CHAPTER-II

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND BUDGETARY CONTROL

CHAPTER II Financial Management and Budgetary Control

2.1 Introduction

Effective financial management ensures that policy decisions are implemented at the administrative level without wastage or diversion of funds and with reasonable assurance about successful implementation of policy at the ground level. This Chapter reviews the appropriations and allocative priorities of the State Government and comments on the transparency and effectiveness of its budgetary processes.

Appropriation Accounts are accounts of the expenditure, voted and charged, of the Government for each financial year compared with the amounts of the voted grants and appropriations charged for different purposes as specified in the schedules appended to the Appropriation Acts. These Accounts list the original budget estimates, supplementary grants, surrenders and re-appropriations distinctly and indicate actual capital and revenue expenditure on various specified services *vis-à-vis* those authorised by the Appropriation Act in respect of both charged and voted items of budget. Appropriation Accounts is thus a control document facilitating management of finances and monitoring of budgetary provisions and are therefore complementary to Finance Accounts.

Audit of appropriations seeks to ascertain whether the expenditure actually incurred under various grants is within the authorisation given under the Appropriation Act and that the expenditure required to be charged under the provisions of the constitution is so charged. It also ascertains whether the expenditure so incurred is in conformity with the law, relevant rules, regulations and instructions.

2.2 Summary of Appropriation Accounts

The summarised position of actual expenditure during 2017-18 against 60 Grants including 11 Appropriations is given in **Table 2.1**:

Table 2.1: Summarised Position of Actual Expenditure vis-à-vis Original/
Supplementary provision (₹ in crore)

| Supplementary provision | | | | | | (111111) | / | |
|--|--|--|----------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Nature of expenditure | Original Grant/ Appro- priation | Supple- mentary Grant/ Appro- priation | Total | Actual expendi- ture | Saving | Amount Surren- dered | Amount Surren- dered on 31 March 2018 | Percentage of Savings surrendered on 31 March 2018 to total amount of Savings |
| Voted | | | | | | | | |
| I. Revenue | 9994.66 | 514.12 | 10508.78 | 7763.05 | 2745.73 | 1473.79 | 1473.79 | 53.68 |
| II. Capital | 1726.56 | 46.67 | 1773.23 | 983.44 | 789.79 | 386.62 | 386.62 | 46.50 |
| III. Loans and Advances | 63.63 | Nil | 63.63 | 22.05 | 41.58 | 300.02 | 300.02 | 40.50 |
| Total Voted | 11784.85 | 560.79 | 12345.64 | 8768.54 | 3577.10 | 1860.41 | 1860.41 | 52.01 |
| Charged | | | | | | | | |
| IV. Revenue | 652.98 | 12.71 | 665.69 | 660.21 | 5.48 | 4.91 | 4.91 | 89.60 |
| V. Capital | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| VI. Public Debt- Repayment | 510.40 | Nil | 510.40 | 329.62 | 180.78 | 180.78 | 180.78 | 100 |
| Total Charged | 1163.38 | 12.71 | 1176.09 | 989.83 | 186.26 | 185.69 | 185.69 | 99.69 |
| Appropriation to Contingency Fund (if any) | 100 | Nil | 100 | 100 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Grand Total | 13048.23 | 573.50 | 13621.73 | 9858.37 | 3763.36 | 2046.10 | 2046.10 | 54.37 |

The overall saving of ₹ 3763.36 crore was the result of saving of ₹ 3797.26 crore in 53 Grants and seven Appropriations under Revenue Section, 23 Grants and two Appropriations under Capital Section. This was offset by excess of ₹ 33.90 crore in two Grants under Revenue Section and one Grant and one Appropriation under Capital Section. Out of the total savings of ₹ 3763.36 crore, ₹ 2046.10 crore (54.37 per cent) was surrendered during the year and the balance savings of ₹ 1717.26 crore (45.63 per cent) remained un-surrendered which indicated lack of or inadequate budgetary control.

The savings/excess were intimated (August 2018) to the Controlling Officers requesting them to explain the significant variations. Department-wise position involving substantial amount of savings/excess (exceeding ₹ 10 crore) for which reasons were not furnished (August 2018) by the departments concerned is given in **Appendix 2.1.**

During the exit conference, the Addl. Chief Secretary stated that the details for this discrepancy would have to come from the line departments. She further added that this was mainly due to Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) since though the amount had been budgeted, but funds were not released for reasons such as non-furnishing of UCs.

2.3 Financial Accountability and Budget Management

2.3.1 Appropriation *vis-à-vis* Allocative Priorities

Reasons for excessive savings in the above cases had not been furnished (January 2019).

2.3.2 Persistent Savings

In three cases, during the last five years, there were persistent savings (Table 2.2).

Table 2.2: List of Grants indicating Persistent Savings during 2013-18 (₹ in crore)

| Sl. | Number and Name of the | | ngs | | | | | | | |
|------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| No. | grant | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | | | | |
| Reve | enue-Voted | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | 11- Other Taxes and Duties on Commodities and Services, <i>etc</i> . | 45.73 | 77.67 | 65.34 (48) | 82.37 | 79.07 | | | | |
| - | | (23) | (32) | \ / | (39) | (40) | | | | |
| 2. | 43 – Housing, Crop Husbandry, Agricultural Research and Education <i>etc</i> . | 233.36 (52) | 234.43 (48) | 135.99 (34) | 204.68 (49) | 212.16 (47) | | | | |
| Capi | Capital-Voted | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. | 19 – Secretariat General Services, Public Works, <i>etc</i> . | 79.23 (42) | 95.11 (57) | 39.66 (27) | 70.43 (46) | 100.81 (71) | | | | |

(Figures in the parentheses indicate percentage of saving to total provision).

- (i) In the case of other taxes and duties on commodities and services, *etc*. the savings ranges from $\stackrel{?}{\sim} 45.73$ crore to $\stackrel{?}{\sim} 79.07$ crores.
- (ii) In Housing, Crop Husbandry, Agricultural Research and Education *etc.*, the savings ranged between ₹ 135.99 crore and ₹ 234.43 crore.
- (iii) In Secretariat General Services, Public Works, *etc.* the savings ranged from ₹ 39.66 crore to ₹ 100.81 crore.

2.3.3 Expenditure without Budget Provision

As per the Budget Manual, expenditure should not be incurred on a scheme/service without provision of funds in Budget. The cases of excess expenditure over Budget provision is a very serious matter as it is a violation of the will of the Legislature. In all such cases, the responsibility needs to be fixed. It was, however, noticed that expenditure of ₹ 11.07 crore was incurred in five cases without any budget provision in the original estimates/supplementary demand and without any re-appropriation orders to this effect. Details are given in **Table 2.3.**

Table 2.3: Expenditure incurred without provision during 2017-18 (₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Grant/Appropriation Number – Major Head of Accounts - Sub-Head - Detailed Head | Expenditure without provision |
|------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. | 16 – 2055 – 102 – (01) Re-imbursement to State for Civil Defence – General | 2.14 |
| 2. | 19 – 2059 – 80 – 052 – (03) R/C of T&P <i>etc.</i> – Sixth Schedule (Part II) Areas | 6.12 |
| 3. | 19 – 2059 – 80 – 052 – (04) Deduct-Transfer of T&P Charges on Percentage Basis to Major Heads – Sixth Schedule (Part II) Areas | 2.44 |
| 4. | 21 – 2202 -110 – (06) Assistance for Buildings, Hostels and Staff Quarters - Sixth Schedule (Part II) Areas | 0.36 |
| 5. | 43 – 2711 – 80- 005 – (01) Survey and Investigation Sixth Schedule (Part II) Areas | 0.01 |
| | Total | 11.07 |

Government may consider fixing responsibility of officials responsible for incurring expenditure without budget provisions. During the exit conference, the Additional Chief Secretary stated that the matter would be looked into.

2.3.4 Drawal of funds to avoid lapse of budgetary provision

As per Paragraph 152 (iii) of Budget Manual, controlling officers are to surrender to the Finance Department all savings anticipated in the budget under their control as soon as the certainty of non-requirement is known and in any case latest by the 15th of March. Further, as per Rule 211 of Meghalaya Treasury Rules, 1986, no money shall be drawn from the Treasury unless it is required for immediate disbursement. Contrary to the prescribed procedure, ₹ 579.18 crore was transferred in March 2018 into the major head of Account '8443 − Civil Deposits' primarily to exhaust the unspent budgetary provision. Details of all such transfers (over ₹ five crore in each case) in respect of the 20 cases involving ₹ 579.18 crore are mentioned in **Appendix 2.3.**

While there is no Rule to prevent transfers to Civil Deposits, it was violative of the spirit of Rule 211 of Meghalaya Treasury Rules, 1986. The funds were transferred to Civil Deposits primarily to avoid lapse of budgetary provision.

During the exit conference, the Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) pointed out that the amount transferred had actually come down compared to the previous year. ACS further stated that the Department will make an effort to reduce the amount though it entails difficulty since some funds are released at the fag end of the year.

2.3.5 Excess over provision relating to previous years requiring regularisation

As per Article 205 of the Constitution of India, it is mandatory for a State Government to get the excess over a grant/appropriation regularised by the State Legislature. Although no time limit for regularisation of excess expenditure has been prescribed under the Article, the regularisation of excess expenditure is done after the discussion over the Appropriation Accounts by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). As indicated in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for

the previous years, excess expenditure of ₹ 2142.93 crore for the years from 1971-72 to 2016-17 had not been regularised, details of which are given in **Appendix 2.4.** This is contrary to legislative intent and defeats the objective of ensuring accountability of the executive over utilisation of public money. Excess expenditure remaining unregularised for such extended period needs to be viewed seriously as this dilutes the parliamentary control over the exchequer and therefore all the existing cases of excess expenditure need to be got regularised at the earliest and strict departmental action is taken against the controlling officer who exceed the budget.

During the exit conference, Audit pointed out that the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) had recommended regularisation of excess expenditure amounting to ₹ 697.38 crore during 2011-12 but no follow up action had been taken by Finance Department till date. The Additional Chief Secretary accordingly directed the Finance Department officials to take necessary action.

2.3.6 Excess expenditure over budget provision during 2017-18 requiring regularisation

Table 2.4 contains the summary of excess expenditure over budget provision. Two Grants under Revenue Section and one Grant and one Appropriation under Capital Section are amounting to ₹ 33.90 crore over authorisation. They required regularisation under Article 205 of the Constitution. The cases of excess expenditure over Grants/provisions is a very serious matter as it is a violation of the will of the Legislature. In all such cases, the responsibility needs to be fixed.

Table 2.4: Expenditure over provision during 2017-18 requiring regularisation (₹ in crore)

| | SI. No. | Number and title of Grant/Appropriation | Total Grant/ Appropriation | Expenditure | Excess (+) (per cent to Total Grant/ Appropriation) |
|--------------|------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------|---|
| R | even | ue – Voted | | | |
| | 1. | 24 – Pensions and Other Retirement Benefits | 730.24 | 750.90 | 20.66 (2.83) |
| | 2. | 56 – Roads and Bridges, etc. | 162.21 | 173.07 | 10.86 (6.70) |
| C | apita | ıl - Voted | | | |
| | | 47 – Housing, Animal Husbandry, Agricultural Research and Education, <i>etc.</i> | 0.17 | 0.22 | 0.05 (29.41) |
| \mathbf{C} | apita | al – Charged | | | |
| | 1. | Appropriation – Interest Payment | 588.85 | 591.18 | 2.33 (0.40) |
| | | Total | 1481.47 | 1515.37 | 33.90 |

In one of the above cases, viz. Grant No.24 - Pension & other retirement benefits, excess expenditure by more than $\stackrel{?}{\sim} 20$ crore of the budget provision has been observed consistently for the last five years (**Table 2.5**).

Table 2.5: Persistent excess expenditure during 2013-18 (₹ in crore)

| Number and name of the Grant | Amount of Excess Expenditure | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 |
| 24- Pension and other Retirement | | | | | |
| benefits | 53.89 | 114.63 | 142.92 | 154.37 | 20.66 |
| (Revenue - Voted) | · · | | | | |

However, the amount of excess expenditure decreased in the current year compared to the previous four years.

Government may consider fixing responsibility of officials responsible for incurring expenditure in excess of the Grants/provisions.

During the exit conference, the Additional Chief Secretary stated that a meeting would be held with the departments concerned and the excess amounts would be regularised.

2.3.7 Excessive/inadequate supplementary provision

Supplementary provision aggregating ₹ 146.89 crore obtained in 22 cases (₹ 10 lakh or more in each case) during the year proved unnecessary as the expenditure did not reach to the level of original provision as detailed in **Appendix 2.5.** In one case, supplementary provision of ₹ 14.55 crore proved insufficient leaving an aggregate uncovered excess expenditure of ₹ 10.86 crore (**Table 2.6**).

Table 2.6: Insufficient Supplementary Provision (₹ in crore)

| Number and Name of Grant | Original | Supplementary | Total | Expenditure | Excess |
|---|-----------|---------------|--------|-------------|-------------|
| | Provision | provision | | | Expenditure |
| 56 - Roads and Bridges, Capital Outlay on Roads and Bridges, <i>etc</i> . Revenue - Voted | 147.66 | 14.55 | 162.21 | 173.07 | 10.86 |

In three cases, no supplementary provision was obtained resulting in an excess expenditure of $\stackrel{?}{\stackrel{?}{\sim}} 23.04$ crore as given in **Table 2.7.**

Table 2.7: Excess expenditure but no Supplementary Provisions were obtained (₹ in crore)

| Number and Name of Grant | Original Provision | Expenditure | Excess Expenditure |
|--|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 12 – Appropriation – Interest Payments Capital - Charged | 588.85 | 591.18 | 2.33 |
| 24 – Pension and Other Retirement Benefits Revenue – Voted | 730.24 | 750.90 | 20.66 |
| 47 – Housing, Animal Husbandry, Agricultural Research and Education, Capital Outlay on Animal Husbandry Capital - Voted | 0.17 | 0.22 | 0.05 |
| Total | 1319.26 | 1342.30 | 23.04 |

2.3.8 Excessive/unnecessary re-appropriation of funds

Re-appropriation is transfer of funds within a grant from one unit of appropriation, where savings are anticipated, to another unit where additional funds are needed. As per the Appropriation Accounts, re-appropriation made under 231 sub-heads proved excessive or insufficient and resulted in savings/excess of over ₹ 10 lakh. Instances of

84 such cases where excess/saving was ₹ one crore or above in each case are detailed in **Appendix 2.6.**

2.3.9 Unexplained re-appropriations

According to Paragraph 115 of the Budget Manual (Volume I), read with Form 'K' of re-appropriation statement, reasons for all re-appropriations of ₹ 1,000 or more should be given. Scrutiny of Appropriation Accounts revealed that reasons for re-appropriations made during 2017-18 under various head of accounts were not explained in detail. Reasons given for additional provision/withdrawal of provision in re-appropriation orders were of general nature like "less requirement of funds", "less expenditure than anticipated", "non-receipt of sanction", "non-approval of Scheme", "discontinuation of Scheme", "less claim", "revised budget outlay" and "reduction of provision" *etc*.

2.3.10 Substantial surrenders

Substantial surrenders (the cases where more than 50 *per cent* of total provision was surrendered) were made in respect of 118 sub-heads on various grounds like non-receipt of sanction, less expenditure, non-release of funds, *etc*. Out of the total provision of ₹ 1703.68 crore in 118 sub-heads, ₹ 1548.63 crore were surrendered. In 68 schemes/projects/works there was 100 *per cent* surrender. The details of such cases involving substantial surrenders are given in **Appendix 2.7.**

2.3.11 Surrender in excess of actual saving

As per the provision of the Budget Manual, the spending departments, are required to surrender the grants/appropriations or portion thereof to the Finance Department as and when the savings are anticipated. Surrender of the provision in anticipation of savings and incurring expenditure subsequently by controlling officers results in surrender in excess of overall saving under grant/appropriation.

In 14 cases, the amount surrendered was in excess of actual savings indicating lack of or inadequate budgetary control in those departments. As against savings of $\stackrel{?}{\sim}$ 560.10 crore, the amount surrendered was $\stackrel{?}{\sim}$ 567.01 crore resulting in excess surrender of $\stackrel{?}{\sim}$ 6.91 crore (**Appendix 2.8**). The surrender in excess of actual savings indicated that the Departments did not exercise adequate budgetary controls by watching flow of expenditure through monthly expenditure statements. The cases of surrender in excess of actual savings, however, should be avoided by prudent budgeting. Seven significant cases of surrender in excess of actual savings are shown in **Table 2.8**.

Table 2.8: Cases of surrender in excess of savings

(₹ in lakh)

| | (\ III lakii) | | | | |
|-----------|---|----------------|--------|--------------------|---|
| Sl No. | Number and Name of Grant/Appropriation | Total Grant | Saving | Amount surrendered | Amount surrendered in excess of savings |
| 1. | 2 - President/Vice-President/ Governor/Administrator of Union Territories | | | | |
| | Revenue – Charged | 1033.00 | 261.23 | 296.10 | 34.87 |
| 2. | 4 – Administration of Justice Revenue – Charged | 1312.30 | 281.23 | 350.88 | 69.65 |
| 3. | 9 – Taxes on Sales, Trade etc., Other Taxes and Duties on Commodities and Services Revenue – Voted | 2665.49 | 349.93 | 421.15 | 71.22 |
| 4. | 14 – District Administration Revenue – Voted | 4374.00 | 326.22 | 453.69 | 127.47 |
| 5. | 22 – Other Administrative Services, Housing Revenue – Voted | 3783.93 | 804.78 | 939.76 | 134.98 |
| 6. | 28 – Housing, Capital Outlay on Housing, Loans for Housing Capital – Voted | 450.00 | 311.79 | 439.83 | 128.04 |
| 7. | 39 - Co-operation, Other Agricultural Programmes, Capital Outlay on Co-operation, etc. | 2386.00 | 272.06 | 222 27 | 61.31 |

The surrender in excess of actual savings resulted in excess expenditure in various heads of accounts under 14 grants/appropriations which indicated lack of financial prudence in the management of budget in the concerned departments.

2.3.12 Anticipated savings not surrendered

As per Paragraph 152 (iii) of Budget Manual, controlling officers are to surrender to the Finance Department all savings anticipated in the budget under their control as soon as the certainty of non-requirement is known and in any case latest by the 15th of March. Scrutiny of the appropriation accounts however revealed the following:

- In 13 Grants, it was seen that savings occurred but the entire savings were not surrendered by the concerned departments. The amount involved in those cases was ₹ 921.43 crore (24.48 *per cent* of the overall savings of ₹ 3763.36 crore for the year 2017-18) (**Appendix 2.9**).
- ➤ In 27 Grants (which had savings of ₹ 1 crore and above), it was seen that out of savings of ₹ 2455.22 crore, only an amount of ₹ 702.99 crore was surrendered while the remaining ₹ 1752.23 crore (71.37 *per cent*) were not surrendered (**Appendix 2.10**).
- In 53 cases, (surrender of funds in excess of ₹ 1 crore), an amount of ₹ 2042.18 crore was surrendered on the last working day of March 2018 (**Appendix 2.11**).

This indicated inadequate financial control and also resulted in idling of these funds since they could not be utilised for other development purposes.

2.3.13 Rush of expenditure

Rush of expenditure at the close of the year can lead to infructuous, nugatory or ill-planned expenditure. As such, Government expenditure is required to be evenly phased out throughout the year as far as possible. It was, however, noticed that during 2017-18, in eight major heads, the expenditure during the fourth quarter ranged between 30.77 *per cent* and 48.93 *per cent* compared to the total expenditure incurred during the year. It was further seen that the expenditure in the month of March 2018 in these eight major heads ranged between 15.91 *per cent* and 44.97 *per cent* as indicated in **Table 2.9** below:

Table 2.9: Cases of Rush of Expenditure towards the end of the financial year 2017-18

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Major Head | Total expenditure | Expenditure during last quarter of the year | | Expendit | ure during March 2018 |
|------------|---------------|-------------------|---|---------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| | | during the | Amount | Percentage of total | Amount | Percentage of |
| | | year | | expenditure | | total expenditure |
| 1. | 2055 | 649.03 | 205.76 | 31.70 | 103.24 | 15.91 |
| 2. | 2202 | 1663.08 | 511.71 | 30.77 | 334.38 | 20.11 |
| 3. | 2210 | 623.46 | 234.06 | 37.54 | 187.77 | 30.12 |
| 4. | 2215 | 212.33 | 71.92 | 33.87 | 46.27 | 21.79 |
| 5. | 2235 | 120.75 | 59.08 | 48.93 | 54.30 | 44.97 |
| 6. | 2401 | 157.09 | 59.35 | 37.78 | 53.44 | 34.02 |
| 7. | 2403 | 103.88 | 39.48 | 38.01 | 16.62 | 16.00 |
| 8. | 2406 | 141.39 | 64.02 | 45.28 | 44.75 | 31.65 |

Thus, the uniform flow of expenditure during the year, which is a primary requirement of budgetary control, was not maintained, indicating deficient financial management.

2.4 Reconciliation of departmental figures

2.4.1 Detailed Countersigned Contingent Bills against Abstract Contingency Bills

According to the Meghalaya Treasury Rules, 1985, the Controlling Officers are required to submit Detailed Countersigned Contingent (DCC) bills against the drawal of Abstract Contingent (AC) bills to the Accountant General (AG) within a month from the date of receipt of such bills in his office. As per Finance Accounts for the year 2017-18 (Volume I), against an amount of AC bills of ₹ 35.60 crore, no DCC Bills were received. It resulted in 10 AC bills involving ₹ 35.60¹ crore pertaining to the Election and Secretariat Administration Departments remaining outstanding as of March 2018.

Non-adjustment of advances within prescribed time, breaches financial discipline and entails risk of misappropriation of public money. It amounts to unhealthy practices and therefore, requires close monitoring by the DDOs for ensuring timely adjustment.

Nine AC Bills amounting to ₹ 35.60 crore pertained to Election Department while one AC Bill amounting to ₹ 5000/- pertained to Secretariat Administration Department.

Government may consider fixing responsibility on officials for failing to settle the outstanding AC bills within the stipulated period of one month. During the exit conference, the Additional Chief Secretary assured that the matter would be taken up with the Election Department.

2.4.2 Un-reconciled Expenditure

Budget Manual stipulates that expenditure recorded in their books should be reconciled by them every month during the financial year with that recorded in the books of the Accountant General (Accounts & Entitlement). This is in order to enable Controlling Officers (COs) of Departments to exercise effective control over expenditure to keep it within the budget grants and to ensure accuracy of their accounts. During 2017-18, 19 out of 60 COs did not reconcile expenditure amounting to ₹ 788.81 crore (8 *per cent* of total gross expenditure of ₹ 9858.37 crore) as of March 2018 (**Appendix 2.12**). This is despite the fact that non-reconciliation of departmental figures is being pointed out regularly in Audit Reports. Out of the unreconciled expenditure of ₹ 788.81 crore, ₹ 332.98 crore was in respect of Director of Technical Education followed by ₹ 39.73 crore related to the Secretaries of Planning, Secretariat Administration Department, Finance and Public Works Department and ₹ 14.34 crore was in respect of Commissioner of Transport, Secretary Home (Police), Secretary General Administration Department, *etc*.

During the exit conference, it was decided that details of the website of the Principal Accountant General (Accounts & Entitlement) should be circulated to all the COs so that can easily check the status to see whether reconciliation work was completed or not.

2.5 In-operative Personal Deposit Accounts

Personal Deposit (PD) Accounts are created for discharging the liabilities of the Government arising out of special enactment. As per Rule 392 of the Meghalaya Treasury Rules, 1985, if PD accounts are created by transferring funds from the Consolidated Fund for discharging liabilities of the Government arising out of the special enactment, such accounts should be closed at the end of the financial year and the unspent balance should be transferred to the Consolidated Fund. The amount credited to these accounts will be debited to the Consolidated Fund of the State and booked as expenditure of the year. Further, if a PD Account is not operated for a considerable period and there is reason to believe that the need for deposit account has ceased, the same should be closed in consultation with the officer in whose favour the deposit account had been opened.

As on 01 April 2017, there were seven PD accounts with an opening balance of ₹ 6.43 crore while the closing balance of these seven PDs as on 31 March 2018 was ₹ 18.81 crore. Out of these seven PD accounts, two PD accounts remained inoperative for periods ranging from 10 years to 14 years and were not closed in compliance with the rule. The amount lying in the two inoperative accounts was ₹ 0.02 crore.

The State Government should take necessary steps to close the inoperative PD accounts. During the exit conference, the Finance Department stated that there was a problem in tracing the records pertaining to these PD accounts but assured that the matter would be looked into.

2.6 Outcome of Analysis of Budgetary Assumptions

2.6.1 Unrealistic Budget Estimates

Details of the original, revised budget estimates and the actual revenue receipts and revenue expenditure during 2015-16 to 2017-18 are given in **Table 2.10** below:

Table 2.10: Revised Budget estimates and actuals in respect of receipts and expenditures for the years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 (₹ in crore)

| Particulars | Original Estimates | Revised Estimates | Actuals | Shortfall in actual as compared to the Revised Estimates | |
|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------|--|------------|
| | | | | Shortfall (-) | Percentage |
| | | 20 | 15-16 | | |
| Receipt | 8403.02 | 8403.02 | 7043.13 | 1359.89 | 16.18 |
| Expenditure | 7621.48 | 7621.48 | 6347.73 | 1273.75 | 16.71 |
| | | 20 | 16-17 | | |
| Receipt | 8980.85 | 8980.85 | 8938.95 | 41.90 | 0.47 |
| Expenditure | 8593.95 | 8593.95 | 8336.54 | 257.41 | 3.00 |
| | | 20 | 17-18 | | |
| Receipt | 11279.80 | 11263.73 | 9273.48 | 1990.25 | 17.67 |
| Expenditure | 10645.21 | 10645.21 | 8422.68 | 2222.53 | 20.88 |

Source: Budget at a Glance.

As could be noticed from **Table 2.10**, during 2015-16 to 2017-18, the shortfall in actual receipt with reference to the Revised Estimate had decreased from 16.18 *per cent* in 2015-16 to 0.47 *per cent* in 2016-17 and increased to 17.67 *per cent* in 2017-18. While the shortfall in actual expenditure with reference to the Revised Estimate had decreased from 16.71 *per cent* in 2015-16 to 3 *per cent* in 2016-17 and increased to 20.88 *per cent* in 2017-18.

Thus, huge variations between the estimated provision and actual receipts and actual expenditure during the said period indicated that the State Government's budgeting process lacked rigour leading to preparation of unrealistic Revised Estimate.

2.6.2 Unrealistic forecasting of resources

Details of tax revenue and non-tax revenue for the last two years are given in **Table 2.11** below:

Table 2.11: Tax Revenue, Non-Tax Revenue during 2016-17 and 2017-18 (₹ in crore)

| | 2016-17 | | 2017-18 | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | Tax Non-Tax | | Tax Revenue | Non-Tax |
| | Revenue | Revenue | | Revenue |
| Original Budget | 1268.55 | 466.16 | 1558.98 | 512.77 |
| Revised Estimate | 1268.55 | 466.16 | 1558.98 | 512.77 |
| Actual Receipts | 1186.01 | 685.24 | 1450.10 | 366.63 |
| Shortage (-)/Excess (+) | (-)82.54 | (+)219.08 | (-)108.88 | (-)146.14 |

Source: Budget at a Glance.

During 2017-18, the actual tax revenue receipts was lower than the budget estimate by 6.98 *per cent* (₹ 108.88 crore) and Non-Tax Revenue was much lower than the budget estimate by 28.50 *per cent* (₹ 146.14 crore). Hence the budget estimate for tax and non-tax revenue were unrealistic.

2.6.3 Projection of Capital Outlay, Disbursement of Loans & Advances

The projections of Capital Outlay, Disbursement of Loans & Advances are detailed in **Table 2.12.**

Table 2.12: Capital Outlay, Disbursement of Loans & Advances

(₹ in crore)

| | Particulars | Budget Estimates | Revised Estimates | Actual Expenditure | Difference (percentage) |
|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Capital Outlay | 1360.53 | 1360.53 | 1289.80 | (-)70.73 (5.20) |
| 2016-17 | Disbursement of Loans & Advances | 48.72 | 48.72 | 30.83 | (-)17.89 (36.37) |
| | Capital Outlay | 1733.06 | 1733.06 | 983.44 | (-)749.62 (43.25) |
| 2017-18 | Disbursement of Loans & Advances | 59.13 | 59.13 | 22.05 | (-)37.08 (62.71) |

During 2017-18, Actual Capital Outlay was less than Budget estimate/revised estimate by ₹ 749.62 crore, which fell short by 43.25 *per cent*, Loans & Advances were also disbursed less by 62.71 *per cent* (₹ 37.08 crore).

2.7 Review of Budgetary Process

2.7.1 Introduction

A major concern is that budgetary process are being undertaken in a mechanical and routine fashion and adequate due diligence is not being given to ensure high level of preparedness before the budget is finalised. This could reduce the effectiveness of the Government to ensure that developmental goals are achieved as intended by Government.

2.7.2 Budget and Accounts

The Annual Financial Statement of the estimated receipt and expenditure of the State for a financial year is laid before the House of the Legislature in accordance with Article 202 of the Constitution of India. The estimates of expenditure embodied in the Annual Finance Statement shall show separately – (a) the sums required to meet expenditure charged upon the Consolidated Fund of the State, and (b) the sums required to meet other expenditure proposed to be made from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

Government accounts are kept in three parts, namely Part –I Consolidated Fund, Part –III Contingency fund and Part – III Public Account. The details of transactions under the three parts are classified according to various Major Heads, Sub-Major Heads, Minor Heads, Sub-Heads and Detailed Heads of accounts prescribed by the Controller General of Accounts.

The outlays on the various activities of Government are met from the Consolidated Fund which is made up of (a) Revenue-consisting of receipts heads (Revenue Account) and expenditure heads (Revenue Account), (b) Capital, Public Debt, Loans, etc. – consisting of receipt heads (Capital Account) and Expenditure Heads (Capital Account). No money (except expenditure charged upon the Consolidated Fund) can be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund without the authority of the Legislature and for this purpose, necessary Demands for Grants are placed before the Legislature at the beginning of each financial year. The Grants, as and when passed by the Legislature, are incorporated in an Appropriation Act authorising necessary appropriation from the Consolidated Fund. In Public Account, records are kept for all transactions relating to public moneys other than those of the Consolidated Fund and the Contingency Fund.

2.7.3 Examination and evaluation of the budgetary system

An attempt has been made to examine and evaluate the budget documents of the Government of Meghalaya for the year 2017-18. The audit findings are given in the succeeding paragraphs.

2.7.4 Budget Process

As contemplated in Paragraphs 1 and 78 of Budget Manual², the duty of preparing budget estimates (Receipts and Expenditure) and revised estimates for laying before the Legislature vests with the Finance Department. The budget estimates are prepared on departmental basis. The budget making process moves from the bottom to the top. As soon as the departmental estimates and revised estimates are received, the Finance Department scrutinises these and after consultation with the administrative departments, enters the figures, which it accepts for the revised and budget estimates. The estimates of receipts should show the amount expected to be actually realised within the year and in case of fluctuating revenue, the estimate should be based upon a comparison of last three years' receipts.

During scrutiny of records of Finance Department, it was noticed that the departmental budget estimates were not submitted by the Administrative Departments within the target date (19 December 2016) fixed by the Finance (Budget) Department. Further, it was noticed that out of 65 Controlling Officers (COs), 23 COs had submitted on time and 42 COs submitted after due date. Instances of such delays are given in **Table 2.13.**

Budget Manual of the Government of Assam (Volume I) as adopted by the Government of Meghalaya.

Table 2.13: Statement showing the date of submission of Budget Estimates

| Sl. No. | Name of the Department | Grant Number (Head of Accounts) | Date of submission of Departmental Budget Estimates | Period of delay |
|------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Council of Ministers | 03 (2013) | 24.01.2017 | One month |
| 2. | Excise | 08 (2039) | 24.01.2017 | One month |
| 3. | Sales Tax | 09 (2040) | 12.03.2017 | Two months |
| 4. | Transport | 10 (2041, 2070) | 28.02.2017 | Two month |
| 6. | Police | 16 (2055, 2070) | 01.02.2017 | Two month |
| 7. | Finance Pension Cell | 24 (2071) | 21.02.2017 | Two months |
| 8. | Information and Public | 30 (2220) | 21.02.2017 | Two months |
| | Relations | | | |
| 9. | Border Areas Development | 46 (2501) | 12.03.2017 | Three months |
| 10. | C&RD | 51 (2216, 2501, | 31.01.2017 | One month |
| | | 2505, 2515, 4515 | | |

As can be seen from the above table, there was delays ranging from one month to three months in submission of departmental budget estimates to the Finance Department. Consequently, there was either no scope or little scope for scrutiny of these estimates by the Finance Department. During the exit conference, the Additional Chief Secretary directed the Finance Department officials to ensure that the same problem does not persist in the upcoming years.

2.7.5 Actual receipts in Consolidated Fund vis-à-vis provision

The position of Revenue and Capital receipts under Consolidated Fund during 2017-18 is presented in **Table 2.14** below:

Table 2.14: Revenue and Capital Receipts (₹ in crore)

| Year | | Revenue Account | | | | Capital Account | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|------------|-----------|--|
| | Budget | Actual | Shortfall | Percen- | Budget | Actual | Shortfall | Percen- | |
| | Provision | Receipt | in | tage of | Provision | Receipt | in receipt | tage of | |
| | | | receipt | shortfall | | | | shortfall | |
| 2015-16 | 8403.02 | 7043.13 | 1359.89 | 16.18 | 1029.02 | 856.01 | 173.01 | 16.81 | |
| 2016-17 | 8980.85 | 8938.96 | 41.90 | 0.47 | 1368.00 | 1229.24 | 138.76 | 10.14 | |
| 2017-18 | 11263.73 | 9273.48 | 1990.25 | 17.67 | 1405.55 | 1242.59 | 162.96 | 11.59 | |

Source: Annual Financial Statement & Finance Accounts.

It can be seen from the table above, the shortfall of revenue receipts ranged between 0.47 *per cent* and 17.67 *per cent* and as regards capital receipts, the shortfall ranged between 10.14 and 16.81 *per cent*. It is thus, necessary that a more reliable method of forecasting revenues needs to be adopted to achieve better planning of expenditure.

2.7.6 Estimates of expenditure under Consolidated Fund

The estimates of expenditure should be prepared for the charges that will be needed for actual expenditure during the year. It is of great importance that the expenditure estimates should be accurately framed. The Finance Department could not furnish to Audit the departmental estimates and revised estimates, if any, received from the various departments, though called for in September 2018. Thus, it could not be verified whether proposals of the departments were duly considered in framing the budget.

Budget provisions for expenditure (gross) and actuals there-against under revenue and capital accounts during 2015-16 to 2017-18 are shown in the **Table 2.15** below:

Table 2.15: Budget provision for expenditure (Gross) and Actual expenditure (₹ in crore)

| Year | Revenue Account | | | | Capital Account (including Loans and Advances and Public Debt) | | | |
|---------|--|---------|---------|--------------------------------|---|---------|-----------------------|-------|
| | Budget Actual Saving Percen- provision expendi- (O + S) ture savings | | | Budget provision (O + S) | Actual expenditure | Saving | Percentage of savings | |
| 2015-16 | 8192.35 | 6352.17 | 1840.18 | 22.46 | 2437.01 | 1606.59 | 830.42 | 34.08 |
| 2016-17 | 9764.82 | 8337.82 | 1427.00 | 14.61 | 2481.48 | 1835.04 | 646.64 | 26.06 |
| 2017-18 | 11174.47 | 8423.26 | 2751.21 | 24.62 | 2447.26 | 1435.11 | 1012.15 | 41.36 |

Appropriation Accounts: O: Original; S: Supplementary.

In all the three years, there was overestimation of expenditure which resulted in savings ranging from 14.61 *per cent* to 24.62 *per cent* under Revenue Account and 26.06 *per cent* to 41.36 *per cent* under and Capital Account. This was indicative of the fact that contrary to the prescribed budgetary regulations, estimation was made without proper analysis of actual needs.

2.7.7 Inaccuracy in preparation of revised estimates

According to Paragraphs 29 and 50 of the Budget Manual, the revised estimate of receipts should be the best forecast that the estimating officer can make and the revised estimates for expenditure should not merely be a repetition of the budget figures of the year, but a genuine re-estimation of requirements. Significant cases of variation between the revised estimates and the actuals during 2017-18 under both receipts and expenditure heads of accounts are given below:

Table 2.16: Variation between revised estimated and actuals (₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Number and name of head of accounts | Budget Estimates | Revised estimates | Actuals | Variation Excess(+)/ Shortfall (-) (per cent) |
|------------|---|---------------------|-------------------|---------|--|
| | | RECEIPTS | | | |
| 1. | 0029 - Land Revenue | 5.60 | 5.60 | 2.08 | - 3.52 (62.86) |
| 2. | 0037 - Custom | 610.98 | 318.70 | 436.40 | 117.70 (36.93) |
| 3. | 0038 – Union Excise Duties | 638.65 | 330.12 | 456.20 | 126.08 (38.19) |
| 4. | 0075 – Miscellaneous General Services | 14.50 | 14.50 | 0.94 | - 13.56 (93.52) |
| 5. | 0215 – Water Supply and Sanitation | 18.90 | 18.90 | 5.13 | -13.77 (72.86) |
| 6. | 0406 – Forestry & Wildlife | 112.55 | 112.55 | 55.61 | -56.94 (50.59) |
| 7. | 0853 – Non Ferrous Mining & Metallurgical Industries | 264.87 | 264.87 | 207.88 | - 56.99 (21.52) |
| | F | XPENDITURE | | | |
| 1. | 2203 – Technical Education | 30.82 | 30.82 | 12.84 | - 17.98 (58.34) |
| 2. | 2205 – Art and Culture | 45.93 | 45.93 | 21.56 | - 24.37 (53.06) |
| 3. | 2225 – Welfare of Scheduled Tribe and Other backward classes | 1.51 | 1.51 | 81.67 | 80.16 (5308.61) |
| 4. | 2236 – Nutrition (Education) | 157.33 | 157.33 | 179.68 | 22.35 (14.21) |

| Sl. No. | Number and name of head of accounts | Budget Estimates | Revised estimates | Actuals | Variation Excess(+)/ Shortfall (-) (per cent) |
|------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------|--|
| 5. | 2402 – Soil and Water Conservation | 452.72 | 452.72 | 77.39 | - 375.33 (82.91) |
| 6. | 2505– Rural Development | 1293.93 | 1293.93 | 705.90 | - 588.03 (45.45) |
| 7. | 2702 – Minor Irrigation | 92.39 | 92.39 | 47.52 | - 44.87 (48.57) |
| 8. | 2801 – Power | 81.41 | 81.41 | 109.16 | 27.75 (34.09) |
| 9. | 3054 – Roads and Bridges | 147.66 | 147.66 | 173.08 | 25.42 (17.22) |
| 10. | 3456 – Civil Supplies | 122.56 | 122.56 | 51.72 | - 70.84 (57.80) |

Wide variations ranging from 21.52 *per cent* to 93.52 *per cent* under Receipt heads and 14.21 *per cent* to 5308.61 *per cent* under Expenditure heads between the budget provisions and actuals particularly with reference to revised estimates, indicated absence of proper care in estimating the revised estimates by the controlling officers concerned as envisaged in the Budget Manual and failure of the Finance (Budget) Department in exercising adequate checks over the preliminary revised estimates.

2.7.8 Errors in Budgetary Process

2.7.8.1 Paragraph 98 of the Budget Manual requires that when the expenditure requiring provision is obligatory, a supplementary grant or appropriation may be taken towards the end of the year provided that the total provision made by law under the grant concerned, is not exceeded before the Supplementary Demand is obtained.

We observed that implementation of the Budget in the State was not in conformity with the approved Budget leading to large-scale savings under the Revenue (voted) and Capital (voted) sections as under:

- ▶ Under Revenue (voted) the original grants and supplementary grants were ₹ 9994.66 crore and ₹ 514.12 crore respectively aggregating to ₹ 10508.78 crore, against which the actual expenditure was ₹ 7763.05 crore resulting in savings of ₹ 2745.73 crore. This was more than the supplementary provision (₹ 514.12 crore).
- Similarly, under Capital (voted) including Loans and Advances, the original and supplementary grants were ₹ 1890.19 crore and ₹ 46.67 crore respectively aggregating to ₹ 1936.86 crore against which the actual expenditure was ₹ 1105.49 crore, resulting in savings of ₹ 831.37 crore. This was more than the supplementary grants (₹ 46.67 crore).

In the above cases, the supplementary provision of $\stackrel{?}{\stackrel{\checkmark}{\circ}}$ 514.12 crore under Revenue (voted) and $\stackrel{?}{\stackrel{\checkmark}{\circ}}$ 46.67 crore under Capital (voted) obtained during the year, proved unnecessary as the actual expenditure did not come up to the level of original provisions as indicated in **Table 2.17**:

Table 2.17: Actual Expenditure vis-à-vis Original/Supplementary provisions (₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Nature of expenditure | Original Grant/ Appropriation | Supplementary Grant/ Appropriation | Total | Actual Expenditure | Savings (-) |
|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1. | Revenue (voted) | 9994.66 | 514.12 | 10508.78 | 7763.05 | (-)2745.73 |
| 2. | Capital (voted) | 1890.19 | 46.67 | 1936.86 | 1105.49 | (-)831.37 |
| | Total | 11884.85 | 560.79 | 12445.64 | 8868.54 | (-)3577.10 |

2.7.8.2 Expenditure relating to minor works, repairs and grants-in-aid is to be classified as revenue expenditure. Capital expenditure is incurred with the object of increasing concrete assets of a material and permanent character or reducing permanent liabilities. As per Finance Accounts for the year 2017-18 (Volume – I), the State Government, however, made budget provision and incorrectly classified ₹ 11.62 crore on major works under the Revenue section and ₹ 1.38 crore on minor work Capital section, as detailed below:

Table 2.18: Incorrect depiction of Minor works under Capital Section and Major works under Revenue Section (₹ in crore)

| (The state of the section (The | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------|-----------|--|--------|--|
| Sl. | Major | Sub Major | Minor | Sub Head | Amount | |
| No. | Head | Head | Head | | | |
| I. Mino | I. Minor works booked under 'Capital heads' | | | | | |
| 1. | 4216 | 80 | 800 | (09)Rental Housing Scheme | 1.38 | |
| | | | | Total | 1.38 | |
| II. Maj | or works | booked unde | r 'Revenu | ie heads' | | |
| 1. | 2216 | 03 | 102 | Provision of house site to the landless | 5.00 | |
| 2. | 2220 | 60 | 001 | (01) Directorate of information and Public | 0.70 | |
| | | | | Relation | | |
| | | | | (02) District Sub-Divisional Information & | 0.06 | |
| | | | | Public Relations Offices | | |
| 3. | 2415 | 03 | 277 | Education | 3.36 | |
| 4. | 2515 | 01 | 800 | (08) Construction of Rural Roads | 2.50 | |
| | | | | Programme | | |
| | | | | Total | 11.62 | |

Due to such misclassification, the revenue surplus of the State Government for the year 2017-18 was understated by ₹ 10.24 crore. The misclassification, though reported (June 2018) by the Accountant General (A&E) to the State Government, remained un-rectified.

2.7.9 Technical and qualitative application of resources

Budget provisions (revised), actual expenditure and shortfall (savings) under Plan and Non-Plan heads of both revenue and capital sections in respect of Social Services and Economic Services for the year 2015-18 are presented in **Table 2.19**.

Table 2.19: Social Services and Economic Services

(₹ in crore)

| Year | Budget Estimate | | (net) | Act | ual expenditu | re | Shortfall (-)/E | Excess (+) to |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|--|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | (percen | tage to total pr | covisions) (percentage to provision of | | | • | | |
| | | | | | sector) | | | |
| | Non-Plan | Plan | Total | Non-Plan | Plan | Total | Non-Plan | Plan |
| | | | | | | | Amount | Amount |
| | | | | | | | (per cent) | (per cent) |
| | Social Services | | | | | | | |
| 2015-16 | 1183.21 | 1914.88 | 3098.09 | 1347.55 | 1337.30 | 2684.85 | +64.34 | - 577.58 |
| | (38.19) | (61.81) | | (113.89) | (69.84) | | (13.89) | (30.16) |
| 2016-17 | 1372.65 | 2065.40 | 3438.05 | 1398.54 | 2159.93 | 3558.47 | +25.89 | +94.53 |
| | (39.93) | (60.07) | | (101.89) | (104.58) | | (1.89) | (4.58) |
| 2017-18 | 421 | 4.09 | 4214.09 | 3508.17 | | 3508.14 | -705.92 (16.75) | |
| | Total | | 10750.23 | Tot | al | 9751.46 | -998.77 | (9.29) |
| | | | Ec | conomic Serv | vices | | | |
| 2015-16 | 735.30 | 2989.21 | 3724.51 | 721.80 | 1699.20 | 2421.00 | -13.50 | - 1290.00 |
| | (19.74) | (80.26) | | (98.16) | (56.84) | | (1.84) | (43.16) |
| 2016-17 | 789.53 | 2864.01 | 3653.54 | 825.77 | 2678.94 | 3504.71 | +36.24 | -185.07 |
| | (21.61) | (78.39) | | (104.59) | (93.54) | | (4.59) | (6.46) |
| 2017-18 5072.80 50 | | 5072.80 | 3021.30 | | 3021.30 | - 2051.50 (40.44) | | |
| | Total | | 12450.85 | Tot | al | 8947.01 | -3503.84 | (28.14) |

Source: Memorandum of Budget Estimates and Finance Accounts.

Social services

During 2015-18, the total budget provision under Social services was ₹ 10750.23 crore whereas the actual expenditure was ₹ 9751.46 crore. The percentage of shortfall during 2015-18 fell short of the budget provision by 9.29 *per cent*.

• Economic Services

There was a decline in actual expenditure during 2017-18 as compared to the previous year. There was also an overall shortfall of 28.14 *per cent* in actual expenditure under Economic services during the year 2015-18 as compared to the Budget provision.

The above details indicated that the State was not able to utilise the budget provision made under Social and Economic Services.

2.7.10 Budgetary control/monitoring system

As per paragraph 152 (i) of Budget Manual, for the purpose of facilitating the watch over progress of expenditure and the provision of additional funds when necessary, a statement in duplicate was to be submitted to the Finance Department twice a year (by 25th November and 1stJanuary). Statements/returns received, if any, from the different Controlling Officers/ Heads of Departments were not furnished to Audit. However, shortcomings in the budget formulation as discussed in the foregoing paragraphs indicated that the prescribed budgetary control/monitoring system to watch over the progress of expenditure remained ineffective and the Finance Department could not take any action/measure to contain the trend of shortcomings like excess expenditure, persistent savings, *etc*.

2.8 Outcome of review of selected Grant

A review of budgetary procedure and control over expenditure was conducted (October 2018) in respect of 'Grant Number – 16 Police, Other Administrative Services, Housing and Capital Outlay on Police'.

The Director General of Police was the Controlling Officer (CO) for this Grant. Under this Grant, expenditure during the year 2017-18 was booked under the major head of account 2055-Police and 4055 - Capital outlay on Police, 2070- Other Administrative Services – 108- Fire Protection Control and 2216 Housing - 06 Police Housing. In this regard, significant cases of savings and excess expenditure over budget provisions noticed during the review are discussed below:

2.8.1 Excessive supplementary provision/non-surrender of savings

Against budget provision of ₹ 745.26 crore (including supplementary provision of ₹ 22.92 crore), under revenue head the actual expenditure incurred was ₹ 689.92 crore resulting in final savings of ₹ 55.34 crore (including Charged). In view of the final savings of ₹ 55.34 crore, the supplementary provision of ₹ 22.92 crore obtained during the year was in excess of requirement.

Under the capital head, expenditure of $\ref{12.51}$ crore was incurred during the year against the budget provision of $\ref{132.50}$ crore resulting in saving of $\ref{19.79}$ crore. The savings of $\ref{19.79}$ crore were not surrendered during the year contrary to the provisions in Paragraph 152 (iii) of the Budget Manual which provides for surrender of all anticipated savings to the Finance Department latest by 15 March so that the same could be utilised for other purpose.

2.8.2 Savings

As per the Detailed Appropriation Accounts for the year 2017-18, 100 per cent savings occurred under nine schemes in respect of major Head of Accounts 2055 – Police and 4055 – Capital Outlay on Police, as shown in the **Table 2.20.** The Controlling officers could not utilise any part of the Budget provision made in the Budget, indicating that the budget provisions were unrealistic.

Table 2.20: Cases where no part of budget provisions was utilised (₹ in lakh)

| Sl. | Name of the Scheme | Original | Savings | Percentage |
|-----|---|-----------|---------|------------|
| No. | | provision | | |
| | 2055 - Police | | | |
| 1. | 0027(27) Procurement of Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) | 10.00 | 10.00 | 100 |
| 2. | 115 - Modernisation of Police force – 0001(01) Expenditure on | 20.26 | 20.26 | 100 |
| | Modernisation pertaining to Police Training College | | | |
| 3. | 0005(05) Expenditure on modernization of pertaining to | 39.82 | 39.82 | 100 |
| | Forensic Science Laboratory | | | |
| | 4055 – Capital outlay on Police | | | |
| 4. | 207 - State Police – 0001(01) Construction of administrative | 159.32 | 159.32 | 100 |
| | building for the State Police/Police station and outpost | | | |
| | (6 th Schedule) | | | |

| Sl. | Name of the Scheme | Original | Savings | Percentage |
|-----|--|-----------|---------|------------|
| No. | | provision | | |
| 5. | 0002(02) Construction of administrative building for the State | 40.68 | 40.68 | 100 |
| | Police/Police station and outpost, under modernization of State | | | |
| | Police Force (6 th Schedule) | | | |
| 6. | 211 - Police Housing – 0001(01) Construction of Residential | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100 |
| | buildings for Police accommodation/Facilities (6 th Schedule) | | | |
| 7. | 0003(03) Construction of Residential Buildings for Fire | 150.00 | 150.00 | 100 |
| | Emergency Services accommodation/Facilities - Sixth Schedule | | | |
| 8. | 800 - Other Expenditure – 0004(02) Non Lapsable Central pool | 500.00 | 500.00 | 100 |
| | of Resources | | | |
| 9. | 0006(03) Construction other than Buildings | 150.00 | 150.00 | 100 |

As per Paragraph 152 (iii) of the Budget Manual (Volume I), the controlling officers should surrender to the Finance Department all savings anticipated in the Budget under their control as soon as the certainty of non-requirement of fund is known by the 15th of March at the latest for utilisation by the Finance Department for other purposes. However, in the above cases, none of the amounts had been surrendered.

2.8.3 Excess expenditure over budget provision

As per detailed Appropriation Accounts for the year 2017-18, under two schemes, expenditure of \mathbb{Z} 42.28 crore exceeded the budget provision by \mathbb{Z} 3.53 crore. The details are given in **Table 2.21** below:

Table 2.21: Excess expenditure over budget provisions (₹ in crore)

| Major Head and Group Head | Final Grant or Appropriation | Actual expenditure | Excess |
|--|---|--------------------|--------|
| 2055- Police | M • M • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • | | |
| 104 –Special Police – 0013 (13) Raising of 6 th MLP Bn/4 th IRBN | 38.20 | 41.72 | 3.52 |
| 109 –District Police - 0017(17) Cost of Police supplied to Nationalised Bank | 0.55 | 0.56 | 0.01 |
| Total | 38.75 | 42.28 | 3.53 |

2.8.4 Expenditure without provision

In contravention of the Budget manual (Paragraph 95-Volume I) which prohibits any expenditure on a scheme/service without provision of funds, an expenditure of ₹ 2.14 crore was incurred under one scheme, without making any provision in the original/supplementary demand and without re-appropriation orders to this effect. The detail is given below:

Table 2.22: Expenditure without any provision

(₹ in crore)

| Major Head and Minor Head | Final Grant | Expenditure |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| 2055- Police – 102- Central Reserve Police – | NIL | 2.14 |
| 0001(01) Reimbursement to State for Civil Defence | | |

2.8.5 Unnecessary re-appropriation

Re-appropriation: Re-appropriation is a transfer of funds within a Grant from one unit of appropriation where savings are anticipated to another unit where additional

funds are needed. In 17 cases, re-appropriation of funds were made injudiciously resulting in final savings/excess by more than \ref{thmat} 1 crore in each case (Serial no. 10 to 26 of **Appendix 2.6**). In 12 cases, \ref{thmat} 6.66 crore was provided by re-appropriation which were injudicious and unnecessary order as the total expenditure (\ref{thmat} 105.78 crore) did not come to the original provision (\ref{thmat} 110.25 crore), the details of which are given below:

Table 2.23: Unnecessary re-appropriation (₹ in crore)

| | | | (\text{in crore}) | | | |
|-----|---|-----------|-------------------|--------|-------------|----------|
| Sl. | Head of account | Original | Re- | Final | Actual | Savings |
| No. | | Provision | appropriation | Grant | Expenditure | |
| | 2055 - Police | | | | | |
| 1. | 03- Education and Training - 0001(01) | 4.50 | R (+) 0.05 | 4.55 | 4.27 | (-) 0.28 |
| | Police Training School/College | | | | | |
| 2. | 101 - Criminal Investigation and | 1.16 | R (+) 0.09 | 1.25 | 1.14 | (-) 0.11 |
| ' | Vigilance | | ` ' | | | , , |
| | 0004 (04) S.C.R.B | | | | | |
| 3. | 0005 (05) Cyber Crime Wing | 1.63 | R (+) 0.01 | 1.64 | 1.47 | (-) 0.17 |
| 4. | 104 – Special Police | 44.06 | R (+) 0.12 | 44.18 | 42.22 | (-) 1.96 |
| | 0004 (04) 2 nd Meghalaya Police | | | | | |
| | Battalion | | | | | |
| 5. | 0011(11) Raising of 5 th MLP Bn./3 rd | 44.86 | S (+) 2.87 | 50.23 | 43.66 | (-) 6.57 |
| | IRBN | | R (+) 2.50 | | | |
| 6. | 109 – District Police | 0.21 | S (+) 0.35 | 0.58 | | (-) 0.58 |
| | 0003 (03) Payment towards charges for | | R (+) 0.02 | | | |
| | requisition of home (6 th Schedule) | | | | | |
| 7. | 0005 (05) Thumb and Finger | 1.11 | R (+) 0.01 | 1.12 | 0.87 | (-) 0.25 |
| | Impression and Photography Scheme | | | | | |
| 8. | 0020 (20) Establishment of Special | 2.07 | R (+) 0.08 | 2.15 | 2.02 | (-) 0.13 |
| | Guards for checking/detecting | | | | | |
| | infiltration from Bangladesh | | | | | |
| 9. | 0028 (28) Requisition of vehicles (6 th | 7.01 | R (+) 0.13 | 7.14 | 6.94 | (-) 0.20 |
| | Schedule) | | | | | |
| 10. | 113- Welfare of Police personnel | 0.86 | R (+) 0.06 | 0.92 | 0.73 | (-) 0.19 |
| | 0001 (01) Hospital Charges for Police | | | | | |
| | Personnel | | | | | |
| 11. | 116 – Forensic Science | 2.32 | R (+) 0.33 | 2.65 | 2.03 | (-) 0.62 |
| | 0001 (01) Forensic Science laboratory | | | | | |
| | 2070 – Other Administrative Services | | | | | |
| 12. | 108 – fire Protection and Control | 0.46 | R (+) 0.04 | 0.50 | 0.43 | (-) 0.07 |
| | 0001 (01) Direction and Administration | | | | | |
| | (Establishment for Fire Protection | | | | | |
| | measures in IGP's office) | 440.05 | | 44601 | 407.50 | ()44.40 |
| | Total | 110.25 | 6.66 | 116.91 | 105.78 | (-)11.13 |

As per the Appropriation Accounts for the year 2017-18, against available savings of ₹ 75.13 crore, no part of which was surrendered during 2017-18, as detailed in **Table 2.24** below:

Table 2.24: Savings occurred but not surrendered (₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Grant No./ Appropriation | Name of Grant/Appropriation | Savings |
|---------|-----------------------------|---|---------|
| 1. | | Police, Other Administrative Services, Housing, Capital Outlay on Police | |
| | 16 | Revenue – Voted | 55.01 |
| 2. | | Revenue – Charged | 0.33 |
| 3. | | Capital – Voted | 19.79 |
| | | Total | 75.13 |

2.9 Significant Findings

The financial management and budgetary control of the Government was not satisfactory. Government presented ambitious budget of ₹ 13621.73 crore³ for the year 2017-18, of which it could incur an expenditure of ₹ 9858.37 crore resulting in an overall savings of ₹ 3763.36 crore (27.63 *per cent* of total provision).

There were deficiencies in budgetary procedure and expenditure control. The estimates for receipts and expenditure were prepared without adequate due diligence in observing prescribed budgetary regulations. Delayed submission of departmental estimates, poor verification of departmental figures *etc*. indicates absence of financial control. In many cases, the anticipated savings were not surrendered for utilising these for other development purposes.

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Original plus Supplementary.