

CHAPTER – V

Stores and Stock

**The Chapter contains major deficiencies in
management of stores in various departments**

CHAPTER V

STORES AND STOCK

AUDIT PARAGRAPHS

HOME DEPARTMENT

Stationery and Printing wing

5.1 Material lying idle

Election material valued Rs 34.89 lakh procured between 1976-77 and 1999-2000 and Stationery articles valued Rs 62.75 lakh procured between 1980-81 and 1993-94 by the Commissioner of Stationery, Printing and Stores Purchase had been lying in stores undistributed as of May 2002.

The Commissioner of Stationery, Printing and Stores Purchase (Commissioner) was the centralised authority upto November 1997 for procurement and distribution of articles of stationery required by all the State Government Offices. As of November 1997 when the government decentralised the powers of procurement of stationery to the Heads of the Offices, articles valued Rs 33.95 lakh (type writers: Rs 16.78 lakh, livery cloth: Rs 9.03 lakh, ball pens: Rs 1.74 lakh and paper, etc.: Rs 6.40 lakh) purchased between 1980-81 and 1993-94 were lying with the Commissioner undistributed/ undisposed. The same were however not disposed even as of May 2002. Of the 441 undistributed type writers 135 were purchased between 1980-81 and 1985-86 in excess of requirements. The remaining 306 typewriters supplied to the Andhra Pradesh High Court between November 1981 and June 1985 in excess of their requirement were returned by the latter in April 1995 and lying undisposed. This was commented in paragraph 3.6 of Audit Report for the year ended 31 March 1998.

The Commissioner was entrusted also with the responsibility for procurement and distribution of election materials required by the State Election Commissioner for conduct of General as well as Panchayat Elections in the State. A scrutiny in audit (February 2002) revealed that, the pink wove and cream wove paper purchased during the years 1976-77, 1990-91 and 1996-97, valued Rs 18.11 lakh (76.262 MT) had been lying in stores without distribution. The paper had lost its strength and was reported to be not fit for use as ballot paper. As such Government ordered the Commissioner in November 1998 to make use of the said paper for other purposes. The paper was not used as of May 2002.

Other election material such as stationery articles, pouches and holograms valued Rs 16.78 lakh purchased by the Commissioner between 1995-1996 and 1999-2000 had also been lying undistributed as of May 2002.

Besides, 72,487 MT of pink wove and white cream wove paper valued Rs 22.48 lakh procured between January 1998 and August 1999, was lying unutilised at the Regional Printing Presses at Vijayawada and Kurnool. Similarly, 2079 straw boards valued Rs 6.32 lakh procured in December 2000 were also lying idle at Regional Printing Press, Kurnool as of May 2002.

The matter was referred to the Principal Secretary to Government in August 2002. Reply had not been received (September 2002).