

CHAPTER IX : MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

9.1 Irregular payment of Ad-hoc Bonus to the employees of JIPMER - ₹ 4.56 crore

Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research, Puducherry paid Ad-hoc bonus to the employees for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 without receiving the orders from the Ministry of Finance resulted in irregular payment of Ad-hoc bonus of ₹ 4.56 crore.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure issued Office Memorandum for Grant of Non Productivity Linked Bonus (Ad-hoc Bonus) to Central Government Employees in Group 'C', 'D' and all non-gazetted employees in Group 'B' annually. Orders for grant of ad-hoc bonus to Central Government employees were issued for the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 on 3 October 2016¹ and 19 September 2017² respectively. Orders for the grant of Ad-hoc bonus to Autonomous Bodies funded by Central Government are being issued separately every year. It was observed that orders for the grant of Ad-hoc bonus to Autonomous Bodies have been issued for the year 2014-15 but no orders for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 were issued.

Audit noted that Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research (JIPMER), Puducherry paid Ad-hoc bonus to the employees amounting to ₹ 4.56 crore for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 without the orders from the Ministry of Finance. Payment of Ad-hoc bonus without sanctioned orders from the Ministry of Finance for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 resulted in irregular payment of ₹ 4.56 crore by JIPMER.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare accepted the audit para and informed (July 2018) that JIPMER had initiated recovery of irregular Ad-hoc bonus paid to its employees. Subsequently JIPMER asked (August 2018) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to obtain legal advice from Ministry of Law & Justice. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare directed (May 2019) JIPMER to recover the amount as per audit observation.

The actual recovery is yet to be effected (June 2019) by JIPMER.

¹ Vide OM No. 7/4/2014-E.III(A), dated 03 October, 2016

² Vide OM No. 7/4/2014-E.III(A), dated 19 September, 2017