A mere representation to the concerned Department shall not constitute a dispute).

Clause (viii) whether the company has defaulted in repayment of loans or borrowing to a financial institution, bank, Government or dues to debenture holders? If yes, the period and the amount of default to be reported (in case of defaults to banks, financial institutions, and Government, lender wise details to be provided).

- (b) **Right of access to books, etc. – Section 143(1)** of the Act provides that the auditor of a company, at all times, shall have a right of access to the books of account and vouchers of the company, whether kept at the registered office of the company or at any other place and he is entitled to require from the officers of the company such information and explanation as he may consider necessary for the performance of his duties as auditor.

It may be noted that according to **section 2(59)** of the Act, the term 'officer' includes any director, manager or key managerial personnel or any person in accordance with whose directions or instructions the Board of Directors or any one or more of the directors is or are accustomed to act;

The phrase 'books, accounts and vouchers' includes all books which have any bearing, or are likely to have any bearing on the accounts, whether these be the usual financial books or the statutory or statistical books; memoranda books, *e.g.*, inventory books, costing records and the like may also be inspected by the auditor. Similarly the term 'voucher' includes all or any of the correspondence which may in any way serve to vouch for the accuracy of the accounts. Thus, the right of access is not restricted to books of account alone and it is for the auditor to determine what record or document is necessary for the purpose of the audit.

The right of access is not limited to those books and records maintained at the registered or head office so that in the case of a company with branches, the right

also extends to the branch records, if the auditor considers it necessary to have access thereto as per **Section 143(8)**.

17. (a) Reporting under Section 143(3)(f) of the Act:

Section 143(3)(f) of the Act states that -

“The auditor’s report shall also state the observations or comments of the auditors on financial transactions or matters which have any adverse effect on the functioning of the company;”

Clause (f) requires the auditor to report “the observations or comments of the auditors on financial transactions or matters which have any adverse effect on the functioning of the company”. An auditor’s report may contain matters leading to modifications to the auditor’s opinion or emphasis of matter in the auditor’s report on the financial statements. Such matters may be related to issues which may have an adverse effect on the functioning of the company. The words “observations” or “comments” as appearing in clause (f) of section 143(3) are construed to have the same meaning as referring to “emphasis of matter paragraphs, situations leading to modification in the auditor’s report. Accordingly, the auditor should have made an “observation” or “comment” in the auditor’s report in order to determine the need to report under clause (f) of section 143(3). Therefore, only such “observations” or “comments” of the auditors on financial transactions or matters that have been made by the auditor in the auditor’s report which have an adverse effect on the functioning of the company are required to be reported under this clause. For the sake of clarity, it may be noted that neither the auditor’s observations nor the comments made by him have any adverse effect on the functioning of a company. These observations or comments made by the auditor might contain matters which might have an adverse effect on the functioning of a company.

(b) Electronic form of Books of accounts: Second proviso to section 128(1) read with the Companies (Accounts) Rules, 2014 allows a company to keep its books of account or other relevant papers in electronic mode.

However, the books of account and other relevant books and papers maintained in electronic mode shall comply with the following conditions:

- (a) the books of account and other relevant books and papers shall remain accessible in India so as to be usable for subsequent reference.
- (b) the books of account and other relevant books and papers shall be retained completely in the format in which they were originally generated, sent or received, or in a format which shall present accurately the information generated, sent or received and the information contained in the electronic records shall remain complete and unaltered.
- (c) the information received from branch offices shall not be altered and shall be kept in a manner where it shall depict what was originally received from the branches.

- (d) the information in the electronic record of the document shall be capable of being displayed in a legible form.
- (e) there shall be a proper system for storage, retrieval, display or printout of the electronic records as the audit committee, if any, or the board may deem appropriate and such records shall not be disposed of or rendered unusable, unless permitted by law.
- (f) the back-up of the books of account and other books and papers of the company maintained in electronic mode, including at a place outside India, if any, shall be kept in servers physically located in India on a periodic basis.

The company is required to intimate to the Registrar on an annual basis at the time of filing of financial statement, the following-

- (a) The name of the service provider;
- (b) The internet protocol address of service provider;
- (c) The location of the service provider (wherever applicable);
- (d) Where the books of account and other books and papers are maintained on cloud, such address as provided by the service provider.

18. (a) Director's Responsibility Statement: According to section 134(3)(c) of the Companies Act, 2013, the report of board of directors on annual accounts shall also include a 'Director's Responsibility Statement'. However, the provisions related to Director's Responsibility Statement are provided under section 134(5) of the Companies Act, 2013 which requires to state that-

- (i) in the preparation of the annual accounts, the applicable accounting standards had been followed along with proper explanation relating to material departures;
- (ii) the directors had selected such accounting policies and applied them consistently and made judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at the end of the financial year and of the profit and loss of the company for that period;
- (iii) the directors had taken proper and sufficient care for the maintenance of adequate accounting records in accordance with the provisions of this Act for safeguarding the assets of the company and for preventing and detecting fraud and other irregularities;
- (iv) the directors had prepared the annual accounts on a going concern basis;
- (v) the directors, in the case of a listed company, had laid down internal financial controls to be followed by the company and that such internal financial controls are adequate and were operating effectively.

Here, the term "internal financial controls" means the policies and procedures

adopted by the company for ensuring the orderly and efficient conduct of its business, including adherence to company's policies, the safeguarding of its assets, the prevention and detection of frauds and errors, the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, and the timely preparation of reliable financial information; and

- (vi) the directors had devised proper systems to ensure compliance with the provisions of all applicable laws and that such systems were adequate and operating effectively.

- (b) **Issue of Shares at a Discount:** According to Section 53 of the Companies Act, 2013, except sweat equity issued as mentioned in section 54, any share issued by a company at a discounted price shall be void.

Where a company contravenes the provisions of this section, the company shall be punishable with fine which shall not be less than one lakh rupees but which may extend to five lakh rupees and every officer who is in default shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which shall not be less than one lakh rupees but which may extend to five lakh rupees, or with both.

- 19. (a) **Government Expenditure Audit:** Audit of government expenditure is one of the major components of government audit conducted by the office of C&AG. The basic standards set for audit of expenditure are to ensure that there is provision of funds authorised by competent authority fixing the limits within which expenditure can be incurred. **Briefly, these standards are explained below:**

- (i) **Audit against Rules & Orders:** The auditor has to see that the expenditure incurred conforms to the relevant provisions of the statutory enactment and is in accordance with the financial rules and regulations framed by the competent authority.
- (ii) **Audit of Sanctions:** The auditor has to ensure that each item of expenditure is covered by a sanction, either general or special, accorded by the competent authority, authorising such expenditure.
- (iii) **Audit against Provision of Funds:** It contemplates that there is a provision of funds out of which expenditure can be incurred and the amount of such expenditure does not exceed the appropriations made.
- (iv) **Propriety Audit:** It is required to be seen that the expenditure is incurred with due regard to broad and general principles of financial propriety. The auditor aims to bring out cases of improper, avoidable, or in fructuous expenditure even though the expenditure has been incurred in conformity with the existing rules and regulations. Audit aims to secure a reasonably high standard of public financial morality by looking into the wisdom, faithfulness and economy of transactions.
- (v) **Performance Audit:** This involves that the various programmes, schemes and

projects where large financial expenditure has been incurred are being run economically and are yielding results expected of them. Efficiency-cum-performance audit, wherever used, is an objective examination of the financial and operational performance of an organisation, programme, authority or function and is oriented towards identifying opportunities for greater economy, and effectiveness.

- (b) **Duties of C&AG: The Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 lays down duties of the C&AG as under-**
- (i) **Compile and submit Accounts of Union and States** - The C&AG shall be responsible for compiling the accounts of the Union and of each State from the initial and subsidiary accounts rendered to the audit and accounts offices under his control by treasuries, offices or departments responsible for the keeping of such account.
 - (ii) **General Provisions Relating to Audit - It shall be the duty of the C&AG –**
 - (a) to audit and report on all expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India and of each State and of each Union Territory having a Legislative Assembly and to ascertain whether the moneys shown in the accounts as having been disbursed were legally available for and applicable to the service or purpose to which they have been applied or charged and whether the expenditure conforms to the authority which governs it;
 - (b) to audit and report all transactions of the Union and of the States relating to Contingency Funds and Public Accounts;
 - (c) to audit and report on all trading, manufacturing profit and loss accounts and balance-sheets and other subsidiary accounts kept in any department of the Union or of a State.
 - (iii) **Audit of Receipts and Expenditure** - Where any body or authority is substantially financed by grants or loans from the Consolidated Fund of India or of any State or of any Union Territory having a Legislative Assembly, the Comptroller and Auditor General shall, subject to the provisions of any law for the time being in force applicable to the body or authority, as the case may be, audit all receipts and expenditure of that body or authority and to report on the receipts and expenditure audited by him.
 - (iv) **Audit of Grants or Loans** - Where any grant or loan is given for any specific purpose from the Consolidated Fund of India or of any State or of any Union Territory having a Legislative Assembly to any authority or body, not being a foreign State or international organisation, the Comptroller and Auditor General shall scrutinise the procedures by which the sanctioning authority satisfies itself as to the fulfillment of the conditions subject to which such grants or loans were given and shall for this purpose have right of access, after giving reasonable

previous notice, to the books and accounts of that authority or body.

- (v) **Audit of Receipts of Union or States** - It shall be the duty of the Comptroller and Auditor General to audit all receipts which are payable into the Consolidated Fund of India and of each State and of each Union Territory having a Legislative Assembly and to satisfy himself that the rules and procedures in that behalf are designed to secure an effective check on the assessment, collection and proper allocation of revenue and are being duly observed and to make this purpose such examination of the accounts as he thinks fit and report thereon.
- (vi) **Audit of Accounts of Stores and Inventory** - The Comptroller and Auditor General shall have authority to audit and report on the accounts of stores and inventory kept in any office or department of the Union or of a State.
- (vii) **Audit of Government Companies and Corporations** - The duties and powers of the Comptroller and Auditor General in relation to the audit of the accounts of government companies shall be performed and exercised by him in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013. The comptroller and Auditor-General of India shall appoint the auditor under sub-section (5) or sub-section (7) of section 139 (i.e. appointment of First Auditor or Subsequent Auditor) and direct such auditor the manner in which the accounts of the Government company are required to be audited and thereupon the auditor so appointed shall submit a copy of the audit report to the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India which, among other things, include the directions, if any, issued by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, the action taken thereon and its impact on the accounts and financial statement of the company.

20. The Special Steps Involved in the Audit of an Educational Institution are the following:

- (i) Examine the Trust Deed, or Regulations in the case of school or college and note all the provisions affecting accounts. In the case of a university, refer to the Act of Legislature and the Regulations framed thereunder.
- (ii) Read through the minutes of the meetings of the Managing Committee or Governing Body, noting resolutions affecting accounts to see that these have been duly complied with, specially the decisions as regards the operation of bank accounts and sanctioning of expenditure.
- (iii) Check names entered in the Students' Fee Register for each month or term, with the respective class registers, showing names of students on rolls and test amount of fees charged; and verify that there operates a system of internal check which ensures that demands against the students are properly raised.
- (iv) Check fees received by comparing counterfoils of receipts granted with entries in the cash book and tracing the collections in the Fee Register to confirm that the revenue from this source has been duly accounted for.

- (v) Total up the various columns of the Fees Register for each month or term to ascertain that fees paid in advance have been carried forward and the arrears that are irrecoverable have been written off under the sanction of an appropriate authority.
- (vi) Check admission fees with admission slips signed by the head of the institution and confirm that the amount had been credited to a Capital Fund, unless the Managing Committee has taken a decision to the contrary.
- (vii) See that free studentship and concessions have been granted by a person authorised to do so, having regard to the prescribed Rules.
- (viii) Confirm that fines for late payment or absence, etc., have either been collected or remitted under proper authority.
- (ix) Confirm that hostel dues were recovered before students' accounts were closed and their deposits of caution money refunded.
- (x) Verify rental income from landed property with the rent rolls, etc.
- (xi) Vouch income from endowments and legacies, as well as interest and dividends from investment; also inspect the securities in respect of investments held.
- (xii) Verify any Government or local authority grant with the relevant papers of grant. If any expense has been disallowed for purposes of grant, ascertain the reasons and compliance thereof.
- (xiii) Report any old heavy arrears on account of fees, dormitory rents, etc, to the Managing Committee.
- (xiv) Confirm that caution money and other deposits paid by students on admission have been shown as liability in the balance sheet and not transferred to revenue.
- (xv) See that the investments representing endowment funds for prizes are kept separate and any income in excess of the prizes has been accumulated and invested along with the corpus.
- (xvi) Verify that the Provident Fund money of the staff has been invested in appropriate securities.
- (xvii) Vouch donations, if any, with the list published with the annual report. If some donations were meant for any specific purpose, see that the money was utilised for the purpose.
- (xviii) Vouch all capital expenditure in the usual way and verify the same with the sanction for the Committee as contained in the minute book.
- (xix) Vouch in the usual manner all establishment expenses and enquire into any unduly heavy expenditure under any head.
- (xx) See that increase in the salaries of the staff have been sanctioned and minuted by the Committee.

- (xxi) Ascertain that the system ordering inspection on receipt and issue of provisions, foodstuffs, clothing and other equipment is efficient and all bills are duly authorised and passed before payment.
- (xxii) Verify the inventories of furniture, stationery, clothing, provision and all equipment, etc. These should be checked by reference to Inventory Register and values applied to various items should be test checked.
- (xxiii) Confirm that the refund of taxes deducted from the income from investment (interest on securities, etc.) has been claimed and recovered since the institutions are generally exempted from the payment of income-tax.
- (xxiv) Verify the annual statements of accounts and while doing so see that separate statements of account have been prepared as regards Poor Boys Fund, Games Fund, Hostel and Provident Fund of Staff, etc.