

CHAPTER VII : MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

Department of Personnel and Training

Union Public Service Commission

7.1 Recovery of licence fees at the instance of Audit

At the instance of Audit, the Union Public Service Commission recovered licence fees of ₹ 14.88 lakh from the Bank of Maharashtra for the period January 2001 to September 2011, out of short recovery of ₹ 26 lakh pointed out by Audit.

The Directorate of Estates periodically prescribes the rates of licence fees payable by banks and post offices operating from the General Pool Office accommodation allotted by it. A branch of the Bank of Maharashtra and a post office occupying a space of 99 sq. m. and 55 sq. m. respectively, were operating from the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) complex.

Audit noted that the demands of licence fees raised by the Directorate from the bank since January 2001 was based on carpet area of 49 sq. m. as against the actual area of 99 sq. m., resulting in short levy of licence fees of ₹ 18.58 lakh during the period January 2001 to September 2011. Similarly, licence fees of ₹ 7.54 lakh were recoverable from the post office for the same period.

On the above being pointed out (September 2010) by Audit, UPSC stated (October 2011) that the matter had already been taken up with the bank and the post office authorities.

The Ministry endorsed (January 2012) the reply of the UPSC, stating that ₹ 14.88 lakh on account of licence fees had been deposited (November 2011) by the bank. Recovery of the balance amount was awaited (December 2011).