

OVERVIEW

General

Annual accounts of Autonomous Bodies

In 2006-07 there were 264 central autonomous bodies whose accounts were to be certified under Section 19 (2) and 20 (1) of the CAG's (DPC) Act, 1971. Government of India released Rs. 8468.27 crore towards grants and Rs. 0.40 crore towards loan to 241 bodies during 2006-07. Information on the amount of government grants released to the remaining 23 bodies was not available.

Grants amounting to Rs. 2249.63 crore (26.56 *per cent* of total grants) were disbursed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to 66 educational institutions, Rs. 1233.34 crore (14.56 *per cent* of total grants) were disbursed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to 23 health and research institutions and Rs. 420.96 crore (4.97 *per cent* of total grants) were disbursed by the Ministry of Commerce to six autonomous bodies.

Accounts for 2005-06 of 262 central bodies were to be made available for audit by 30 June 2006 and audited accounts were to be placed before the Parliament by 31 December 2006. Of these, accounts of 93 bodies were submitted for audit within the stipulated time. The accounts of 13 bodies were not submitted for audit by the concerned organisations as of November 2007.

(Paragraph 1.1)

Ministry of Culture

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts suspended construction work of its building project in November 2000. Though the remaining work on the project had not started as of May 2007, it continued to employ 17 persons in the Building Project Cell. While the services of five of them were discontinued during June 2005 to April 2007 and two were adjusted against vacant posts, the remaining 10 employees were continuing as of July 2007. Their continuance in the cell for up to five years without any work resulted in wasteful expenditure of Rs. 89.69 lakh on their pay and allowances between 2003-04 and April 2007.

(Paragraph 3.2)

Ministry of Finance

Department of Economic Affairs

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority appointed two whole-time members as consultant and adviser respectively immediately on completion of their tenure with the Authority in violation of the norm and in one case in breach of propriety. The Authority also paid high monthly remuneration of Rs. 1.19 lakh and Rs. 0.45 lakh to them in disregard of the ceiling of Rs. 26000/- per month fixed by the Government of India, resulting in undue benefit of Rs. 16.89 lakh and Rs. 1.14 lakh respectively.

(Paragraph 4.1)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Department of Health

Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute Kolkata

The Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, is a Regional Cancer Centre and functions as an advanced institute catering to treatment, training, education and research in oncology, with emphasis on the needs of the eastern region of India. The poor management of the Institute has led to deficient patient care services. A thorough revamping and overhauling of the Institute is necessary for better patient care services.

(Paragraph 5.1)

Ministry of Human Resource Development

Indian Council of Philosophical Research

As per the terms and conditions of fellowship grant, fellows are required to submit final manuscript to the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) within three months of the conclusion of the fellowship terms, failing which, the fellowship can be terminated and the entire amount paid to the fellows should be recovered. Ineffective internal control in ICPR to monitor timely submission of manuscripts of research projects by the fellows, resulted in non-recovery of fellowship grant of Rs. 48.19 lakh from 48 fellows, whose fellowship had been terminated due to their failure

to complete the research projects even after a lapse of one to 11 years of the scheduled date of completion of the projects.

(Paragraph 6.2)

Jamia Millia Islamia

Jamia Millia Islamia deposited Rs. 2.08 crore with Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority in April 2002 being 10 *per cent* of the total premium of Rs. 20.81 crore for 100 acres of land allotted to it by the latter. The University did not pay the next instalment of 20 *per cent* within the stipulated period of 90 days. Despite its inability of raising the resource for further payment, the University failed to ask for refund of the deposited premium of Rs. 2.08 crore within 90 days of allotment, which resulted not only in cancellation of land, but forfeiture of deposited amount of Rs. 2.08 crore.

(Paragraph 6.3)

University of Delhi

Despite the assurance by the Ministry to the Public Accounts Committee and its subsequent directions to the University Grants Commission and the University of Delhi to recover transport allowance irregularly paid to its employees who were provided accommodation within the campus housing their places of work and residence in violation of the orders of the Government, the University continued to pay inadmissible transport allowance to its employees for the past nine years. It irregularly paid transport allowance aggregating Rs. 84.62 lakh during August 1997 to January 2007 to its 424 employees.

(Paragraph 6.6)

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Prasar Bharati

Negligence by Prasar Bharati in not limiting the claims with reference to the reduced time, during which the one day cricket matches were actually played resulted in overpayment of Rs. 3.39 crore to the Board of Control for Cricket in India for India-Sri Lanka and India-South Africa one day internationals in October – November 2005.

(Paragraph 7.1)

As per the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Prasar Bharati and National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) for supply of films by the latter for telecast, payment for the repeat telecast had to be regulated on the sliding scale of 50 and 25 *per cent* for the second and third repeat telecasts respectively. Since Prasar Bharati did not maintain film-wise data of telecast of the films, it made payment to NFDC without reference to their repeat telecasts in a number of cases. This resulted in excess payment of Rs. 58.35 lakh to NFDC from December 2003 to May 2006 which was recovered at the instance of audit in March 2007.

(Paragraph 7.2)

Prasar Bharati did not obtain bank guarantee from Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (APBU) against advance payments made in foreign currency and thereby violated the provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act. Subsequent undue delay in obtaining approval to the waiver of the bank guarantee from the Finance Ministry led to avoidable interest payment of Rs. 27.40 lakh to APBU.

(Paragraph 7.3)

Doordarshan Commercial Services (DCS) did not indicate Free Commercial Time (FCT) allowed and used in the FCT ledger correctly which rendered the correctness of the banked FCT not being ascertainable at any given point of time. The FCT ledgers reconstructed by Audit disclosed that excess FCT of 675 seconds availed of by two producers was not billed resulting in a loss of Rs. 24.13 lakh. On the mistakes being pointed out in audit, DCS initiated action for recovery of excess FCT of Rs. 24.13 lakh.

(Paragraph 7.4)

Ministry of Shipping

Cochin Port Trust

Cochin Port Trust levied demurrage on a consignment of imported cargo at a rate lower than that prescribed in the Scale of Rates for such imports at the request of the importer resulting in a loss of revenue of Rs. 2.59 crore.

(Paragraph 8.2)

Kolkata Port Trust

For construction, operation and management of a berth for cargo handling operation at Haldia Dock Complex, Kolkata Port Trust executed a license agreement with a private Company for a period of 30 years. The Port Trust granted undue financial benefit to the Company by accepting payment of royalty on cargo handling charges which was not in consonance with the provision of the agreement. As a result, the Port sustained a revenue loss of Rs. 1.46 crore till April 2007 and it would continue to suffer loss up to May 2008.

(Paragraph 8.4)

Mumbai Port Trust

Failure of Mumbai Port Trust to submit the proposal for revision of stevedoring charges to the Tariff Authority for Major Ports in time led to loss of Rs. 3.82 crore.

(Paragraph 8.6)

Ministry of Urban Development

Delhi Development Authority

In contravention of the codal provisions, DDA included price escalation clause in the works awarded on lump-sum basis without obtaining approval of the competent authority. This resulted in avoidable payment of Rs. 6.41 crore.

(Paragraph 10.1)

DDA awarded the work of laying peripheral sewer line on the site on a part of which stay orders of the Court existed even before notice inviting tenders. This resulted in foreclosure of work and blocking of funds of Rs. 1.78 crore.

(Paragraph 10.3)

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan fixed pay of its 37 employees higher than their substantive posts in violation of Recruitment Rules approved by the Ministry. This resulted in overpayment of Rs. 1.41 crore to them on their pay and allowances during June 1989 to September 2006.

(Paragraph 11.1)