

## PREFACE

The Report for the year ended 31 March 2004 has been prepared in two volumes (Nos.8 and 9) for submission to the President under Article 151 (1) of the Constitution of India.

This volume (No.8) covers comments arising from audit of the Accounts of Railways for the year 2003-2004 and Appropriation Accounts on Railways Grants for the same year. Other points arising from the test-audit of financial transactions of Railways are also included in Chapters on Earnings, Works and Contract Management, Stores and Assets Management and Other Topics.

The audit observations contained in the Report are based on the results of audit conducted during the year 2003-2004 and early part of 2004-2005 as well as the findings of the test-audit conducted in earlier years, which could not be included in the previous Reports. Matters relating to the transactions subsequent to 2003-2004 have been mentioned, where relevant.

