PRESS BRIEF

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

12th August, 2026

General Purpose Financial Reports of CPSEs-
Union Government (Commercial) – Report No. 21 of 2026 Presented

This Audit Report has been prepared under Section 19-A of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971. This Report consists of eight chapters. Apart from presenting summary of financial performance of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and oversight role of CAG, the report enumerates the status of adherence by CPSEs to the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and Regulations/Guidelines issued by Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) on Corporate Governance, expenditure of research and development by CPSEs, Corporate Social Responsibility, analysis of Memoranda of Understanding between Administrative Ministries and Navratna CPSEs, disinvestment process and review of sustainability status. Some of the salient features of the Report are highlighted below:

I. Summary of financial performance of Central Public Sector Enterprises

There were 757 Central Government Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under the audit jurisdiction of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India as on 31 March, 2024. This chapter presents financial performance of 684 CPSEs and 73 CPSEs (including 24 Government controlled other companies), whose accounts were in arrears for three years or more or were under liquidation or first accounts were not due/received, are not covered in this Report.

(Para 1.1.3)

The accounts of 479 Government companies and Corporations indicated that the Central Government had an equity holding of ₹11,93,439 crore in share capital as on 31 March, 2024. The long term loans given by Central Government to such CPSEs outstanding as on 31 March 2024 amounted to ₹2,87,678 crore.

(Para 1.2 and 1.2.2.1)

The total market value of shares of 66 listed Government companies (including nine subsidiary companies and excluding three newly listed CPSEs during the year), the shares of which were traded during 2023-24, stood at ₹37,92,736 crore as on 31 March, 2024.

(Para 1.2.4)

282 Government companies and Corporations earned profit of ₹3,58,385 crore during 2023-24 of which, 70.46 *per cent* was contributed by 79 CPSEs in three sectors viz. Petroleum, Power and Coal & Lignite.

(Para 1.3.1)

134 Government companies and Corporations declared a dividend of ₹1,38,138 crore for the year 2023-24.

(Para 1.3.4)

182 Government companies incurred losses amounting to ₹34,908 crore during the year 2023-24. There were 214 Government companies with accumulated losses of ₹2,47,181 crore as on 31 March, 2024.

(Para 1.3.2 and 1.3.3.1)

II. Oversight Role of CAG

The financial Statements for the year 2023-24 were received from 607 CPSEs by 30 September 2024 out of 757 CPSEs. The CAG reviewed financial statements of 327 CPSEs.

(Para 2.5.1)

The financial impact of significant comments, issued by the CAG on the financial statements of the selected CPSEs, on profitability and assets/ liabilities was ₹3,563.37 crore and ₹61,949.59 crore respectively.

(Para 2.5.1)

III. Corporate Governance

The review of Corporate Governance covered 65 CPSEs, whose shares/bonds were listed on stock exchanges and 36 CPSEs including four Statutory Corporations whose only bonds/debentures were listed on stock exchanges as on 31 March, 2024.

(Para 3.1.2)

Non-Executive Directors were less than 50 *per cent* of the Board strength in seven CPSEs and the required number of Independent Directors were not on the Board in 49 CPSEs during whole/part period of the year 2023-24.

(Para 3.2.1 and 3.2.2)

Seven CPSEs did not have Women Director on the Board and 16 CPSEs (part of top 1,000 listed entities) did not have Women Independent Director on the Board during whole/part period of the year 2023-24.

(Para 3.2.3)

Audit Committee was not constituted in one CPSE and at least two-thirds of the Audit Committee members were not Independent Directors in four CPSEs during whole/part period of the year 2023-24. Further, Audit Committee chairman did not attend AGM in two CPSEs.

(Para 3.6.1.1, 3.6.1.2 and 3.7)

IV. Expenditure in Research and Development by CPSEs

The Chapter has covered expenditure on Research and Development activities by 26 selected Ratna category CPSEs during the period 2019-20 to 2023-24. Audit noted that CPSEs were not bound to frame dedicated and uniform policy for taking up Research and Development activities, in the absence of any Government guidelines. Out of 26 CPSEs selected for audit, more than half of them did not have dedicated policy and instead followed Quality policy/ Action plans/ other related guidelines/ framework documents etc.

(Para 4.5.1)

During 2021-22 to 2023-24, 9-13 CPSEs (Maharatna, Navratna and Miniratna) incurred less than 2 *per cent* of Profit Before Tax on Research and Development, whereas, three CPSEs did not incur any Research and Development expenditure during this period.

(Para 4.5.2.2)

V. Corporate Social Responsibility

The review covered 58 CPSEs (10 Maharatna, 12 Navratna, 18 Miniratna and 18 others) under the administrative control of various Ministries/ Departments.

(Para 5.2)

Eight CPSEs did not frame CSR policy duly approved by the Board and 18 CPSEs did not formulate Annual Action Plan.

(Para 5.3.2 and 5.3.3)

Total CSR expenditure of 58 CPSEs in 2023-24 was ₹3,339.80 crore. There was short fall in CSR expenditure reported by 15 CPSEs. The Petroleum and Power sector spent accounted for 69 *per cent* of the total CSR spend.

(Para 5.4.1 and 5.4.2)

VI. Analysis of MoU between Administrative Ministries and Navratna CPSEs

The review covered MoUs signed between six Navratna CPSEs and their respective Administrative ministries for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24. DPE guidelines on MoU did not specify any timelines for holding the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) meeting to finalise the MoU parameters.

(Para 6.5 and 6.5.1.1)

Despite non-compliance of the provisions of SEBI (LODR) Regulations on Corporate Governance viz., minimum number of Independent Directors/ Independent Woman Directors, the Administrative Ministries and DPE did not deduct marks from the MoU score of CPSEs as required in MoU Guidelines.

(Para No. 6.5.2.1)

DPE had taken considerable time ranging from 55 to 100 days for the year 2022-23 and from 68 to 92 days for the year 2023-24 in awarding final ranking/ score in respect of six selected CPSEs.

(Para 6.5.3.2)

VII. Disinvestment Process

Budget Estimates for disinvestment proceeds for the financial year 2022-23 were fixed at ₹51,000 crore. However, no specific estimates for disinvestment were made in the Revised Estimates for the year 2023-24. The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management

(DIPAM) realized an amount of ₹16,507.29 crore during the year 2023-24 through disinvestment in 15 cases.

(Para 7.4 and 7.5)

The Specified Undertaking of Unit Trust of India (SUUTI) remitted (March 2024) dividend income of ₹1,770 crore to DIPAM which was reported by DIPAM as part of the Disinvestment receipts. However, it should not be included in disinvestment receipts as the dividend income is not a part of remittance from sale of Government Shareholdings.

{Para7.6.5 (a)}

VIII. Review of Sustainability status

Audit reviewed BRSR disclosures made by shortlisted 30 CPSEs based on market capitalization for the year ended March 2024. Audit observed deficiencies in disclosures related to reporting of incorrect paid-up capital, incomplete reporting boundaries by excluding subsidiaries, joint ventures or associates from consolidated disclosures, inconsistencies in employee-related information such as gender-wise and differently abled employee details etc.

(Para 8.5.1)

There were instances for incorrect/deficient disclosure in respect of coverage for health & accidental insurance, maternity/paternity benefits, coverage under retirement benefits.

(Para 8.5.3.3)

With regard to Energy and water consumption, Air emission and Green House Gas emission, there were instances for non-disclosure for consumption and emission details.

(Para 8.5.3.6)

BSC/R/IK/49-26