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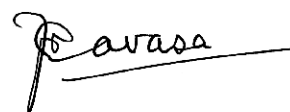
GENERAL FINANCIAL RULES 2017



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure**

P R E F A C E

1. General Financial Rules (GFRs) are a compilation of rules and orders of Government of India to be followed by all while dealing with matters involving public finances. These rules and orders are treated as executive instructions to be observed by all Departments and Organisations under the Government and specified Bodies except otherwise provided for in these Rules.
2. General Financial Rules were issued for the first time in 1947 bringing together in one place all existing orders and instructions pertaining to financial matters. These have subsequently been modified and issued as GFRs 1963 and GFRs 2005.
3. In the last few years, Government has made many innovative changes in the way it conducts its business. Reforms in Government budgeting like removal of distinction in non-plan and plan expenditure, merger of Railway Budget with General Budget, focusing on outcomes through an improved Outcome Budget document, all needed to be reflected in the GFRs. Increased focus on Public Finance Management System(PFMS), reliance on the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme to ensure efficient delivery of entitlements, introduction of new e-sites like Central Public Procurement Portal, Government e-Marketing (GeM) Portal, Non-Tax Revenue Portal have also necessitated revision of the existing GFRs to keep them in tune with the changing business environment. The objective was to make the GFRs facilitate efficiency rather than create impediments in smooth and timely implementation while following principles of accountability and procedures of financial discipline and administrative due diligence. The Expenditure Management Commission set up in 2014 to recommend ways in which efficiency of public expenditure could be increased has also made several recommendations especially with respect to Autonomous Bodies. New rules on non-tax revenues, user charges, e-receipts portal have been added in addition to the manner in which Autonomous Bodies are run.
4. The PAC in April 2015, Group of Secretaries in February 2016 and EMC in March 2016 has recommended setting up a Task Force to review the GFRs so as to frame comprehensive rules to address the issues as highlighted in the above para.
5. GFRs, 2017 have evolved as a result of wide consultations with Central Government Ministries and Departments, some State Governments and other stakeholders at the Task Force stage and thereafter. The Discussion Draft was also uploaded on the MoF's website. Secretaries of each Department/ Ministry of Government of India were asked to give their views for additions/ modifications, keeping in view their specific requirements of their domain. Detailed deliberations were also carried out within the Ministry. C&AG's comments on the draft GFRs have also been taken into consideration.
6. The aim of any rule is to provide a framework within which an organization manages its business in a financially prudent manner without compromising its flexibility to deal with varied situations. The GFRs 2005 have been very comprehensively reviewed with the aim of promoting simplicity and transparency in the Government financial system and procedures. It is expected that the new GFRs 2017 will enable an improved, efficient and effective framework of fiscal management while providing the necessary flexibility to facilitate timely delivery of services.
7. Department of Expenditure would like to place on record the exceptional work done by the Task Force on Review of GFRs, the office of the C&AG, the office of the CGA, Budget Division of Department of Economic Affairs, the Ministries and Departments for their valuable inputs and its own officers for assiduously and meticulously completing this vital and challenging exercise in a time bound manner.



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INTRODUCTION

Rule 1 Short Title and Commencement: These rules may be called General Financial Rules, 2017 and they shall come into force at once and shall be applicable to all Central Government Ministries/Departments, attached and subordinate bodies. The provisions contained in GFRs are deemed to be applicable to Autonomous Bodies except to the extent the bye-laws of an Autonomous Body provides for separate Financial Rules which have been approved by the Government.

Rule 2 Definition : In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires-

- (i) **"Accounts Officer"** means the Head of an Office of Accounts or the Head of a Pay and Accounts Office set up under the scheme of departmentalization of accounts;
- (ii) **"Administrator"** means Administrator of a Union Territory, by whatever name designated;
- (iii) **"Appropriation"** means the assignment, to meet specified expenditure, of funds included in a primary unit of appropriation;
- (iv) **"Audit Officer"** means the Head of an Office of Audit;
- (v) **"Competent Authority"** means, in respect of the power to be exercised under any of these Rules, the President or such other authority to which the power is delegated by or under these Rules, Delegation of Financial Power Rules or any other general or special orders issued by the Government of India;
- (vi) **"Comptroller and Auditor General"** means the Comptroller and Auditor General of India;
- (vii) **"Consolidated Fund"** means the Consolidated Fund of India referred to in Article 266 (1) of the Constitution;
- (viii) **"Constitution"** means the Constitution of India;
- (ix) **"Contingency Fund"** means the Contingency Fund of India established under the Contingency Fund of India Act, 1950, in terms of Article 267 (1) of the Constitution;
- (x) **"Controlling Officer"** means an officer entrusted by a Department of the Central Government with the

responsibility of controlling the incurring of expenditure and/or the collection of revenue. The term shall include a Head of Department and also an Administrator;

- (xi) **"Department of the Government of India"** means any of the Ministries, Departments, Secretariats and Offices as notified from time to time and listed in the First Schedule to the Government of India (Allocation of Business Rules);
- (xii) **"Drawing and Disbursing Officer"** means a Head of Office and also any other Gazetted Officer so designated by a Department of the Central Government, a Head of Department or an Administrator, to draw bills and make payments on behalf of the Central Government. The term shall also include a Head of Department or an Administrator where he himself discharges such function;
- (xiii) **"Ministry of Finance"** means the Ministry of Finance of the Central Government;
- (xiv) **"Financial Year"** means the year beginning on the 1st of April and ending on the 31st of March following;
- (xv) **"Government"** means the Central Government;
- (xvi) **"Government Account"** means the account relating to the Consolidated Fund, the Contingency Fund and the Public Account; as defined in these rules;
- (xvii) **"Head of the Department"** means an authority or person (not below the rank of a Deputy Secretary to the Government of India), declared by the concerned Department in the Government of India as a Head of Department in relation to an identifiable establishment or establishments to exercise the delegated financial powers under these Rules;
- (xviii) **"Head of Office"** means (a) a Gazetted Officer declared as such in the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules and (b) any other authority declared as such under any general or special orders of the competent



- authority;
- (xix) **“Local Body”** means an authority legally entitled or specially empowered by Government to administer a local fund;
- (xx) **“Local Fund”** means a local fund as defined in Rule 652 of the Treasury Rules;
- (xxi) **“Non-recurring expenditure”** means expenditure other than recurring expenditure;
- (xxii) **“President”** means the President of India;
- (xxiii) **“Primary unit of appropriation”** means a primary unit of appropriation referred to in Rule 8 of the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules;
- (xxiv) **“Public Account”** means the Public Account of India referred to in Article 266 (2) of the Constitution;
- (xxv) **“Public Works”** means civil/ electrical works including public buildings, public services, transport infrastructure etc., both original and repair works and any other project, including infrastructure which is for the use of general public;
- (xxvi) **“Re-appropriation”** means the transfer of funds from one primary unit of appropriation to another such unit;
- (xxvii) **“Recurring expenditure”** means the expenditure which is incurred at periodical intervals for the same purpose. Expenditures other than recurring expenditure are non-recurring expenditure;
- (xxviii) **“Reserve Bank”** means the Reserve Bank of India or any office or agency of the Reserve Bank of India and includes any Bank acting as the agent of the Reserve Bank of India in accordance with the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (Act II of 1934);
- (xxix) **“Subordinate authority”** means a Department of the Central Government or any authority subordinate to the President;
- (xxx) **“Treasury Rules”** means the Treasury Rules of the Central Government;

- (xxxii) **CAPEX model:** In the CAPEX Model, Capital expenditures is used by the buyer to straightway purchase goods followed by procurement of consumables, arranging comprehensive maintenance contract after warranty period and finally disposing the product after useful life;
- (xxxiii) **OPEX model:** In the OPEX model, the Seller provides the goods, maintains it and also provides the consumables as required and finally takes back the goods after useful / contracted life. The expenditure is made by the Buyer in a staggered manner as per the terms and conditions of the contract.

Rule 3 Interdepartmental consultations: When the subject of a case concerns more than one Department, no order shall be issued until all such Departments have concurred, or, failing such concurrence, a decision has been taken by or under the authority of the Cabinet. In this regard it is clarified that every case in which a decision, if taken in one Department, is likely to affect the transaction of business allotted to another Department, shall also be deemed to be a case which concerns more than one Department.

Rule 4 Departmental Regulations of financial character: All Departmental regulations, in so far as they embody orders or instructions of a financial character or have important financial bearing, must invariably be made by, or with the approval of the Ministry of Finance.

Rule 5 Removal of Doubts: Where a doubt arises as to the interpretation of any of the provisions of these Rules, the matter shall be referred to the Ministry of Finance for decision.

Rule 6 Modifications:

- (1) The systems and procedures established by these Rules are subject to general or special instructions/ orders, which the Ministry of Finance may issue from time to time.
- (2) The systems and procedures established by these Rules may be modified by any other authority only with the express approval of the Ministry of Finance.



GENERAL SYSTEM OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Rule 7** All moneys received by or on behalf of the Government either as dues of Government or for deposit, remittance or otherwise, shall be brought into Government Account without delay, in accordance with such general or special rules as may be issued under Articles 150 and 283 (1) of the Constitution.
- Rule 8 (1)**
- (i) Under Article 284 of the Constitution all moneys received by or deposited with any officer employed in connection with the affairs of the Union in his capacity as such, other than revenues or public moneys raised or received by Government, shall be paid into the Public Account.
 - (ii) All moneys received by or deposited with the Supreme Court of India or with any other Court, other than a High Court, within a Union Territory, shall also be dealt with in accordance with Clause (i) of sub-rule (1).
- Rule 8 (2)** The Head of Account to which such moneys shall be credited and the withdrawal of moneys therefrom shall be governed by the relevant provisions of Government Accounting Rules 1990 and the Central Government Account (Receipts and Payments) Rules, 1983 or such other general or special orders as may be issued in this behalf.
- Rule 9** It is the duty of the Department of the Central Government concerned to ensure that the receipts and dues of the Government are correctly and promptly assessed, collected and duly credited to the Consolidated Fund or Public Account as the case may be.
- Rule 10** The Controlling Officer shall arrange to obtain from his subordinate officers monthly accounts and returns in suitable form claiming credit for the amounts paid into the treasury or bank as the case may be, or otherwise accounted for, and compare them with the statements of credits furnished by the Accounts Officer to see that the amounts reported as collected have been duly credited. Accordingly, each Accounts Officer will send an extract from his accounts showing the amounts brought to credit in the accounts in each month to the Controlling Officer concerned.
- Rule 11 (1)** Detailed rules and procedure regarding assessment, collection, allocation, remission and abandonment of revenue and other receipts shall be laid down in the regulations of the Department responsible for the same
- Rule 11 (2)** In Departments in which officers are required to receive moneys on behalf of Government and issue receipts therefor in Form GAR-6 the departmental regulations should provide for the maintenance of a proper account of the receipt and issue of the receipt books, the number of receipt books to be issued at a time to each officer and a check with the officer's accounts of the used books when returned.
- Rule 12** Amounts due to Government shall not be left outstanding without sufficient reasons. Where such amounts appear to be irrecoverable, the orders of the competent authority shall be obtained for their adjustment.
- Rule 13** Unless specially authorized by any rule or order made by competent authority, no sums shall be credited as revenue by debit to a suspense head. The credit must follow and not precede actual realization.
- Rule 14** Subject to any general or special orders issued by a Department of the Central Government, an Administrator or a Head of a Department responsible for the collection of revenue shall keep the Finance Ministry fully informed of the progress of collection of revenue under his control and of all important variations in such collections as compared with the Budget Estimates.
- Rule 15 (1) Rents of buildings and lands.** When the maintenance of any rentable building is entrusted to a civil department, other than the Central Public Works Department, the Administrator or the Head of the Department concerned shall be responsible for the due recovery of the rent thereof.
- Rule 15 (2)** The procedure for the assessment and recovery of rent of any building hired out will be regulated generally by the rules applicable to buildings under the direct charge of the Central Public Works Department.
- Rule 15 (3)** The detailed rules and procedure, regarding the demand and recovery of rent of Government buildings and lands, are contained in the departmental regulations of the departments in charge of those buildings.
- Rule 16 (1) Fines .** Every authority having the power to impose and/ or realize a fine shall ensure that the money is realized, duly checked and deposited into a treasury or bank as the case may be.



Rule 16 (2) Every authority having the power to refund fines shall ensure that the refunds are checked and no double refunds of amounts of fines collected or refunds of fines not actually paid into a treasury or bank as the case may be, are made

Rule 17 Miscellaneous Demands. Accounts Officers shall watch the realization of miscellaneous demands of Government, not falling under the ordinary revenue administration, such as contributions from State Governments, Local Funds, contractors and others towards establishment charges.

Rule 18 Remission of Revenue. A claim to revenue shall not be remitted or abandoned save with the sanction of the competent authority.

Rule 19 (1) Subject to any general or special orders issued by the Government Departments of the Central Government, Administrators and Heads of Departments, other than those in the Department of Posts, shall submit annually on the 1st of June to the Audit Officer and the Accounts Officer concerned, statements showing the remissions of revenue and abandonment of claims to revenue sanctioned during the preceding year by competent authorities in exercise of the discretionary powers vested in them otherwise than by law or rule having the force of law, provided that individual remissions below Rupees one thousand need not be included in the statements.

Rule 19 (2) For inclusion in the statements referred to in Rule 19 (1) above, remissions and abandonments should be classified broadly with reference to the grounds on which they were sanctioned and a total figure should be given for each class. A brief explanation of the circumstances leading to the remission should be added in the case of each class.

Rule 20 Departments of the Central Government and Administrators may make rules defining remissions and abandonments of revenue for the purpose of Rule 19 above.

I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES RELATING TO EXPENDITURE AND PAYMENT OF MONEY

Rule 21 Standards of financial propriety. Every officer incurring or authorizing expenditure from public moneys should be guided by high standards of financial propriety. Every

officer should also enforce financial order and strict economy and see that all relevant financial rules and regulations are observed, by his own office and by subordinate disbursing officers. Among the principles on which emphasis is generally laid are the following :-

- (i) Every officer is expected to exercise the same vigilance in respect of expenditure incurred from public moneys as a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in respect of expenditure of his own money.
- (ii) The expenditure should not be prima facie more than the occasion demands.
- (iii) No authority should exercise its powers of sanctioning expenditure to pass an order which will be directly or indirectly to its own advantage.
- (iv) Expenditure from public moneys should not be incurred for the benefit of a particular person or a section of the people, unless –
 - (a) a claim for the amount could be enforced in a Court of Law, or
 - (b) the expenditure is in pursuance of a recognized policy or custom.

Rule 22 Expenditure from Public Funds. No authority may incur any expenditure or enter into any liability involving expenditure or transfer of moneys for investment or deposit from public funds (Consolidated Fund / Contingency Fund and the Public Accounts) unless the same has been sanctioned by a competent authority

Rule 23 Delegation of Financial Powers. The financial powers of the Government have been delegated to various subordinate authorities vide Delegation of Financial Powers Rules as amended from time to time. The financial powers of the Government, which have not been delegated to a subordinate authority, shall vest in the Finance Ministry.

Rule 24 Consultation with Financial Advisers. All draft memoranda for Expenditure Finance Committee or Public Investment Bureau or Committee on Establishment Expenditure and Cabinet Committee for Economic Affairs or Cabinet shall be circulated by the Ministry or Department concerned after consultation with the concerned Financial Adviser of the



Ministry or Department. A confirmation to this effect shall be included in the draft memorandum at the circulation stage.

Rule 25 (1) Provision of funds for sanction. All sanctions to the expenditure shall indicate the details of the provisions in the relevant grant or appropriation wherefrom such expenditure is to be met.

Rule 25 (2) All proposals for sanction to expenditure, shall indicate whether such expenditure can be met by valid appropriation or re-appropriation.

Rule 25 (3) In cases where it becomes necessary to issue a sanction to expenditure before funds are communicated, the sanction should specify that such expenditure is subjected to funds being communicated in the budget of the year.

Rule 26 Responsibility of Controlling Officer in respect of Budget allocation. The duties and responsibilities of a controlling officer in respect of funds placed at his disposal are to ensure :

- (i) that the expenditure does not exceed the budget allocation.
- (ii) that the expenditure is incurred for the purpose for which funds have been provided.
- (iii) that the expenditure is incurred in public interest.
- (iv) that adequate control mechanism is functioning in his Department for prevention, detection of errors and irregularities in the financial proceedings of his subordinate offices and to guard against waste and loss of public money,

Rule 27 (1) Date of effect of sanction. Subject to fulfilment of the provisions as contained in the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, all rules, sanctions or orders shall come into force from the date of issue unless any other date from which they shall come into force is specified therein.

Rule 27 (2) Date of creation to be indicated in sanctions for temporary posts. Orders sanctioning the creation of a temporary post should, in addition to the sanctioned duration, invariably specify the date from which it is to be created

Rule 28 Powers in regard to certain special matters.— Except in pursuance of the general delegation made by, or with the approval of

the President, a subordinate authority shall not, without the previous consent of the Finance Ministry, issue an order which -

- (i) involves any grant of land, or assignment of revenue, or concession, grant, lease or licence of mineral or forest rights, or rights to water, power or any easement or privilege of such concessions, or
- (ii) involves relinquishment of revenue in any way

Rule 29 Procedure for communication of sanctions. All financial sanctions and orders issued by a competent authority shall be communicated to the Audit Officer and the Accounts Officer. The procedure to be followed for communication of financial sanctions and orders will be as under :-

- (i) All financial sanctions issued by a Department of the Central Government which relate to a matter concerning the Department proper and on the basis of which payment is to be made or authorized by the Accounts Officer, should be addressed to him.
- (ii) All other sanctions should be accorded in the form of an Order, which need not be addressed to any authority, but a copy thereof should be endorsed to the Accounts Officer concerned.
- (iii) In the case of non-recurring contingent and miscellaneous expenditure, the sanctioning authority may, where required, accord sanction by signing or countersigning the bill or voucher, whether before or after the money is drawn, instead of by a separate sanction.
- (iv) All financial sanctions and orders issued by a Department of the Central Government with the concurrence of the Internal Finance Wing or Finance Ministry, as applicable, should be communicated to the Accounts Officer in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, and orders issued thereunder from time to time.
- (v) All financial sanctions and orders issued by a Department with the concurrence of the Ministry of Home Affairs or Comptroller and Auditor General of India or Department of



Personnel should specify that the sanction or orders are issued with the concurrence of that Department along with the number and date of relevant communication of that Department wherein the concurrence was conveyed.

- (vi) All orders conveying sanctions to expenditure of a definite amount or upto a specific limit should express both in words and figures the amount of expenditure sanctioned.
- (vii) Sanctions accorded by a Head of Department may be communicated to the Accounts Officer by an authorized Gazetted Officer of his Office duly signed by him for the Head of Department or conveyed in the name of the Head of the Department.
- (viii) All orders conveying sanctions to the grant of additions to pay such as Special Allowance, Personal Pay, etc., should contain a brief summary of the reasons for the grant of such additions to pay so as to enable the Accounts Officer to see that it is correctly termed as Special Allowance, Personal Pay, etc., as the case may be.
- (ix) Orders issued by a Department of a Union Territory Government where Audit and Accounts (a) have not been separated shall be communicated direct to the Audit authority; (b) have been separated, copies shall be endorsed to the Audit authorities.

In case of sanctions in respect of matters, where reference was made to the Central Government under the Rules of Business framed under Section 46 of the Government of Union Territory Act, 1963, the following clause shall be added in the sanction endorsed to Audit:-

"A reference had been made in this case to the Central Government and the above order/letter conforms to the decision of the Central Government vide Government of India, Ministry/Department of.....Letter No.....dated.....".

- (x) Copies of all General Financial Orders issued by a Department of the Central Government with the

concurrence of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India shall be supplied to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

- (xi) Copies of all sanctions or orders other than the following types should be endorsed to the Audit Officers:-
 - (a) Sanctions relating to grant to advances to Central Government employees.
 - (b) Sanctions relating to appointment or promotion or transfer of Gazetted and non-Gazetted Officers.
 - (c) All sanctions relating to creation or continuation or abolition of posts.
 - (d) Sanctions for handing over charge and taking over charge, etc.
 - (e) Sanctions relating to payment or withdrawal of General Provident Fund advances to Government servants.
 - (f) Sanctions of contingent expenditure incurred under the powers of Head of Offices.
 - (g) Other sanctions of routine nature issued by Heads of Subordinate Officers (other than those issued by Ministries or Departments proper and under powers of a Head of Department).
- (xii) Sanctions accorded by competent authority to grants of land and alienation of land revenue, other than those in which assignments of land revenue are treated as cash payment, shall be communicated to the Audit and/ or the Accounts Officer, as the case may be, in a consolidated monthly return giving the necessary details.

Rule 30 Lapse of Sanctions. A sanction for any fresh charge shall, unless it is specifically renewed, lapse if no payment in whole or in part has been made during a period of twelve months from the date of issue of such sanction. Provided that -

- (i) when the period of currency of the sanction is prescribed in the departmental regulations or is specified in the sanction itself, it shall lapse on the expiry of such periods; or
- (ii) when there is a specific provision in a



sanction that the expenditure would be met from the Budget provision of a specified financial year, it shall lapse at the close of that financial year; or

- (iii) in the case of purchase of stores, a sanction shall not lapse, if tenders have been accepted (in the case of local or direct purchase of stores) or the indent has been placed (in the case of Central Purchases) on the Central Purchase Organization within the period of one year of the date of issue of that sanction, even if the actual payment in whole or in part has not been made during the said period.

Rule 31 Notwithstanding anything contained in Rule 30, a sanction in respect of an addition to a permanent establishment, made from year to year under a general scheme by a competent authority, or in respect of an allowance sanctioned for a post or for a class of Government servants, but not drawn by the officer(s) concerned, shall not lapse.

Rule 32 Remission of disallowances by Audit and writing off of overpayment made to Government servants. The remission of disallowances by Audit and writing off of overpayments made to Government servants by competent authorities shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, and instructions issued thereunder.

II. DEFALCATION AND LOSSES

Rule 33 (1) Report of Losses. Any loss or shortage of public moneys, departmental revenue or receipts, stamps, opium, stores or other property held by, or on behalf of, Government irrespective of the cause of loss and manner of detection, shall be immediately reported by the subordinate authority concerned to the next higher authority as well as to the Statutory Audit Officer and to the concerned Principal Accounts Officer, even when such loss has been made good by the party responsible for it. However the following losses need not be reported:

- (i) Cases involving losses of revenue due to
 - (a) mistakes in assessments which are discovered too late to permit a supplementary claim being made,

- (b) under assessments which are due to interpretation of the law by the local authority being overruled by higher authority after the expiry of the time-limit prescribed under the law, and

- (c) refunds allowed on the ground that the claims were time-barred:

- (ii) Petty losses of value not exceeding Rupees ten thousand.

Rule 33 (2) Cases involving serious irregularities shall be brought to the notice of Financial Adviser or Chief Accounting Authority of the Ministry or Department concerned and the Controller General of Accounts, Ministry of Finance.

Rule 33 (3) Report of loss contemplated in sub-rule (1) & (2) shall be made at two stages.—

- (i) An initial report should be made as soon as a suspicion arises that a loss has taken place.
- (ii) The final report should be sent to authorities indicated in sub rule (1) & (2) after investigation indicating nature and extent of loss, errors or neglect of rules by which the loss has been caused and the prospects of recovery.

Rule 33 (4) The complete report contemplated in sub-rule 3, shall reach through proper channels to the Head of the Department, who shall finally dispose of the same under the powers delegated to him under the Delegation of Financial Power Rules. The reports, which he cannot finally dispose of under the delegated powers, shall be submitted to the Finance Ministry.

Rule 33 (5) An amount lost through misappropriation, defalcation, embezzlement, etc., may be redrawn on a simple receipt pending investigation, recovery or write-off with the approval of the authority competent to write-off the loss in question.

Rule 33 (6) In cases of loss to Government on account of culpability of Government servants, the loss should be borne by the Central Government Department or State Government concerned with the transaction. Similarly, if any recoveries are made from the erring Government officials in cash, the receipt will be credited to the Central Government Department or the State Government who sustained the loss.

Rule 33 (7) All cases involving loss of Government



money arising from erroneous or irregular issue of cheques or irregular accounting of receipts will be reported to the Controller General of Accounts along with the circumstances leading to the loss, so that he can take steps to remedy defects in rules or procedures, if any, connected therewith.

Rule 34 Loss of Government Property due to fire, theft, fraud. Departmental Officers shall, in addition to taking action as prescribed in Rule 33, follow the provisions indicated below in cases involving material loss or destruction of Government property as a result of fire, theft, fraud, etc.

All losses above the value of Rupees Fifty thousand due to suspected fire, theft, fraud, etc., shall be invariably reported to the Police for investigation as early as possible.

Once the matter is reported to the Police Authorities, all concerned should assist the Police in their investigation. A formal investigation report should be obtained from the Police Authorities in all cases, which are referred to them.

Rule 35 Loss of immovable property by fire, flood etc. All loss of immovable property exceeding Rupees fifty thousand, such as buildings, communications, or other works, caused by fire, flood, cyclone, earthquake or any other natural cause, shall be reported at once by the subordinate authority concerned to Government through the usual channel. All other losses should be immediately brought to the notice of the next higher authority.

Rule 36 Report to Audit and Accounts Officers. After a full enquiry as to the cause and the extent of the loss has been made, the detailed report should be sent by the subordinate authority concerned to Government through the proper channel; a copy of the report or an abstract thereof being simultaneously forwarded to the Audit officer and Pay and Accounts Officer

Rule 37 Responsibility of losses. An officer shall be held personally responsible for any loss sustained by the Government through fraud or negligence on his part. He will also be held personally responsible for any loss arising from fraud or negligence of any other officer to the extent to which it may be shown that he contributed to the loss by his own action or negligence.

The departmental proceedings for

assessment of responsibility for the loss shall be conducted according to the instructions contained in Appendix 1 and those issued by the Ministry of Personnel from time to time.

Rule 38 Prompt disposal of cases of loss. Action at each stage of detection, reporting, write off, final disposal, in cases of losses including action against delinquents and remedial measures should be completed promptly with special attention to action against delinquents and remedial measures, taken to strengthen the control system

III. SUBMISSION OF RECORDS AND INFORMATION

Rule 39 Demand for information by Audit or Accounts Officer. A subordinate authority shall afford all reasonable facilities to the Audit Officer and Pay and Accounts Officer for the discharge of his functions, and furnish fullest possible information required by him for the preparation of any official account or report, payments and internal audit.

Rule 40 A subordinate authority shall not withhold any information, books or other documents required by the Audit Officer or Accounts Officer.

Rule 41 If the contents of any file are categorized as 'Secret' or 'Top Secret' the file maybe sent personally to the Head of the Audit Office specifying this fact, who will then deal with it in accordance with the standing instructions for handling and custody of such classified documents.



BUDGET FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Rule 42 Financial Year. Financial year of the Government shall commence on the 1st day of April of each year and end on the 31st day of March of the following year.

Rule 43 (1) Presentation of Budget to Parliament. In accordance with the provisions of Article 112 (1) of the Constitution, the Finance Minister shall arrange to lay before both the Houses of Parliament, an Annual Financial Statement also known as the 'Budget' showing the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Central Government in respect of a financial year, before the commencement of that year.

Rule 43 (2) The receipts and expenditure of the Railways being a departmental commercial organization form part of the Government's receipts and expenditure and are included in the Annual Financial Statement. With the merger of Railway Budget with the General Budget, the Demands for Grants and the Statement of Budget Estimates of Railways shall also be part of the General Budget with effect from 2017-18.

Rule 43 (3) The provisions for preparation, formulation and submission of budget to the Parliament are contained in Articles 112 to 116 of the Constitution of India.

Rule 43 (4) The Ministry of Finance, Budget Division, shall issue guidelines for preparation of budget estimates from time to time. All the Ministries/Departments shall comply in full with these guidelines.

Rule 44 The budget shall contain the following :-

- (i) Estimates of all revenues expected to be raised during the financial year to which the budget relates ;
- (ii) Estimates of all expenditure for each programme, scheme and project in that financial year;
- (iii) Estimates of all interest and debt servicing charges and any repayments on loans in that financial year;
- (iv) Any other information as may be prescribed.

Rule 45 Receipt Estimates. The detailed estimates of receipts shall be prepared by the estimating authorities separately for each Major Head of Account in the prescribed form. For each Major Head, the estimating authority shall give the break-up of the Minor/Subhead/ Detailed wise estimate along with actuals of the past three years. While doing the head

wise classification, it may be ensured that item wise break-up of all major items of tax and non-tax revenues are clearly identified and depicted in the receipt estimates. This is required to highlight all individual items of significance. Any major variation in estimates with reference to past actuals or/and Budget Estimates shall be supported by cogent reasons. The accounting heads under which major tax and non-tax revenues are collected shall be prescribed by the administrative Ministry in consultation with the Budget Division in the Finance Ministry.

Rule 46 Non-Tax Revenues. While the tax revenues, non-debt capital receipts including disinvestments and borrowings are managed by the various Departments of the Ministry of Finance, the non-tax revenues are collected through all Ministries/Departments and other autonomous bodies and implementing agencies and comprise an important source of revenue for the Government.

Rule 47 User Charges. 'User Charges' is an important component of the non-tax revenues. Each Ministry/Department may undertake an exercise to identify the 'user charges' levied by it and publish the same on its website.

- (i) While fixing the rates of user charges, the Ministries/Departments must ensure that the user charges recover the current cost of providing services with reasonable return on capital investment.
- (ii) Any deviation from these principles shall be specifically recorded with reasons justifying the setting of user charges lower than the cost recovery norms, if any.
- (iii) The rates of user charges should be linked with appropriate price indices and reviewed at least every three years.
- (iv) In order to enable ease of revision of user charges, the rate of user charges shall be fixed, wherever possible through Rules or executive orders and not through a statute.

Rule 48 Dividends and Profits. Dividends and profits including the transfer of surplus from Reserve Bank of India is a major component of the non-tax revenues. The payment of dividends/profits etc. by the Central Public Sector Enterprises shall not be delayed and



must be paid within an appropriate time frame immediately after the decision on dividend is taken in the AGM. Ministries or Departments shall monitor timely payments of dividends and profits. The dividend shall be payable as per the guidelines issued by DIPAM in this regards.

Rule 49 Receipts Portal. The Government has provided a public portal for online collection of various non-tax revenues including various fees and user charges through e-Receipts. All Ministries/Departments, shall take prompt measures for migration to e-Receipts, to ensure customer convenience and immediate credit of receipts to the Government account.

Rule 50 (1) Expenditure estimates. The expenditure estimates shall show separately the sums required to meet the expenditure Charged on the Consolidated Fund under Article 112 (3) of the Constitution and sums required to meet other expenditure for which a vote of the Lok Sabha is required under Article 113(2) of the Constitution.

Rule 50 (2) The estimates shall also distinguish provisions for expenditure on revenue account from capital account, including on loans by the Government and for repayment of loans, treasury bills, cash management bills and ways and means advances.

Rule 50 (3) The detailed estimates of expenditure shall be prepared by the estimating authorities up to the final unit of appropriation (Object head) under the prescribed Major and Minor Heads of Accounts for both Revenue and Capital expenditure. Estimates shall include suitable provision for liabilities of the previous years that is to be discharged during the year.

Rule 50 (4) The estimates of scheme related and other expenditures shall be processed in consultation with the Budget Division, Ministry of Finance in accordance with the instructions issued by it.

Rule 50 (5) The Revised and Budget Estimates of both Revenue and Capital expenditure after being scrutinized by the Financial Advisers and approved by the Secretary of the Administrative Ministry or Department concerned shall be forwarded to the Budget Division in the Ministry of Finance in such manner and forms as may be prescribed by it from time to time.

Rule 51 (1) Demands for Grants. The estimates for

expenditure for which vote of Lok Sabha is required shall be in the form of Demand for Grants.

Rule 51 (2) Generally, one Demand for Grant is presented in respect of each Ministry or Department. However, in respect of large Ministries or Departments, more than one Demand may be presented. Each Demand normally includes provisions required for a service, i.e. provisions on account of revenue expenditure, capital expenditure, grants to the State and Union Territory Governments and also Loans and Advances relating to the service.

Rule 51 (3) The Demand for Grants shall be presented to Parliament at two levels. The main Demand for Grants shall be presented to Parliament by the Ministry of Finance, Budget Division along with the Annual Financial Statement while the Detailed Demands for Grants, for consideration by the "Departmentally Related Standing Committee" (DRSC) of the Parliament, are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha by the concerned Ministries/ Departments, as per dates approved from time to time.

Rule 52 (1) Form of Annual Financial Statement and Demands for Grant. The form of the Annual Financial Statement and Demands for Grants shall be laid down by the Finance Ministry and no alteration of arrangement or classification shall be made without the approval of that Ministry.

Rule 52 (2) The heads under which provision for expenditure shall be made in the Demands for Grants or Appropriation shall be prescribed by the Finance Ministry in consultation with the Administrative Ministry or Department. The authorized heads for expenditure in a year shall be as shown in the Detailed Demands for Grants passed by Parliament and no change shall be made therein without the formal approval of the Finance Ministry.

Rule 52 (3) The major head wise provisions in the Detailed Demands for Grants shall match with the provision made in the Demands for Grants presented by Budget Division, as the appropriations are sought on the basis of Demands for Grants.

NOTE: Detailed instructions for preparation of the budget are available in Appendix 2, 3 and 4.

Rule 53 (1) Acceptance and inclusion of



estimates. The estimates of receipts and expenditure of each Ministry/Department shall be scrutinized in the Budget Division of the Ministry of Finance. Secretary (Expenditure) may hold meetings with Secretaries or Financial Advisers of Administrative Ministries or Departments to discuss the totality of the requirements of funds for various programmes and schemes, along with receipts of the Ministries or Departments.

Rule 53 (2) The estimates initially submitted by the Departments may undergo some changes as a result of scrutiny in the Budget Division, Ministry of Finance and deliberations in the pre-budget meetings between the Secretary (Expenditure) and the Secretary or Financial Adviser of the Department concerned. The final estimates arrived at on the basis of scrutiny and pre-budget meetings shall be incorporated in the Budget documents.

Rule 54 Outcome Budget. After finalization of the estimates for budgetary allocations, the Department of Expenditure in consultation with NITI Aayog and the concerned Ministries shall prepare an Outcome Budget statement linking outlays against each scheme/project with the outputs/deliverables and medium term outcomes. The outputs/deliverables shall be mandatorily given in measurable/quantitative terms on the basis of parameters and deliverables decided in advance, on the basis of projections made in the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) Statement. Allocations for each scheme/project shall be against a firm set of deliverables which shall be adhered to. The performance against specified outcomes would form the basis of deciding on the continuation of the scheme and the quantum of budget allocation.

Rule 55 Vote on Account. If the Appropriation Bill seeking authorization of the Parliament to make expenditure in consonance with the Budget proposal is likely to be passed after the start of the financial year to which it corresponds then pending the completion of the procedure prescribed in Article 113 of the Constitution for the passing of the Budget, the Finance Ministry may need to obtain a 'Vote on Account' to cover expenditure for a brief period in accordance with the provisions of Article 116 of the Constitution. Funds made available under Vote on Account are not to be utilized for expenditure on a 'New Service'.

Rule 56 Communication and distribution of grants and appropriations. After the Appropriation Bill relating to Budget is passed, the Ministry of Finance shall communicate the same to the Ministries / Departments which, in turn, shall distribute the same to their subordinate formations. The distribution so made shall also be communicated to the respective Pay and Accounts Officers who shall exercise check against the allocation to each subordinate authority.

II. CONTROL OF EXPENDITURE AGAINST BUDGET

Rule 57 (1) Responsibility for control of Expenditure. The Departments of the Central Government shall be responsible for the control of expenditure against the sanctioned grants and appropriations placed at their disposal. The control shall be exercised through the Heads of Departments and other Controlling Officers, if any, and Disbursing Officers subordinate to them.

Rule 57 (2) A Grant or Appropriation can be utilised only to cover the charges (including liabilities, if any, of the past year) which are to be paid during the financial year of the Grant or Appropriation and adjusted in the account of the year. No charges against a Grant or Appropriation can be authorized after the expiry of the financial year.

Rule 57 (3) No expenditure shall be incurred which may have the effect of exceeding the total grant or appropriation authorized by Parliament by law for a financial year, except after obtaining a supplementary grant or appropriation or an advance from the Contingency Fund. Since voted and charged portions as also the revenue and capital sections of a Grant/Appropriation are distinct and re-appropriation inter se is not permissible, an excess in any one portion or section is treated as an excess in the Grant/Appropriation.

Rule 57 (4) To have effective control over expenditure by the Departments, Controlling and Disbursing Officers subordinate to them shall follow the procedure as given below :-

- (i) For drawal of money the Drawing and Disbursing Officer shall (a) Prepare and present bills for "charged" and "voted" expenditure



- separately. (b) Enter on each bill the complete accounts classifications from major head down to the object head of account. When a single bill includes charges falling under two or more object heads, the charges shall be distributed accurately over the respective heads. (c) Enter on each bill the progressive total of expenditure up-to-date under the primary unit of appropriation to which the bill relates, including the amount of the bill on which the entry is made.
- (ii) All drawing and disbursing officers shall maintain separate registers in Form GFR 5, physically or electronically for allocation under each minor or sub-head of account with which they are concerned.
- (iii) On the third day of each month, a copy of the entries made in this register during the preceding month shall be sent by the officer maintaining it, to the Head of the Department or other designated Controlling Officer. This statement shall also include adjustment of an inward claim, etc., communicated by Pay and Accounts Officer directly to the DDO (and not to his Grant Controlling Officer). If there are no entries in the register in any month, a 'nil' statement shall be sent.
- (iv) The Controlling Officer will maintain a broadsheet in Form GFR 6 to monitor the receipt of the return prescribed in the foregoing sub-clause
- (v). On receipt of the returns from Disbursing Officers, the Controlling Officer shall examine them and satisfy himself :-
- that the accounts classification has been properly given;
 - that progressive expenditure has been properly noted and the available balances worked out correctly;
 - that expenditure up-to-date is within the grant or appropriation; and
 - that the returns have been signed by Disbursing Officers. Where the Controlling Officer finds defects in any of these respects, he shall take steps to rectify the defect.
- (vi) When all the returns from the Disbursing Officers for a particular month have been received and found to be in order, the Controlling Officer shall compile a statement in Form GFR 7, in which he shall incorporate -
- the totals of the figures supplied by Disbursing Officers;
 - the totals taken from his own registers in Form GFR 5;
 - the totals of such adjustments under the various detailed heads as communicated to him by the Accounts Officer on account of transfer entries and expenditure debited to the grant as a result of settlement of inward account claims and not reckoned by his DDOs.
- (vii). If any adjustment communicated by the Accounts Officer affects the appropriation at the disposal of a subordinate Disbursing Officer, the fact that the adjustment has been made shall be communicated by the Controlling Officer to the Disbursing Officer concerned.
- (viii). On receipt of all the necessary returns, the Head of the Department shall prepare a consolidated account in Form GFR 8, showing the complete expenditure from the grant or appropriation at his disposal upto the end of the preceding month.
- Rule 57 (5)** The Head of the Department and the Accounts Officer shall be jointly responsible for the monthly reconciliation of the figures given in the accounts maintained by the Head of the Department with those appearing in the Accounts Officer's books. The procedure for reconciliation shall be as follows :-
- DDOs shall maintain a Bill Register in Form TR 28-A, and note all bills presented for payment to the PAO in the register. As soon as cheques for the bills presented for payment are received, and/or status of e-payments are verified from the reports available with DDO on PFMS portal these shall be noted in the appropriate column of the Bill Register and the DDOs shall



ensure that the amounts of cheques tally with the net amount of the bills presented. In case any retrenchment is made by the PAO, a note of such retrenchments shall be kept against the bill in the remarks column in TR 28-A.

- (ii) The PAOs shall furnish to each of the DDOs including Cheque –drawing DDOs, an extract from the expenditure control register or from the Compilation Sheet every month indicating the expenditure relating to grants controlled by him classified under the various major-minor detailed head of accounts. The statements for May to March shall also contain Progressive Figures.
- (iii). On receipt of these extracts from the PAOs, the DDOs shall tally the figures received, excluding book adjustments, with the expenditure worked out for the month in the GFR 5 register. Discrepancies, if any, between the two sets of figures shall be promptly investigated by the DDO in consultation with the PAO. He shall also note in the GFR 5 register particulars of book adjustments advised by the PAO through the monthly statement. Thereafter, the DDO shall furnish to the PAO a certificate of agreement of the figures as per his books with those indicated by the PAOs by the last day of the month following the month of accounts.
- (iv). The Principal Accounts Officer (or PAO wherever payments, relating to a grant are handled wholly by a PAO) of each Ministry, shall send a monthly statement showing the expenditure vis-à-vis the Budget provision under the various heads of accounts, in the prescribed pro forma, to the Heads of Departments responsible for overall control of expenditure against grant of the Ministry as a whole. The figures so communicated by the Principal Accounts Officer (or the PAO concerned) shall be compared by the Heads of Departments with those consolidated in Form GFR 8 and differences, if any, shall be taken up by the Heads of Departments with the

Principal Accounts Officers (or the PAO concerned) for reconciliation. The Head of the Department shall furnish a quarterly certificate to the Principal Accounts Officer certifying the correctness of the figures for the quarter by the 15th of the second following month after the end of quarters April-June, July-September, October-December and January-March.

Rule 57 (6) The Departments of the Central Government shall obtain from their Heads of Departments and other offices under them the departmental figures of expenditure in Form GFR 8 by the 15th of the month following the month to which the returns relate. The figures relating to Revenue and Capital expenditure shall be separately shown in these returns. The information so obtained shall be posted in register(s) kept for watching the flow of expenditure against the sanctioned grant or appropriation. Progressive totals of expenditure shall be worked out for the purpose. If the departmental figures obtained in Form GFR 8 and posted in the register(s), require correction in a subsequent month, Heads of Departments or other offices shall make such corrections by making plus or minus entries in the progressive totals. In case the Accounts Office figures which subsequently become available are found to be higher than departmental figures, the former shall be assumed to be the correct figures, as appropriation accounts are prepared on the basis of the figures booked in the accounts.

Rule 57 (7) The Departments of Central Government shall also obtain from the Heads of Departments and other authorities under them, statements showing the details of the physical progress of the schemes for which they are responsible. This statement shall show the name of the scheme, the Budget provision for each scheme, the progressive expenditure on each scheme, the progress of the scheme in physical terms and the detailed reasons for any shortfalls or excess, both against physical and financial targets.

Rule 57 (8) A Broadsheet in Form GFR 9 shall be maintained by the Departments of Central Government or each Head of Department and other authorities directly under them, to watch the prompt receipt of the various returns mentioned above from month to



month and to take necessary measures for rectifying any defaults noticed.

Rule 58 Maintenance of Liability Register for effecting proper control over expenditure. In order to maintain proper control over expenditure, a Controlling Officer shall obtain from the spending authorities liability statements in Form GFR 3-A every month, starting from the month of October in each financial year. The Controlling Officer shall also maintain a Liability Register in Form GFR 3.

Rule 59 Personal attention of the Head of Department /Controlling Officer required to estimate savings or excesses. A Head of Department or Controlling Officer shall be in a position to estimate the likelihood of savings or excesses every month and to regularize them in accordance with the instructions laid down in Rule 62.

Rule 60 Control of expenditure against grant/appropriation and ultimate responsibility of the authority administering it. The Accounts Officer shall report to the Head of the Department concerned immediately on the first appearance of any disproportionate expenditure, particularly in respect of recurring items of expenditure under any grant or appropriation or a primary unit of appropriation thereof. However, the authority administering a grant/appropriation is ultimately responsible for the control of expenditure against the grant/appropriation and not the Accounts Officer.

Rule 61 Excess Expenditure.

1. The Accounts Officer shall not allow any payment against sanctions in excess of the Budget provisions unless there is specific approval of the Chief Accounting Authority.
2. The Financial Advisers and Chief Accounting Authority, before according concurrence for excess under any Head, shall ensure availability of funds through Reappropriation/ Supplementary Demands for Grants. (Refer Appendix 10)

Rule 62 (1) Surrender of savings. Departments of the Central Government shall surrender to the Finance Ministry, by the dates prescribed by that Ministry before the close of the

financial year, all the anticipated savings noticed in the Grants or Appropriations controlled by them. The Finance Ministry shall communicate the acceptance of such surrenders as are accepted by it to the Accounts Officer, before the close of the year. The funds provided during the financial year and not utilized before the close of that financial year shall stand lapsed at the close of the financial year.

Rule 62 (2) The savings as well as provisions that cannot be profitably utilised shall be surrendered to Government immediately they are foreseen without waiting till the end of the year. No savings shall be held in reserve for possible future excesses.

Rule 62 (3) Rush of expenditure, particularly in the closing months of the Financial year, shall be regarded as a breach of financial propriety and shall be avoided. The Financial Advisers of the Ministries/Departments shall ensure adherence to the stipulated Monthly Expenditure Plan and the guidelines issued in this regard by the Budget Division, Department of Economic Affairs, from time to time.

Rule 62 (4) The Financial Advisers of the Ministries/ Departments shall ensure adherence to the stipulated Quarterly Expenditure Plan and the guidelines issued in this regard by Ministry of Finance from time to time.

Rule 63 Expenditure on New Service. No expenditure shall be incurred during a financial year on a "New Service" not contemplated in the Annual Budget for the year except after obtaining a supplementary grant or appropriation or an advance from the Contingency Fund during that year. The guidelines to determine cases of "New Service"/"New Instrument of Service" are contained in Annexure-1 to Appendix -3.

Rule 64 (1) Additional Allotment for excess expenditure. A subordinate authority incurring the expenditure shall be responsible for seeing that the allotment placed at its disposal is not exceeded. Where any excess over the allotment is apprehended, the subordinate authority shall obtain additional allotment before incurring the excess expenditure. For this purpose, the authorities incurring expenditure shall maintain a 'Liability Register' in Form GFR 3.

Rule 64 (2) A Disbursing Officer may not, on his own authority, authorize any payment in excess of



the funds placed at his disposal. If the Disbursing Officer is called upon to honour a claim, which is certain to produce an excess over the allotment or appropriation at his disposal, he shall take the orders of the administrative authority to which he is subordinate before authorizing payment of the claim in question. The administrative authority shall then arrange to provide funds either by reappropriation or by obtaining a Supplementary Grant or Appropriation or an advance from the Contingency Fund. Instructions contained in Note below Appendix 10 may also be kept in view.

- Rule 65 (1) Re-appropriation of Funds.** Subject to the provisions of Rule 10 of the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, and also subject to such other general or specific restrictions as may be imposed by the Finance Ministry in this behalf, re-appropriation of funds from one primary unit of appropriation to another such unit within a grant or appropriation, may be sanctioned by a competent authority at any time before the close of the financial year to which such grant or appropriation relates. The Primary unit in this regard shall be the final unit of appropriation i.e. the Object head of account.
- Rule 65 (2)** Re-appropriation of funds shall be made only when it is known or anticipated that the appropriation for the unit from which funds are to be transferred shall not be utilized in full or that savings can be effected in the appropriation for the said unit.
- Rule 65 (3)** Funds shall not be re-appropriated from a unit with the intention of restoring the diverted appropriation to that unit when savings become available under other units later in the year.
- Rule 65 (4)** An application for re-appropriation of funds shall ordinarily be supported by a statement in Form GFR 1 or any other special form authorized by departmental regulations showing how the excess is proposed to be met. In all orders, sanctioning reappropriation, the reasons for saving and excess of Rupees 1 lakh or over and the primary units (secondary units, wherever necessary), affected shall be invariably stated. The authority sanctioning the reappropriation shall endorse a copy of the order to the Accounts Officer.
- Rule 66 Supplementary Grants.** If savings are not available within the Grant to which the payment is required to be debited, or if the expenditure is on "New Service" or "New

Instrument of Service" not provided in the budget, necessary Supplementary Grant or Appropriation in accordance with Article 115 (1) of the Constitution shall be obtained before payment is authorized (Refer to Appendix 5).

- Rule 67 (1) Advance from Contingency Fund.** When a need arises to incur unforeseen expenditure in excess of the sanctioned grant or appropriation or on a new service not provided in Budget and there is not sufficient time for the voting of the Supplementary Demand and the passing of the connected appropriation bill before close of the financial year, an advance from the Contingency Fund set up under Article 267 (1) of the Constitution shall be obtained before incurring the expenditure.
- Rule 67 (2)** An advance from the Contingency Fund shall also be obtained to meet expenditure in excess of the provisions for the service included in an Appropriation (Vote on Account) Act.
- Rule 67 (3)** The application for an advance from the Contingency Fund shall indicate inter alia the particulars of the additional expenditure involved and the sanction to the advance has also to indicate the sub-head and the primary unit of the Grant to which the expenditure appropriately relates. In case, however, any difficulty is felt, the matter shall be referred to the Finance Ministry for clarification.
- Rule 67 (4)** The procedure for obtaining an advance from the Contingency Fund and recoupment of the Fund shall be as laid down in the Contingency Fund of India Rules, 1952, as amended from time to time. For ready reference, rules have been placed at Appendix - 6 to this volume.
- Rule 68 Inevitable Payments.**
- (i) Subject to the provisions of Article 114 (3) of the Constitution, money indisputably payable by Government shall not ordinarily be left unpaid.
 - (ii) Suitable provision for anticipated liabilities shall invariably be made in Demands for Grants to be placed before Parliament.
- Rule 69** For easy reference an extract relating to procedures followed in the Accounts Office for check against provision of funds as a part of pre-check of bills has been placed at Appendix 10.
- Rule 70 Duties and Responsibilities of the Chief**



Accounting Authority. The Secretary of a Ministry/Department who is the Chief Accounting Authority of the Ministry/Department shall: —

- (i) be responsible and accountable for financial management of his Ministry or Department.
- (ii) ensure that the public funds appropriated to the Ministry or Department are used for the purpose for which they were meant.
- (iii) be responsible for the effective, efficient, economical and transparent use of the resources of the Ministry or Department in achieving the stated project objectives of that Ministry or Department, whilst complying with performance standards.
- (iv) appear before the Committee on Public Accounts and any other Parliamentary Committee for examination.
- (v) review and monitor regularly the performance of the programmes and projects assigned to his Ministry to determine whether stated objectives are achieved.
- (vi) be responsible for preparation of expenditure and other statements relating to his Ministry or Department as required by regulations, guidelines or directives issued by Ministry of Finance.
- (vii) shall ensure that his Ministry or Department maintains full and proper records of financial transactions and adopts systems and procedures that shall at all times afford internal controls.
- (viii) shall ensure that his Ministry or Department follows the Government procurement procedure for execution of works, as well as for procurement of services and supplies, and implements it in a fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective manner;
- (ix) shall take effective and appropriate steps to ensure his Ministry or Department : -
 - (a) collects all moneys due to the Government and
 - (b) avoids unauthorized, irregular and wasteful expenditure.



GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS

Rule 71 Preparation and presentation of Accounts. Accounts of the Union Government shall be prepared every year showing the receipts and disbursements for the year, surplus or deficit generated during the year and changes in Government liabilities and assets. The accounts shall be prepared by Comptroller General of Accounts, certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and along with the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on these accounts, shall be submitted to the President of India, preferably within six months of close of the Financial Year, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament.

Rule 72 Form of Accounts. By virtue of the provisions of Article 150 of the Constitution, the Accounts of the Union Government shall be kept in such form as the President may, on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, prescribe.

The Controller General of Accounts in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) is responsible for prescribing the form of accounts of the Union and States, and to frame, or revise, rules and manuals relating thereto on behalf of the President of India in terms of Article 150 of the Constitution of India, on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Rule 73 Principles of Accounting. The main principles according to which the accounts of the Government of India shall be maintained are contained in Government Accounting Rules, 1990; Accounting Rules for Treasuries; and Account Code Volume-III. Detailed rules and instructions relating to the forms of the initial and subsidiary accounts to be kept and rendered by officers of the Department of Posts and other technical departments are laid down in the respective Accounts Manuals or in the departmental regulations relating to the Departments concerned.

Rule 74 Cash based Accounting. Government accounts shall be prepared on cash basis. With the exception of such book adjustments as may be authorised by Government Accounting Rules, 1990 or by any general or special order issued by the Central Government on the advice of the

Comptroller and Auditor General of India, the transactions in Government accounts shall represent the actual cash receipts and disbursements during a financial year as distinguished from amounts due to or by Government during the same period.

Rule 75 Period of Accounts. The annual accounts of the Central Government shall record transactions which take place during a financial year running from the 1st April to the 31st March thereof.

Rule 76 Currency in which Accounts are kept. The accounts of Government shall be maintained in Indian Rupees. All foreign currency transactions and foreign aid shall be brought into account after conversion into Indian Rupees.

Rule 77 Main Divisions and structure of Accounts. The accounts of Government shall be kept in three parts, Consolidated Fund (Part-I), Contingency Fund (Part-II) and Public Account (Part-III).

Part-I – Consolidated Fund is divided into two Divisions, namely, 'Revenue' and 'Capital' divisions. The Revenue Division comprises the following sections:

'Receipt Heads (Revenue Account)' dealing with the proceeds of taxation and other receipts classified as revenue and the section 'Expenditure Heads (Revenue Account)' dealing with the revenue expenditure met therefrom. The Capital Division comprises three sections, viz., 'Receipt Heads (Capital Account)', 'Expenditure Heads (Capital Account)' and 'Public Debt, Loans and Advances, etc.'. These sections are in turn divided into sectors such as 'General Services', 'Social and Community Services', 'Economic Services', etc., under which specific functions or services are grouped corresponding to the sectors of classification and which are represented by Major Heads (comprising Sub-Major Heads wherever necessary).

In Part-II – Contingency Fund- are recorded transactions connected with the Contingency Fund set up by the Government of India under Article 267 of the Constitution or Section 48 of Government of Union Territories Act, 1963. There shall be a single Major Head to record the transactions thereunder, which will be followed by Minor, Sub and/or Detailed Heads.



In Part-III – Public Account- transactions relating to debt (other than those included in Part-I), reserve funds, deposits, advances, suspense, remittances and cash balances shall be recorded.

Rule 78 Classification of transactions in Government Accounts. As a general rule, classification of transactions in Government Accounts, shall have closer reference to functions, programmes and activities of the Government and the object of revenue or expenditure, rather than the department in which the revenue or expenditure occurs.

Major Heads (comprising Sub-Major Heads wherever necessary) are divided into Minor Heads. Minor Heads may have a number of subordinate heads, generally known as Sub Heads. The Sub Heads are further divided into Detailed Heads followed by Object Heads.

The Major Heads of account, falling within the sectors for expenditure heads, generally correspond to functions of Government, while the Minor Heads identify the programmes undertaken to achieve the objectives of the functions represented by the Major Head. The Sub Head represents schemes, the Detailed Head denotes sub scheme and Object Head represent the primary unit of appropriation showing the economic nature of expenditure such as salaries and wages, office expenses, travel expenses, professional services, grants-in-aid, etc. The above six tiers are represented by a unique 15 digit numeric code.

Rule 79 Authority to open a new Head of Account. The List of Major and Minor Heads of Accounts of Union and States is maintained by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure – Controller General of Accounts) which is authorised to open a new head of account on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under the powers flowing from Article 150 of the Constitution. It contains General Directions for opening Heads of Accounts and a complete list of the Sectors, Major, Sub-Major and Minor Heads of Accounts and also some Sub/detailed heads, authorised to be so opened.

Ministries/Departments may open Sub-Heads and Detailed Heads as required by

them in consultation with the Budget Division of the Ministry of Finance. Their Principal Accounts Offices may open Sub/Detailed Heads required under the Minor Heads falling within the Public Account of India subject to the above stipulations.

The Object Heads have been prescribed under Government of India's Orders below Rule 8 of Delegation of Financial Power Rules. The power to amend or modify these Object heads and to open new Object Heads rest with Department of Expenditure of Ministry of Finance on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Rule 80 Conformity of budget heads with rules of classification. Budget Heads exhibited in estimates of receipts and expenditure framed by the Government or in any appropriation order shall conform to the prescribed rules of classification.

Rule 81 Responsibility of Departmental officers. Every officer responsible for the collection of Government dues or expenditure of Government money shall see that proper accounts of the receipts and expenditure, as the case may be, are maintained in such form as may have been prescribed for the financial transactions of Government with which he is concerned and tender accurately and promptly all such accounts and returns relating to them as may be required by Government, Controlling Officer or Accounts Officer, as the case may be.

Rule 82 Classification should be recorded in all the bills and challans by Drawing Officers. Suitable classification shall be recorded by Drawing Officers on all bills drawn by them. Similarly, classification on challans crediting Government money into the Bank shall be indicated or recorded by Departmental Officers responsible for the collection of Government dues, etc. In cases of doubt regarding the Head under which a transaction should be accounted, the matter shall be referred to the Principal Accounts Officer of the Ministry/ Department concerned for clarification of the Ministry of Finance and the Controller General of Accounts, wherever necessary.

Rule 83 Charged or Voted Expenditure. The expenditure covered under Article 112 (3) of the Constitution of India is charged on



the Consolidated Fund of India and is not subject to vote by the legislature. All other expenditure met out of the Consolidated Fund of India is treated as Voted expenditure. Charged or Voted Expenditure shall be shown separately in the accounts as well as in the Budget documents.

Rule 84 Capital or Revenue Expenditure.

Significant expenditure incurred with the object of acquiring tangible assets of a permanent nature (for use in the organisation and not for sale in the ordinary course of business) or enhancing the utility of existing assets, shall broadly be defined as Capital expenditure.

Subsequent charges on maintenance, repair, upkeep and working expenses, which are required to maintain the assets in a running order as also all other expenses incurred for the day to day running of the organisation, including establishment and administrative expenses shall be classified as Revenue expenditure. Capital and Revenue expenditure shall be shown separately in the Accounts.

Rule 85 Banking Arrangements. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) shall be the banker to the Government. It shall maintain cash balance of the Government and provide banking facilities to the Ministries and subordinate or attached offices either directly through its own offices or through its agent banks. For this purpose, RBI shall, in consultation with the Controller General of Accounts, nominate a bank to function as Accredited Bank of a Ministry or Department. Pay & Accounts offices and Cheque Drawing and Disbursing Officer shall have assignment accounts with the identified branches of the Accredited Bank of the Ministry. All payments shall be made through these identified bank branches. These branches shall also collect departmental and other receipts. Tax revenues of the Government shall be collected by the RBI through its own offices or through the nominated branches of its agent banks.

Note: Detailed procedure to be followed for remittance of Government receipts into Government cash balance and reimbursement of payments made on behalf of Government by the banks are

laid down in the Memoranda of Instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India.

Rule 86 Public Financial Management System (PFMS).—

- (1) Public Financial Management System (PFMS), an integrated Financial Management System of Controller General of Accounts, Government of India, shall be used for sanction preparation, bill processing, payment, receipt management, Direct Benefit Transfer, fund flow management and financial reporting.
- (2) All the ministries sanctioning grant-in-aid shall register all implementing agencies till last level of implementation on PFMS to track fund flow and unspent balances.
- (3) All the payment, to the extent possible, shall be released 'just-in-time' by the Ministries through PFMS.
- (4) Detailed Demand for Grants (DDG), as approved, must be uploaded on PFMS at the start of each Financial Year.
- (5) All the re-appropriation orders, surrender order shall be generated through PFMS system.
- (6) All grantee institutions shall submit Utilisation Certificates on PFMS.

Rule 87 Direct Benefit Transfer.

- (1) Transfer of benefits should be done directly to beneficiaries under various Government Schemes and Programmes using Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Necessary process reengineering to minimise intermediary levels and to reduce delay in payments to intended beneficiaries with the objective of minimising pilferage and duplication should be done for all Government Schemes and Programmes. The process for implementation of DBT as prescribed should be adopted.
- (2) DBT should include in-kind and cash transfers to beneficiaries as well as transfers/honorariums given to various enablers of government schemes like community workers, etc. for successful implementation of the schemes.



- (3) Transfer of cash benefits from Ministries/Departments should be done (a) directly to beneficiaries from Ministries/Departments; (b) through State Treasury Account; or (c) through any Implementing Agency as appointed by Centre/State Governments.
- (4) In-kind Transfer to Individual Beneficiary/ Household/Service provider includes schemes or components of schemes where in-kind benefits are given by the Government or through any Implementing Agency as appointed by Centre/State Governments to Individual Beneficiary/Household/Service providers.
- (5) Ministries/Departments will use PFMS platform for processing of payments for cash / in kind transfers to individual beneficiaries as per framework laid down by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.
- (6) Implementing Agencies shall generate Electronic Utilisation Certificate (E-UCs) on PFMS portal and submit them online. E-UCs shall be used to certify that money was actually utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned to eliminate the need for physical generation of UCs.
- (7) Transaction charges for the financial intermediaries facilitating DBT payments shall be paid as stipulated by Ministry of Finance.

II. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Rule 88 Appropriation Accounts. Appropriation Accounts of Central Ministries (other than Ministry of Railways) and of Central Civil Departments (excluding Department of Posts and Defence Services) shall be prepared by the Principal Accounts Officers of the respective Ministries and Departments (under the guidance and supervision of the Controller General of Accounts) and signed by their respective Chief Accounting Authorities i.e., the Secretaries in the concerned Ministries or Departments. Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Civil) required to

be submitted to Parliament, shall be prepared annually by the Controller General of Accounts by consolidating the aforesaid Appropriation Accounts.

Appropriation Accounts pertaining to Departments of Posts and Defence Services shall be prepared and signed by the Secretaries to the Government of India in the Department of Posts and Ministry of Defence respectively and that of Ministry of Railways by the Chairman, Railway Board.

Rule 89 Finance Accounts. Annual accounts of the Government of India (including transactions of Department of Posts and Ministries of Defence and Railways and transactions under Public Account of India of Union Territory Governments), showing under the respective Heads the annual receipts and disbursements and statement of balances for the purpose of the Union, called Finance Accounts, shall be prepared and signed by the Controller General of Accounts countersigned by the Secretary (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance.

Rule 90 Presentation of Annual accounts. The Appropriation and Finance accounts mentioned above, shall be prepared by the respective authorities on the dates mutually agreed upon with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, in the forms prescribed by the President on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and sent to the latter for recording his/her certificate. The certified Annual Accounts and the Reports relating to the accounts shall be submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India to the President in accordance with the provisions of Section 11 of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 and Clause (1) of Article 151 of the Constitution of India.

Rule 91 Administrative Ministries / PSUs / Subordinate / Statutory / Autonomous Bodies may have financial stakes in Public Private Partnerships (PPP)/ Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs)/ Joint Ventures (JV's)/ Subsidiary companies etc. In such case details of the financial stakes of the Government or other entities mentioned above, should be disclosed in the Annual Report of the Administrative Ministry.



III. PROFORMA ACCOUNTS

Rule 92 **Subsidiary Accounts of Government Departments undertaking commercial activities.** Where the operations of certain Government Departments working on a commercial or quasi-commercial basis e.g., an industrial factory or a store cannot be suitably brought within the cash based Government accounting system, the Head of the units shall be required to maintain such subsidiary proforma accounts in commercial form as may be agreed between Government and Comptroller and Auditor General of India. This includes the maintenance of suitable Manufacturing, Trading, Profit & Loss Accounts and Balance Sheet.

Rule 93 **Methods and principles on which subsidiary accounts in commercial form are to be kept.** The methods and principles in accordance with which subsidiary and proforma accounts in commercial form are to be kept shall be regulated by orders and instructions issued by Government in each case.

Note 1. Proforma accounts of regular Government Workshops and Factories shall be kept in accordance with the detailed rules and procedure prescribed in the departmental regulations. Proforma accounts relating to Public Works shall be prepared by the Accounts Officers in accordance with the instructions contained in Account Code for Accountants General.

Note 2. The Heads of Account (which should, as far as possible, be common to the Government accounts and the General Ledger maintained by a Commercial Undertaking) shall be selected with due regard to the principles of Governmental and Commercial accounting so that the monthly classified account of income and expenditure of the undertaking may be prepared readily from the General Ledger maintained by it.

Rule 94 **Adequate regulations to be framed to ensure cost deduced is accurate and true.** Where commercial accounts are maintained for the purpose of assessment of the cost of an article or service, the Head of the unit shall ensure that adequate regulations are framed with the approval of Government in order to ensure that the cost deduced from the accounts is accurate and true.

Rule 95 **Maintenance and submission of subsidiary accounts and statements by department units.** The Head of the unit shall arrange to obtain the orders of Government regarding the nature and form of subsidiary accounts and statements, if any. Such accounts and statements shall be submitted to the Accounts Officer on such date as may be required by him. The same shall be appended to the Appropriation Accounts of each year.

IV. PERSONAL DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

Rule 96 **Personal Deposit Account.** Personal Deposit Account is a device intended to facilitate the Designated Officer thereof to credit receipts into and effect withdrawals directly from the account, subject to an overall check being exercised by the bank in which the account is authorised to be opened. The Designated Officer shall ensure (with the help of a personal ledger account to be maintained by the bank for the purpose) that no withdrawal will result in a minus balance therein. Only Government officers acting in their official or any other capacity shall be the Designated Officer thereof.

Rule 97 **(1) Authority to open Personal Deposit Account.** The Personal Deposit Account shall be authorised to be opened by a special order by the concerned Ministry or Department in consultation with the Controller General of Accounts. Such special order or permission shall be issued or granted by the Ministry or Department concerned after it is satisfied that the initial accounts of the moneys to be held in a personal deposit account and disbursed, shall be arranged to be maintained properly and shall be subject to audit. Every personal deposit account so authorised to be opened, shall form part of the Government Account and be located in the Public Account thereof. The provisions relating to "Personal Deposit Account" are contained in para 16.7 of Civil Accounts Manual and Rule 191 to 194 of Central Government Account (Receipts and Payments) Rules.

Rule 97 **(2)** Personal Deposit accounts shall generally be authorised to be opened in the following types of cases:



- (a) in favour of a Designated Officer appointed for the purpose of administering monies tendered by or on behalf of wards and attached estates under Government management. It shall also be ensured that proper arrangements are made for the maintenance and audit of connected initial accounts;
- (b) in relation to Civil and Criminal Courts' deposits, in favour of the Chief Judicial Authority concerned;
- (c) where, under certain regulatory activities of the Government, receipts are realised and credited to a Fund or Account under the provisions of an Act to be utilised towards expenditure thereunder and no outgo from the Consolidated Fund is involved.
- (d) where a personal deposit account is required to be created by a law or rules having the force of law and certain liabilities devolve on the Government out of the special enactments;
- (e) officers commanding units and others concerned in the administration of public funds in the Defence Departments can be authorised to open personal deposit accounts for such funds.

V. CAPITAL AND REVENUE ACCOUNTS

Rule 98 Capital Expenditure. Significant expenditure incurred with the object of acquiring tangible assets of a permanent nature (for use in the organisation and not for sale in the ordinary course of business) or enhancing the utility of existing assets, shall broadly be defined as Capital expenditure. Subsequent, charges on maintenance, repair, upkeep and working expenses, which are required to maintain the assets in a running order as also all other expenses incurred for the day to day running of the organisation, including establishment and administrative expenses, shall be classified as Revenue expenditure. Capital and Revenue expenditure shall be shown separately in the Accounts.

Expenditure on a temporary asset or on grants-in-aid cannot ordinarily be

considered as a capital expenditure and shall not, except in cases specifically authorised by the President on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, be debited to a Capital Head.

Capital expenditure is generally met from receipts of capital nature, as distinguished from ordinary revenues derived from taxes, duties, fees, fines and similar items of current income including extraordinary receipts. It is open to the Government to meet capital expenditure from ordinary revenues, provided there are sufficient revenue resources to cover this liability.

Expenditure of a Capital nature as defined above, shall not be classed as Capital expenditure in the Government Accounts unless the classification has been expressly authorised by general or special orders of Government.

Expenditure of a Capital nature shall be distinguished from the Revenue Expenditure both in the Budget Estimates and in Government Accounts.

Rule 99 Principles for allocation of expenditure between Capital and Revenue. The following are the main principles governing the allocation of expenditure between Revenue and Capital:

- (a) Capital shall bear all charges for the first construction and equipment of a project as well as charges for intermediate maintenance of the work while not yet opened for service. It shall also bear charges for such further additions and improvements, which enhance the useful life of the asset, as may be sanctioned under rules made by competent authority.
- (b) Subject to Clause (c) below, revenue shall bear subsequent charges for maintenance and all working expenses. These embrace all expenditure on the working and upkeep of the project and also on renewals and replacements and additions, improvements or extensions that are revenue in nature as per rules made by Government.
- (c) In the case of works of renewal and replacement, which partake expenditure both of a capital and revenue nature, the allocation of expenditure shall be regulated by the



broad principle that Revenue should pay or provide a fund for the adequate re- placement of all wastage or depreciation of property originally provided out of capital grants. Only the cost of genuine improvements, which enhance the useful life of the asset whether determined by prescribed rules or formulae, or under special orders of Government, may be debited to Capital. Where under special orders of Government, a Depreciation or Renewals Reserve Fund is established for renewing assets of any commercial department or undertaking, the distribution of expenditure on renewals and replacements between Capital and the Fund shall be so regulated as to guard against overcapitalisation on the one hand and excessive withdrawals from the Fund on the other.

- (d) Expenditure on account of reparation of damage caused by extraordinary calamities such as flood, fire, earthquake, enemy action, etc., shall be charged to Capital, or to Revenue, or divided between them, depending upon whether such expenditure results in creation/acquisition of new assets or whether it is only for restoring the condition of the existing assets, as may be determined by Government according to the circumstance of each case.
- (e) Expenditure on a temporary asset cannot ordinarily be considered as a capital expenditure and shall not, except in cases specifically authorised by the President on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, be debited to a Capital Head.

Rule 100 Allocation between capital and revenue expenditure : The allocation between capital and revenue expenditure on a Capital Scheme for which separate Capital and Revenue Accounts are to be kept, shall be determined in accordance with such general or special orders as may be prescribed by the Government after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Rule 101 Capital receipts during construction mainly to be utilised in reduction of capital expenditure :

Capital receipts in so far they relate to expenditure previously debited to Capital accruing during the process of construction of a project, shall be utilised in reduction of capital expenditure. Thereafter their treatment in the accounts will depend on circumstances, but except under special rule or order of Government, they shall not be credited to the revenue account of the department or undertaking.

Rule 102 Receipts and recoveries representing recoveries of expenditure previously debited to Capital Major Head: Receipts and recoveries on Capital Account in so far as they represent recoveries of expenditure previously debited to a Capital Major Head shall be taken in reduction of expenditure under the Major Head concerned except where, under the rules of allocation applicable to a particular department, such receipts have to be taken to Revenue.

Rule 103 Conversion of outstanding loans into equity investments or grants-in-aid. Government takes from time to time, suitable measures to strengthen/ restructure the Capital base of public sector enterprises so that these enterprises can improve their performance and productivity. As a part of the package scheme, financial relief in the form of conversion of outstanding loans into equity investments or grants-in-aid are also agreed to.

Where loans outstanding against Public Sector Undertakings are proposed to be converted into equity investments in or as grants-in-aid to the Public Sector Undertakings, the approval of the Parliament to such proposals, shall be obtained by including a token provision in the relevant Demands for Grants or Supplementary Demands for Grants as may be found expedient. The details of such conversion of loans may be explained in the relevant Budget/Supplementary Demand documents. After obtaining the approval of the Parliament, the balances under loans and the progressive expenditure of the Capital Heads of Accounts shall be corrected proforma in the relevant Accounts of the Union



Government, under the Loan/Capital Major Heads concerned.

VI. INTEREST ON CAPITAL

Rule 104 Interest rate. Except in special cases regulated by special orders of Government, interest at such rates as may be specified from time to time shall be charged in the accounts of all Commercial Departments or units for which separate capital and revenue accounts are maintained within the Government accounts.

Rule 105 (1) Charging of interest on capital outlay met out of specific loans raised by Government. For capital outlay met out of specific loans raised by Government, the interest shall be charged at such rate as may be prescribed by Government, having regard to the rate of interest actually paid on such loans and the incidental charges incurred in raising and managing them.

By specific loans are meant loans that are raised in the open market for one specific purpose which is clearly specified in the prospectus and in regard to which definite information is given at the time of raising of the loans.

Rule 105 (2) For capital outlay provided otherwise, interest shall be charged at the rate of interest to be determined each year by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

Rule 106 Method of calculation of interest. The interest shall be calculated on the direct capital outlay at the end of the previous year plus half the outlay of the year itself, irrespective of whether such outlay has been met from current revenues or from other sources.

Rule 107 How interest charged to capital is to be written back. When under any special orders of Government, charges for interest during the process of construction of a project are temporarily met from capital, the writing back of capitalised interest shall form the first charge on any capital receipts or surplus revenue derived from the project when opened for working.

VII. ADJUSTMENT WITH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ETC

Rule 108 Adjustments with State Governments.

Subject to the relevant provision of the Constitution or of law made by Parliament or any orders issued thereunder, adjustments in respect of financial transactions with State Governments shall, unless otherwise provided for, be made in such manner, and to such extent as may be mutually agreed upon between the Central Government and the State Government concerned. However, adjustments with State Government in respect of the matters mentioned below shall be regulated by the rules contained in Appendix-5 to the Government Accounting Rules, 1990. The rules are based on reciprocal arrangements made with the State Governments and are, therefore, binding on all of them:-

- (i) Pay and Allowances, other than Leave Salaries.
- (ii) Leave Salaries.
- (iii) Pensions.
- (iv) Expenditure involved in Audit and keeping Accounts.
- (v) Cost of Police functions on Railways including the cost of protecting Railway Bridges.
- (vi) Cost of Forest Surveys carried out by the Survey of India, and Forest maps prepared by that Department.
- (vii) Leave Salary and Pension Contributions recovered in respect of Government servants lent on Foreign Service

Rule 109 Re-audit. As a convention, a period of three years has been accepted by the Central and State Governments for the re-audit of past transactions involving errors in classification

Rule 110 When adjustment necessary. Adjustment shall always be made unless otherwise agreed upon —

- (a) If a commercial department or undertaking or a regularly organised store department or store section of a department is concerned, or
- (b) If under the operation of any rule or order, an adjustment would have been made if the particular transaction with



State Government were a transaction between two departments of the Central Government.

Rule 111 Petty and isolated claims for services rendered not to be preferred. The Central Government (which includes Union Territories) and the State Governments have agreed under reciprocal arrangements not to prefer petty and isolated claims for an amount not exceeding Rupees ten thousand against one another

Rule 112 Criteria in determining whether a particular claim is covered by the reciprocal arrangement. The significant criterion in determining whether a particular claim is covered by the reciprocal arrangement mentioned above, will be that the claim shall be both petty and of an occasional character and shall cover services rendered and not supplies made unless the latter forms part of service. The term “service rendered” will be taken to mean an individual act of service, like providing police escort to a high dignitary and will not apply to supply of stores etc. Claims relating to Commercial undertakings under the Government of India or the State Governments such as those of the Railways, the Department of Post, the Electrical undertakings, etc., shall fall outside the purview of the proposed reciprocal arrangements and shall continue to be settled as hitherto.

If a doubt arises as to whether a particular claim would fall within or outside the purview of the proposed arrangement, it shall be decided by mutual consultation. The above arrangements will remain in force without any time limit in respect of all State Governments.

Rule 113 Projects jointly executed by several State Governments. In the case of Projects, jointly executed by several Governments, where the expenditure is to be shared by the participating Governments in agreed proportions, but the expenditure is ab-initio incurred by one Government and shares of other participating Governments recovered subsequently; such recoveries from other Governments shall be exhibited as abatement of charges under the relevant expenditure Head of Account in the books

of the Governments incurring the expenditure initially

Rule 114 Claims of State Governments on account of the extra cost of agency functions. Claims of State Governments, on account of the extra cost of agency functions entrusted to them under Article 258 of the Constitution shall be dealt with and settled in accordance with such directions as may be issued by the President in this regard from time to time

Rule 115 The following principles shall be generally observed in dealing with claims preferred by State Governments under Clause (3) of Article 258 of the Constitution: —

- (i) If the agency work involves the employment of a State Commercial Department, it would be open to that department to charge its normal commercial costs.
- (ii) Public Works Department agency costs shall be represented by such percentage charges on the cost of Central Works executed by the State as may be agreed between the Central and the State Government concerned, works outlay being treated as an amount placed at the disposal of the State Government for actual expenditure on the execution of the work.
- (iii) The cost of regular joint establishment shall be shared as far as practicable on the basis of fixed annual sums settled in agreement with the State Government concerned.
- (iv) In other cases, the following procedure shall be adopted unless there are special orders to the contrary:-
 - (a) Details of claims preferred by State Governments shall be ascertained.
 - (b) If the work has been performed by the State Government in the past, the charges shall be compared with those charged in the past but it is not necessary to be meticulous in the matter.
 - (c) If the charges are found to be reasonable and do not exceed Rupees Fifty thousand per annum for any individual item (or connected group of items), a five



years contract shall be offered to the State Government during which the Central Government would pay the fixed sum per annum for the work. The amount will be subjected to review at the end of each period of five years.

- (d) If the amount agreed upon exceeds Rupees Fifty thousand, it shall be necessary to have an annual statement of proposed charges from the State Government at the time of preparation of the Budget. However, if in any individual case, the charges are obviously static, then the contract system may be adopted in these cases also.
- (v) In exceptional cases in which arbitration has to be resorted to, the Ministry of Finance will make the requisite arrangement in the matter.
- (vi) The Ministry of Finance shall be consulted on all matters arising under Article 258 (3) of the Constitution.

Rule 116 Principles governing transactions in connection with the agency functions entrusted to State Government. The following procedure shall be followed in regard to transactions arising in connection with the agency functions entrusted to the State Governments under Article 258 of the Constitution:

- (i) **The expenditure on extra staff or contingencies which the State Government have to incur**-The extra cost to the State Government arising mainly in respect of the additional staff employed or contingent and other expenditure, as in the case of work devolving on the State Governments in connection with the administration of the Census Act, is reimbursable under Article 258 (3) of the Constitution. Expenditure in this regard shall be provided in the State Budget in the first instance and adjusted in the accounts of the State Governments under the normal Heads of Accounts. These will be reimbursed in lumpsum to the State Governments, necessary provision being made under a distinct sub-head "Amounts paid to other Governments, Departments, etc.", under the

concerned Demand of the Ministry administratively concerned with the subject. In computing the extra cost, the element of leave and pensionary charges can also be included, provided the relevant service and financial rules of the State Governments provide for this.

- (ii) **The expenditure on work entrusted to the State Government, such as expenditure on construction and maintenance of National Highways, expenditure on Defence Works, Aviation Works, etc.**-The expenditure directly connected with the execution of the scheme or work entrusted to the State Government such as expenditure on the construction or maintenance of National Highways etc., will be adjusted direct in the accounts of the Central Government under the relevant Head of Account. The question of including the estimates in this regard in the Budget of the State Governments and subjecting them to the vote of the State Legislature will not arise. The expenditure will be adjusted under the Head "8658 – Suspense Accounts –PAO Suspense" in the Remittance Section of the State Accounts in the first instance pending their eventual clearance in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

Note: In the converse case relating to the entrustment of a State function to the Central Government under Article 258-A of the Constitution, a procedure similar to that indicated in the Rule 116 above shall be followed. The extra cost on staff and other contingent expenditure, etc., will accordingly have to be provided in the Budget of the Central Government in the usual manner and recovery made in lumpsum from the State Government concerned. The other expenditure on execution of the work proper should be debited to the State Government concerned directly and the question of obtaining a vote of the Parliament for the same will not arise.

Rule 117 Crucial date for closure of Inter-Governmental adjustments. Inter-Governmental adjustments can be carried out upto the 15th of April on which date the



books of the Reserve Bank are closed for the month of March. Every endeavour must, therefore, be made to settle as far as possible all transactions with State Governments before the close of the year.

Rule 118 Adjustments with foreign Governments, outside bodies, etc.

Unless exempted by Government by general or special orders, services shall not be rendered to any foreign Government or non-Government body or institution or to a separate fund constituted as such except on payment.

Rule 119 Recoveries of expenditure for services rendered to non-Government parties.

Recoveries of expenditure for services rendered or supplies made to non-Government parties or other Governments (including local funds and Governments outside India), shall in all cases, be classified as receipts of the Government rendering such services.

Rule 120 Recoveries of expenditure for services rendered as an agent.

When a Government undertakes a service merely as an agent of a private body, the entire cost of the service shall be recovered from that body so that the net cost to Government is nil. The recoveries shall be taken as reduction of expenditure.

Explanation: The term 'recovery' is used in these rules to denote repayment of, or payment by non-Government parties or other Governments towards charges initially incurred and classified by a Central Government Department in the account, as final expenditure by debit to a Revenue or Capital Head of Account. Recoveries towards establishment charges, tools and plants, fees for procurement of inspection of stores or both etc., effected at percentage rates or otherwise, are some examples.

Rule 121 Payments to outside body or fund to be through grant-in-aid. Any relief in respect of payment for services rendered or supplies made to any outside body or fund shall ordinarily be given through a grant-in-aid rather than by remission of dues.

Rule 122 Charges relating to the maintenance and demarcations and disputes over boundaries. The incidence of charges relating to the maintenance and demarcations and disputes over boundaries between India and a foreign

country is regulated by the following principles;

- (i) Maintenance – Half the maintenance charges will be borne by the Central Government, the other half being recovered, as far as practicable, from the foreign country, failing which the foreign country's share will also be borne by the Central Government.
- (ii) Demarcation and Disputes – Charges relating to demarcation of boundaries and boundary disputes will be borne by the Central Government under Entry 10 of the Union List, subject to such recovery as shall be made from the Foreign Country.
- (iii) Where streams or other watercourses form the boundaries and where the ordinary principle of median line applies, the Government concerned (i.e., Foreign Country or India) will bear the cost of maintenance of the boundary line on its side. Where a separate set of survey marks is maintained by each of the two Governments on its side, the cost of maintenance of the survey marks shall be borne by the Government concerned.

Exception:

- (a) The arrangement in (i) above in its application to Nepal will be subject to special arrangements worked out in consultation with the Nepal Government.
- (b) The share of the Bhutan Government for maintenance and demarcation of and disputes over boundaries will be borne by the Central Government for the present

VIII.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ADJUSTMENTS

Rule 123 Inter-Departmental Adjustments. Save as expressly provided by any general or special orders, a Service Department shall not charge other Departments for services rendered or supplies made which falls within the class of duties for which the former Department is constituted. However, a commercial Department or



undertaking shall ordinarily charge and be charged for any supplies made and services rendered to, or by, other departments of Government.

Rule 124 Principles for division of Departments for purposes of inter-departmental payments. For purposes of inter-Departmental payments, the Departments of a Government shall be divided into service Departments and commercial departments according to the following principles:-

- (i) Service Departments. -These are constituted for the discharge of those functions which either-
 - (a) Are inseparable from and form part of the idea of Government e.g. Departments of Administration of Justice, Jails, Police, Education, Medical, Public Health, Forest, Defence; or
 - (b) Are necessary to, and form part of, the general conduct of the business of Government e.g. Departments of Survey, Government Printing, Stationery, Public Works (Building and Roads Branch), Central Purchase Organisation (Director-General of Supplies and Disposals, New Delhi).
- (ii) Commercial Departments or Undertakings. -These are established mainly for the purposes of rendering services or providing supplies, of certain special kinds, on payment for the services rendered or for the articles supplied. They perform functions, which are not necessarily governmental functions. They are required to work to a financial result determined through accounts maintained on commercial principles.

Rule 125 Period for preferment of claims. All claims shall ordinarily be preferred between Departments, both commercial and non-commercial of the Central Government, within the same financial year and not beyond three years from the date of transaction. This limitation, however, may be waived in specific cases by mutual agreement between the departments concerned.

Rule 126 Procedure for settlement of inter-

departmental adjustments. The settlement of inter-departmental adjustments shall be regulated by the directions contained in Chapter 4 of Government Accounting Rules, 1990.

Rule 127 Inter-departmental and other adjustments to be made in the account year. Under the directions contained in the Account Code for Accountants General, Inter-departmental and other adjustments are not to be made in the accounts of the past year, if they could not have been reasonably anticipated in time for funds being obtained from the proper authority. In all cases, where the adjustment could have reasonably been anticipated as, for example, recurring payments to another Government or department and payments which, though not of fixed amount, are of a fixed character, etc., the Accounts Officer will automatically make the adjustment in the accounts before they are finally closed. The onus of proving that the adjustments could not have been reasonably anticipated should lie with the Controlling Officer.

As between different Departments of the same Government, the recoveries effected for services rendered shall be classified as deductions from the gross expenditure. However, recoveries made by a Commercial Department, e.g., Railways, Posts or a departmental commercial undertaking in respect of services rendered in pursuance of the functions for which the Commercial Department is constituted shall be treated as receipts of the Department but where it acts as an agent for the discharge of functions not germane to the essential purpose of the Department, the recoveries shall be taken as reduction of expenditure.

Exception. -Recoveries of fees for purchase, inspection, etc., effected by the Central Purchase Organizations of Government of India, are treated as receipts of the Department concerned.

NOTE 1. -The term 'recovery' is used in this rule to denote repayment of/or payment by one Department of the same Government towards charges initially incurred and classified by another Department in its accounts as final expenditure by debit to a Revenue or Capital Head of Account. Recoveries towards establishment charges,



tools and plants, fees for procurement or inspection of stores or both, etc., effected at percentage rates or otherwise, are some examples.

NOTE 2.-Recoveries effected from another Department of the same Government which are to be classified as deduction from the gross expenditure, shall be shown in the relevant Demand for Grant as "below the line" recovery under the appropriate Major Head of Account etc. Recovery actually effected, irrespective of the year to which it relates shall be adjusted in accounts in the schedule of recovery to be attached to the Appropriation Account of the year in which the recovery is effected.

Rule 128 Adjustment of Pensionary Charges of certain Commercial Departments.

Except as otherwise provided, the pensionary liability of commercial departments and undertakings, for which pro forma commercial accounts are maintained, shall be assessed on a contribution basis at such rates as may be fixed by Government from time to time. In the case of departments and undertakings, for which no regular commercial accounts are maintained either within or outside the regular Government accounts but which are allowed to charge for their products or services rendered, the pensionary liability shall be taken into account in the estimate of overhead charges and manufacturing costs for the purpose of calculating the issue price of goods manufactured or fees for services rendered. The calculation shall be made at rates prescribed for the purpose by Government.

NOTE: The Railways, Posts and Defence Departments are regarded as separate Governments for the purpose of adjustment of pensionary charges.

Rule: 129 Pensionary liability in the case of Government Departments/ Undertakings declared as commercial.

In the case of Government Departments and Undertakings declared as commercial, adjustment of Pensionary liability shall be made in the regular accounts by charging the average of the percentage for 15th year of service based on the rates of monthly contribution of

pension as prescribed in the appropriate order issued from time to time under Appendix-II of Fundamental and Supplementary Rules.



WORKS

Rule 130 Original works means all new constructions, site preparation, additions and alterations to existing works, special repairs to newly purchased or previously abandoned buildings or structures, including remodelling or replacement.

Minor works mean works which add capital value to existing assets but do not create new assets.

Repair works means works undertaken to maintain building and fixtures. Works will also include services or goods incidental or consequential to the original or repair works.

Rule 131 Administrative control of works includes:

- (i) assumption of full responsibility for construction, maintenance and upkeep;
- (ii) proper utilization of buildings and allied works;
- (iii) provision of funds for execution of these functions.

Rule 132 Powers to sanction works. The powers delegated to various subordinate authorities to accord administrative approval, sanction expenditure and re-appropriate funds for works are regulated by the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, and other orders contained in the respective departmental regulations.

Rule 133 (1) A Ministry or Department at its discretion may directly execute repair works estimated to cost up to Rupees Thirty Lakhs after following due procedure indicated in Rule 139, 159 & 160.

Rule 133 (2) A Ministry or Department may, at its discretion, assign repair works estimated to cost above Rupees thirty Lakhs and original/minor works of any value to any Public Works Organisation (PWO) such as Central Public Works Department (CPWD), State Public Works Department, others Central Government organisations authorised to carry out civil or electrical works such as Military Engineering Service (MES), Border Roads Organisation (BRO), etc. or Ministry/Department's construction wings of Ministries of Railways, Defence, Environment & Forests, Information & Broadcasting and Departments of Posts, and Space etc.

Rule 133 (3) As an alternative to 133(2), a Ministry or Department may award repair works

estimated to cost above Rupees thirty Lakhs and original works of any value to:

- (i) any Public Sector Undertaking set up by the Central or State Government to carry out civil or electrical works or
- (ii) to any other Central/ State Government organisation /PSU which may be notified by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) for such purpose after evaluating their financial strength and technical competence.

For the award of work under this sub-rule, the Ministry/ Department shall ensure competition among such PSUs/ Organisations. This competition shall be essentially on the lump sum service charges to be claimed for execution of work.

In exceptional cases, for award of work under (i) and (ii) above, on nomination basis, the conditions contained in Rule 194 would apply. The work under these circumstances shall also be awarded only on the basis of lump sum service charge

Rule 134 Work under the administrative control of the Public Works Departments. Works not specifically allotted to any Ministry or Department shall be included in the Grants for Civil Works to be administered by Central Public Works Department. No such work may be financed partly from funds provided in departmental budget and partly from the budget for Civil works as mentioned above.

Rule 135 (1) General Rules. Subject to the observance of these general rules, (including Rule 144) the initiation, authorization and execution of works allotted to a particular Ministry or Department shall be regulated by detailed rules and orders contained in the respective departmental regulations and by other special orders applicable to them.

Rule 135 (2) Ministry or Department shall put in place, as far as possible, empowered project teams for all large value projects and these teams should be tasked only with project execution and not given other operational duties.

Rule 136 (1) No works shall be commenced or liability incurred in connection with it until:

- (i) administrative approval has been



obtained from the appropriate authority in each case.

- (ii) sanction to incur expenditure has been obtained from the competent authority.
- (iii) a properly detailed design has been sanctioned; while designing the projects etc, principles of Life Cycle cost may also be considered.
- (iv) estimates containing the detailed specifications and quantities of various items have been prepared on the basis of the Schedule of Rates maintained by CPWD or other Public Works Organisations and sanctioned.
- (v) funds to cover the charge during the year have been provided by competent authority.
- (vi) tenders invited and processed in accordance with rules.
- (vii) a Work Order issued.

Rule 136 (2) On grounds of urgency or otherwise, if it becomes necessary to carry out a work or incur a liability under circumstances when the provisions set out under sub rule 1 of rule 136 cannot be complied with, the concerned executive officer may do so on his own judgement and responsibility. Simultaneously, he should initiate action to obtain approval from the competent authority and also to intimate the concerned Accounts Officer.

Rule 136 (3) Any development of a project considered necessary while a work is in progress, which is not contingent on the execution of work as first sanctioned, shall have to be covered by a supplementary estimate.

Rule 137 For purpose of approval and sanctions, a group of works which forms one project, shall be considered as one work. The necessity for obtaining approval or sanction of higher authority to a project which consists of such a group of work should not be avoided because of the fact that the cost of each particular work in the project is within the powers of such approval or sanction of a lower authority. This provision, however, shall not apply in case of works of similar nature which are independent of each other.

Rule 138 Any anticipated or actual savings from a sanctioned estimate for a definite project, shall not, without special authority, be

applied to carry out additional work not contemplated in the original project.

Rule 139 Procedure for Execution of Works. The broad procedure to be followed by a Ministry or Department for execution of works under its own arrangements shall be as under :-

- (i) the detailed procedure relating to expenditure on such works shall be prescribed by departmental regulations framed in consultation with the Accounts Officer, generally based on the procedures and the principles underlying the financial and accounting rules prescribed for similar works carried out by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD);
- (ii) preparation of detailed design and estimates shall precede any sanction for works;
- (iii) no work shall be undertaken before Issue of Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction by the competent Authority on the basis of estimates framed;
- (iv) Open tenders will be called for works costing Rs. Five lakh to Rs. Thirty lakh;
- (v) limited tenders will be called for works costing less than Rupees five lakhs;
- (vi) execution of Contract Agreement or Award of work should be done before commencement of the work;
- (vii) final payment for work shall be made only on the Personal Certificate of the Officer-in-charge of execution of the work in the format given below:
"I Executing Officer of (Name of the Work), am personally satisfied that the work has been executed as per the specifications laid down in the Contract Agreement and the workmanship is up to the standards followed in the Industry."

Rule 140 For original/minor works and repair works entrusted as per Rule 133(2) or Rule 133(3), the Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction shall be accorded and funds allotted by the concerned authority under these rules and in accordance with the Delegation of Financial Power Rules. The Public Works Organisation or the Public Sector Undertaking or any Organisation allotted



work shall then execute the work entrusted to it in accordance with the rules and procedures prescribed in that organisation. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) may be drawn with Public Works Organisation or the Public Sector Undertaking for proper execution of work.

Rule 141 **Review of Projects.** After a project costing Rs. 100 crore or above is approved, the Administrative Ministry or Department will set up a Review Committee consisting of a representative each from the Administrative Ministry, Finance (Internal Finance Wing) and the Executing Agency to review the progress of the work. The Review Committee shall have the powers to accept variation within 10% of the approved estimates. For works costing less than Rs. 100 crore, it will be at the discretion of the Administrative Ministry/Department to set up a suitable mechanism for review and acceptance of variation within 10% of the approved estimates.



PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES

PROCUREMENT OF GOODS

Rule 142 This chapter contains the general rules applicable to all Ministries or Departments, regarding procurement of goods required for use in the public service. Detailed instructions relating to procurement of goods may be issued by the procuring departments broadly in conformity with the general rules contained in this Chapter.

Rule 143 Definition of Goods. The term 'goods' used in this chapter includes all articles, material, commodity, livestock, furniture, fixtures, raw material, spares, instruments, machinery, equipment, industrial plant, vehicles, aircraft, ships, medicines, railway rolling stock, assemblies, sub-assemblies, accessories, a group of machineries comprising of an integrated production process or such other category of goods or intangible products like software, technology transfer, licenses, patents or other intellectual properties purchased or otherwise acquired for the use of Government but excludes books, publications, periodicals, etc. for a library. The term 'goods' also includes works and services which are incidental or consequential to the supply of such goods, such as, transportation, insurance, installation, commissioning, training and maintenance.

Rule 144 Fundamental principles of public buying (for all procurements including procurement of works). Every authority delegated with the financial powers of procuring goods in public interest shall have the responsibility and accountability to bring efficiency, economy, and transparency in matters relating to public procurement and for fair and equitable treatment of suppliers and promotion of competition in public procurement.

The procedure to be followed in making public procurement must conform to the following yardsticks :-

- (i) The description of the subject matter of procurement to the extent practicable should -
 - a) be objective, functional, generic and measurable and specify technical, qualitative and performance characteristics.

- b) not indicate a requirement for a particular trade mark, trade name or brand.

- (ii) the specifications in terms of quality, type etc., as also quantity of goods to be procured, should be clearly spelt out keeping in view the specific needs of the procuring organisations. The specifications so worked out should meet the basic needs of the organisation without including superfluous and non-essential features, which may result in unwarranted expenditure.

- (iii) Where applicable, the technical specifications shall, to the extent practicable, be based on the national technical regulations or recognized national standards or building codes, wherever such standards exist, and in their absence, be based on the relevant international standards. In case of Government of India funded projects abroad, the technical specifications may be framed based on requirements and standards of the host beneficiary Government, where such standards exist.

Provided that a procuring entity may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, adopt any other technical specification.

- (iv) Care should also be taken to avoid purchasing quantities in excess of requirement to avoid inventory carrying costs.

- (v) offers should be invited following a fair, transparent and reasonable procedure.

- (vi) the procuring authority should be satisfied that the selected offer adequately meets the requirement in all respects.

- (vii) the procuring authority should satisfy itself that the price of the selected offer is reasonable and consistent with the quality required.

- (viii) at each stage of procurement the concerned procuring authority must place on record, in precise terms, the considerations which weighed with it while taking the procurement decision.

- (ix) a complete schedule of procurement



cycle from date of issuing the tender to date of issuing the contract should be published when the tender is issued.

- (x) All Ministries/Departments shall prepare Annual Procurement Plan before the commencement of the year and the same should also be placed on their website.

Rule 145 Authorities competent to purchase goods. An authority which is competent to incur expenditure may sanction the purchase of goods required for use in public service in accordance with provisions in the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, following the general procedure contained in the following rules.

Rule 146 Procurement of goods required on mobilisation Procurement of goods required on mobilisation and/ or during the continuance of Military operations shall be regulated by special rules and orders issued by the Government on this behalf from time to time.

Rule 147 Powers for procurement of goods. The Ministries or Departments have been delegated full powers to make their own arrangements for procurement of goods. In case, however, a Ministry or Department does not have the required expertise, it may project its indent to the Central Purchase Organisation (e.g. DGS&D) with the approval of competent authority. The indent form to be utilised for this purpose will be as per the standard form evolved by the Central Purchase Organisation

Rule 148 Rate Contract. DGS&D shall conclude rate contracts with the registered suppliers for such goods, which are not available on GeM, and are identified as common use items and are needed on recurring basis by various Central Government Ministries or Departments. DGS&D will furnish and update all the relevant details of the rate contracts on its website. The Ministries or Departments shall follow those rate contracts to the maximum extent possible.

Rule 149. Government e-Market place (GeM). DGS&D or any other agency authorized by the Government will host an online Government e-Marketplace (GeM) for common use Goods and Services. DGS&D will ensure adequate publicity including periodic advertisement of the

items to be procured through GeM for the prospective suppliers. The Procurement of Goods and Services by Ministries or Departments will be mandatory for Goods or Services available on GeM. The credentials of suppliers on GeM shall be certified by DGS&D. The procuring authorities will certify the reasonability of rates. The GeM portal shall be utilized by the Government buyers for direct on-line purchases as under :-

- (i) Up to Rs.50,000/- through any of the available suppliers on the GeM, meeting the requisite quality, specification and delivery period.
- (ii) Above Rs.50,000/- and up to Rs.30,00,000/- through the GeM Seller having lowest price amongst the available sellers, of at least three different manufacturers, on GeM, meeting the requisite quality, specification and delivery period. The tools for online bidding and online reverse auction available on GeM can be used by the Buyer if decided by the competent authority.
- (iii) Above Rs.30,00,000/- through the supplier having lowest price meeting the requisite quality, specification and delivery period after mandatorily obtaining bids, using online bidding or reverse auction tool provided on GeM.
- (iv) The invitation for the online e-bidding/reverse auction will be available to all the existing Sellers or other Sellers registered on the portal and who have offered their goods/services under the particular product/service category, as per terms and conditions of GeM.
- (v) The above mentioned monetary ceiling is applicable only for purchases made through GeM. For purchases, if any, outside GeM, relevant GFR Rules shall apply.
- (vi) The Ministries/Departments shall work out their procurement requirements of Goods and Services on either "OPEX" model or "CAPEX" model as per their requirement/ suitability at the time of preparation of Budget Estimates (BE) and shall project their Annual Procurement Plan of goods and



services on GeM portal within 30 days of Budget approval.

- (vii) The Government Buyers may ascertain the reasonableness of prices before placement of order using the Business Analytics (BA) tools available on GeM including the Last Purchase Price on GeM, Department's own Last Purchase Price etc.
- (viii) A demand for goods shall not be divided into small quantities to make piecemeal purchases to avoid procurement through L-1 Buying / bidding / reverse auction on GeM or the necessity of obtaining the sanction of higher authorities required with reference to the estimated value of the total demand.

Rule 150 Registration of Suppliers

- (i) With a view to establishing reliable sources for procurement of goods commonly required for Government use, the Central Purchase Organisation (e.g. DGS&D) will prepare and maintain item-wise lists of eligible and capable suppliers. Such approved suppliers will be known as "Registered Suppliers". All Ministries or Departments may utilise these lists as and when necessary. Such registered suppliers are prima facie eligible for consideration for procurement of goods through Limited Tender Enquiry. They are also ordinarily exempted from furnishing bid security along with their bids. A Head of Department may also register suppliers of goods which are specifically required by that Department or Office, periodically. Registration of the supplier should be done following a fair, transparent and reasonable procedure and after giving due publicity.
- (ii) Credentials, manufacturing capability, quality control systems, past performance, after-sales service, financial background etc. of the supplier(s) should be carefully verified before registration.
- (iii) The supplier(s) will be registered for a fixed period (between 1 to 3 years) depending on the nature of the goods. At the end of this period, the registered

supplier(s) willing to continue with registration are to apply afresh for renewal of registration. New supplier(s) may also be considered for registration at any time, provided they fulfil all the required conditions.

- (iv) Performance and conduct of every registered supplier is to be watched by the concerned Ministry or Department. The registered supplier(s) are liable to be removed from the list of approved suppliers if they fail to abide by the terms and conditions of the registration or fail to supply the goods on time or supply substandard goods or make any false declaration to any Government agency or for any ground which, in the opinion of the Government, is not in public interest.
- (v) The list of registered suppliers for the subject matter of procurement be exhibited on the Central Public Procurement Portal and websites of the Procuring Entity/ e-Procurement/ portals.

Rule 151 Debarment from bidding.

- (i) A bidder shall be debarred if he has been convicted of an offence—
 - (a) under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988; or
 - (b) the Indian Penal Code or any other law for the time being in force, for causing any loss of life or property or causing a threat to public health as part of execution of a public procurement contract.
- (ii) A bidder debarred under sub-section (i) or any successor of the bidder shall not be eligible to participate in a procurement process of any procuring entity for a period not exceeding three years commencing from the date of debarment. Department of Commerce (DGS&D) will maintain such list which will also be displayed on the website of DGS&D as well as Central Public Procurement Portal.
- (iii) A procuring entity may debar a bidder or any of its successors, from participating in any procurement process undertaken by it, for a period not exceeding two years, if it determines that the bidder has breached the code of integrity. The



Ministry/Department will maintain such list which will also be displayed on their website.

- (iv) The bidder shall not be debarred unless such bidder has been given a reasonable opportunity to represent against such debarment

Rule 152 Enlistment of Indian Agents. As per the Compulsory Enlistment Scheme of the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, it is compulsory for Indian agents, who desire to quote directly on behalf of their foreign principals, to get themselves enlisted with the Central Purchase Organisation (eg. DGS&D). However, such enlistment is not equivalent to registration of suppliers as mentioned under Rule 150.

Rule 153 Reserved Items and other Purchase/Price Preference Policy.

- (i) The Central Government, through administrative instructions, has reserved all items of hand spun and hand-woven textiles (khadi goods) for exclusive purchase from Khadi Village Industries Commission (KVIC). It has also reserved all items of handloom textiles required by Central Government departments for exclusive purchase from KVIC and/or the notified handloom units of Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handlooms (ACASH).
- (ii) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) have notified procurement policy under section 11 of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006.
- (iii) The Central Government may, by notification, provide for mandatory procurement of any goods or services from any category of bidders, or provide for preference to bidders on the grounds of promotion of locally manufactured goods or locally provided services.

Rule 154 Purchase of goods without quotation

Purchase of goods upto the value of Rs. 25,000 (Rupees twenty five thousand) only on each occasion may be made without inviting quotations or bids on the basis of a certificate to be recorded by the competent authority in the following format.

"I,, am personally satisfied that these goods purchased are of the requisite quality and specification and have been purchased from a reliable supplier at a reasonable price."

Rule 155 Purchase of goods by Purchase Committee. Purchase of goods costing above Rs. 25,000 (Rupees twenty five thousand only) and upto Rs.2,50,000/- (Rupees two lakh and fifty thousand only) on each occasion may be made on the recommendations of a duly constituted Local Purchase Committee consisting of three members of an appropriate level as decided by the Head of the Department. The committee will survey the market to ascertain the reasonableness of rate, quality and specifications and identify the appropriate supplier. Before recommending placement of the purchase order, the members of the committee will jointly record a certificate as under.

"Certified that we, members of the purchase committee are jointly and individually satisfied that the goods recommended for purchase are of the requisite specification and quality, priced at the prevailing market rate and the supplier recommended is reliable and competent to supply the goods in question, and it is not debarred by Department of Commerce or Ministry/ Department concerned."

Rule 156 (1) Purchase of goods directly under Rate Contract. In case a Ministry or Department directly procures Central Purchase Organisation (e.g. DGS&D) rate contracted goods from suppliers, the prices to be paid for such goods shall not exceed those stipulated in the rate contract and the other salient terms and conditions of the purchase should be in line with those specified in the Rate Contract. The Ministry or Department shall make its own arrangement for inspection and testing of such goods where ever required.

Rule 156 (2) The Central Purchase Organisation (e.g. DGS&D) should host the specifications, prices and other salient details of different rate contracted items, appropriately updated, on the web site for use by the procuring Ministry or Department.

Rule 157 A demand for goods should not be divided



into small quantities to make piecemeal purchases to avoid the necessity of obtaining the sanction of higher authority required with reference to the estimated value of the total demand.

Rule 158 Purchase of goods by obtaining bids.

Except in cases covered under Rule 154, 155, and 156(1), Ministries or Departments shall procure goods under the powers referred to in Rule 147 above by following the standard method of obtaining bids in :

- (i) Advertised Tender Enquiry
- (ii) Limited Tender Enquiry
- (iii) Two-Stage Bidding
- (iv) Single Tender Enquiry
- (v) Electronic Reverse Auctions

Rule 159 E-Publishing

- (i) It is mandatory for all Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government, their attached and Subordinate Offices and Autonomous /Statutory Bodies to publish their tender enquiries, corrigenda thereon and details of bid awards on the Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP).
- (ii) Individual cases where confidentiality is required, for reasons of national security, would be exempted from the mandatory e-publishing requirement. The decision to exempt any case on the said grounds should be approved by the Secretary of the Ministry/ Department with the concurrence of the concerned Financial Advisor. In the case of Autonomous Bodies and Statutory Bodies' approval of the Head of the Body with the concurrence of the Head of the Finance should be obtained in each such case. Statistical information on the number of cases in which exemption was granted and the value of the concerned contract should be intimated on a Quarterly basis to the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure.
- (iii) The above instructions apply to all Tender Enquiries, Requests for Proposals, Requests for Expressions of Interest, Notice for pre Qualification/ Registration or any other notice

inviting bids or proposals in any form whether they are advertised, issued to limited number of parties or to a single party.

- (iv) In the case of procurements made through DGS&D Rate Contracts or through any other Central Procurement Organizations (CPOs) only award details need to be published.
- (v) These instructions would not apply to procurements made in terms of provisions of Rules 154 (Purchase of goods without quotations) or 155 (Purchase of goods by purchase committee) of General Financial Rules.

Rule 160 E-Procurement

- (i) It is mandatory for Ministries/ Departments to receive all bids through e-procurement portals in respect of all procurements.
- (ii) Ministries/ Departments which do not have a large volume of procurement or carry out procurements required only for day-to-day running of offices and also have not initiated e-procurement through any other solution provided so far, may use e-procurement solution developed by NIC. Other Ministries/ Departments may either use e-procurement solution developed by NIC or engage any other service provider following due process.
- (iii) These instructions will not apply to procurements made by Ministries / Departments through DGS&D Rate Contracts.
- (iv) In individual case where national security and strategic considerations demands confidentiality, Ministries/ Departments may exempt such cases from e-procurement after seeking approval of concerned Secretary and with concurrence of Financial Advisers.
- (v) In case of tenders floated by Indian Missions Abroad, Competent Authority to decide the tender, may exempt such case from e-procurement.

Rule 161 Advertised Tender Enquiry

- (i) Subject to exceptions incorporated



under Rule 154, 155, 162 and 166, invitation to tenders by advertisement should be used for procurement of goods of estimated value of Rs. 25 lakhs (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh) and above. Advertisement in such cases should be given on Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) at www.eprocure.gov.in and on GeM. An organisation having its own website should also publish all its advertised tender enquiries on the website.

- (ii) The organisation should also post the complete bidding document in its website and on CPPP to enable prospective bidders to make use of the document by downloading from the web site.
- (iii) The advertisements for invitation of tenders should give the complete web address from where the bidding documents can be downloaded.
- (iv) In order to promote wider participation and ease of bidding, no cost of tender document may be charged for the tender documents downloaded by the bidders.
- (iv) Where the Ministry or Department feels that the goods of the required quality, specifications etc., may not be available in the country and it is necessary to also look for suitable competitive offers from abroad, the Ministry or Department may send copies of the tender notice to the Indian Embassies abroad as well as to the foreign Embassies in India. The selection of the embassies will depend on the possibility of availability of the required goods in such countries. In such cases e-procurement as per Rule 160 may not be insisted.
- (v) Ordinarily, the minimum time to be allowed for submission of bids should be three weeks from the date of publication of the tender notice or availability of the bidding document for sale, whichever is later. Where the Department also contemplates obtaining bids from abroad, the minimum period should be kept as four weeks for both domestic and foreign bidders.

Rule 162 Limited Tender Enquiry

- (i) This method may be adopted when estimated value of the goods to be procured is up to Rupees Twenty five Lakhs. Copies of the bidding document should be sent directly by speed post/registered post/courier/ e-mail to firms which are borne on the list of registered suppliers for the goods in question as referred under Rule 150 above. The number of supplier firms in Limited Tender Enquiry should be more than three. Efforts should be made to identify a higher number of approved suppliers to obtain more responsive bids on competitive basis.

Further, an organisation should publish its limited tender enquiries on Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) as per Rule 159. Apart from CPPP, the organisations should publish the tender enquiries on the Department's or Ministry's web site.

- (ii) The unsolicited bids should not be accepted. However Ministries/ Departments should evolve a system by which interested firms can register and bid in next round of tendering.
- (iii) Purchase through Limited Tender Enquiry may be adopted even where the estimated value of the procurement is more than Rupees twenty-five Lakhs, in the following circumstances.
 - (a) The competent authority in the Ministry or Department certifies that the demand is urgent and any additional expenditure involved by not procuring through advertised tender enquiry is justified in view of urgency. The Ministry or Department should also put on record the nature of the urgency and reasons why the procurement could not be anticipated.
 - (b) There are sufficient reasons, to be recorded in writing by the competent authority, indicating that it will not be in public interest to procure the goods through advertised tender enquiry.
 - (c) The sources of supply are definitely known and possibility of



fresh source(s) beyond those being tapped is remote.

- (iv) Sufficient time should be allowed for submission of bids in Limited Tender Enquiry cases.

Rule 163 Two bid system (simultaneous receipt of separate technical and financial bids) : For purchasing high value plant, machinery etc. of a complex and technical nature, bids may be obtained in two parts as under :

- (i) Technical bid consisting of all technical details along with commercial terms and conditions; and
- (ii) Financial bid indicating item-wise price for the items mentioned in the technical bid.

The technical bid and the financial bid should be sealed by the bidder in separate covers duly super-scribed and both these sealed covers are to be put in a bigger cover which should also be sealed and duly super-scribed. The technical bids are to be opened by the purchasing Ministry or Department at the first instance and evaluated by a competent committee or authority. At the second stage financial bids of only these technically acceptable offers should be opened after intimating them the date and time of opening the financial bid for further evaluation and ranking before awarding the contract.

Rule 164 Two-Stage Bidding (Obtain bids in two stages with receipt of financial bids after receipt and evaluation of technical bids)

- (i) Ministry/Department may procure the subject matter of procurement by the method of two-stage bidding, if
 - (a) it is not feasible to formulate detailed specifications or identify specific characteristics for the subject matter of procurement, without receiving inputs regarding its technical aspects from bidders; or
 - (b) the character of the subject matter of procurement is subject to rapid technological advances or market fluctuations or both; or
 - (c) Ministry/Department seeks to enter into a contract for the purpose of research, experiment,

study or development, except where the contract includes the production of items in quantities sufficient to establish their commercial viability or to recover research and development costs; or

- (d) The bidder is expected to carry out a detailed survey or investigation and undertake a comprehensive assessment of risks, costs and obligations associated with the particular procurement.
- (ii) The procedure for two stage bidding shall include the following, namely:—
 - (a) in the first stage of the bidding process, the Ministry/Department shall invite bids through advertised tender containing the technical aspects and contractual terms and conditions of the proposed procurement without a bid price;
 - (b) all first stage bids, which are otherwise eligible, shall be evaluated through an appropriate committee constituted by the Ministry/Department;
 - (c) the committee may hold discussions with the bidders and if any such discussion is held, equal opportunity shall be given to all bidders to participate in the discussions;
 - (d) in revising the relevant terms and conditions of the procurement, the procuring entity shall not modify the fundamental nature of the procurement itself, but may add, amend or omit any specification of the subject matter of procurement or criterion for evaluation;
 - (e) in the second stage of the bidding process, the procuring entity shall invite bids from all those bidders whose bids at the first stage were not rejected, to present final bid with bid prices in response to a revised set of terms and conditions of the procurement;
 - (f) any bidder, invited to bid but not in a position to supply the subject



matter of procurement due to modification in the specifications or terms and conditions, may withdraw from the bidding proceedings without forfeiting any bid security that he may have been required to provide or being penalised in any way, by declaring his intention to withdraw from the procurement proceedings with adequate justification.

Rule 165 Late Bids. In the case of advertised tender enquiry or limited tender enquiry, late bids (i.e. bids received after the specified date and time for receipt of bids) should not be considered.

Rule 166 Single Tender Enquiry. Procurement from a single source may be resorted to in the following circumstances :

- (i) It is in the knowledge of the user department that only a particular firm is the manufacturer of the required goods
- (ii) In a case of emergency, the required goods are necessarily to be purchased from a particular source and the reason for such decision is to be recorded and approval of competent authority obtained.
- (iii) For standardisation of machinery or spare parts to be compatible to the existing sets of equipment (on the advice of a competent technical expert and approved by the competent authority), the required item is to be purchased only from a selected firm

Note : Proprietary Article Certificate in the following form is to be provided by the Ministry/Department before procuring the goods from a single source under the provision of sub Rule 166 (i) and 166 (iii) as applicable.

- (i) The indented goods are manufactured by M/s.....
- (ii) No other make or model is acceptable for the following reasons :
.....
- (iii) Concurrence of finance wing to the proposal vide:
- (iv) Approval of the competent authority vide:

(Signature with date and designation of the indenting officer)

Rule 167 Electronic Reverse Auction

- (i) Electronic Reverse Auction means an online real-time purchasing technique utilised by the procuring entity to select the successful bid, which involves presentation by bidders of successively more favourable bids during a scheduled period of time and automatic evaluation of bids;
- (ii) A procuring entity may choose to procure a subject matter of procurement by the electronic reverse auction method, if:
 - (a) It is feasible for the procuring entity to formulate a detailed description of the subject matter of the procurement;
 - (b) There is a competitive market of bidders anticipated to be qualified to participate in the electronic reverse auction, so that effective competition is ensured;
 - (c) The criteria to be used by the procuring entity in determining the successful bid are quantifiable and can be expressed in monetary terms; and
- (iii) The procedure for electronic reverse auction shall include the following, namely:
 - (a) The procuring entity shall solicit bids through an invitation to the electronic reverse auction to be published or communicated in accordance with the provisions similar to e-procurement; and
 - (b) The invitation shall, in addition to the information as specified in e-procurement, include details relating to access to and registration for the auction, opening and closing of the auction and Norms for conduct of the auction.

Rule 168 Contents of Bidding Document

All the terms, conditions, stipulations and information to be incorporated in the bidding document are to be shown in the appropriate chapters as below :-

Chapter – 1: Instructions to Bidders.



- Chapter – 2: Conditions of Contract.
- Chapter – 3: Schedule of Requirements.
- Chapter – 4: Specifications and allied Technical Details.
- Chapter – 5: Price Schedule (to be utilised by the bidders for quoting their prices).
- Chapter – 6: Contract Form.
- Chapter – 7: Other Standard Forms, if any, to be utilised by the purchaser and the bidders.

Rule 169 Maintenance Contract. Depending on the cost and nature of the goods to be purchased, it may also be necessary to enter into maintenance contract(s) of suitable period either with the supplier of the goods or with any other competent firm, not necessarily the supplier of the subject goods. Such maintenance contracts are especially needed for sophisticated and costly equipment and machinery. It may, however, be kept in mind that the equipment or machinery is maintained free of charge by the supplier during its warranty period or such other extended periods as the contract terms may provide and the paid maintenance should commence only thereafter.

Rule 170 Bid Security

- (i) To safeguard against a bidder's withdrawing or altering its bid during the bid validity period in the case of advertised or limited tender enquiry, Bid Security (also known as Earnest Money) is to be obtained from the bidders except Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) as defined in MSE Procurement Policy issued by Department of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) or are registered with the Central Purchase Organisation or the concerned Ministry or Department. The bidders should be asked to furnish bid security along with their bids. Amount of bid security should ordinarily range between two percent to five percent of the estimated value of the goods to be procured. The amount of bid security should be determined accordingly by the Ministry or Department and indicated in the bidding documents. The bid security may be accepted in the form of Account Payee Demand

Draft, Fixed Deposit Receipt, Banker's Cheque or Bank Guarantee from any of the Commercial Banks or payment online in an acceptable form, safeguarding the purchaser's interest in all respects. The bid security is normally to remain valid for a period of forty-five days beyond the final bid validity period.

- (ii) Bid securities of the unsuccessful bidders should be returned to them at the earliest after expiry of the final bid validity and latest on or before the 30th day after the award of the contract.
- (iii) In place of a Bid security, the Ministries/ Departments may require Bidders to sign a Bid securing declaration accepting that if they withdraw or modify their Bids during the period of validity, or if they are awarded the contract and they fail to sign the contract, or to submit a performance security before the deadline defined in the request for bids document, they will be suspended for the period of time specified in the request for bids document from being eligible to submit Bids for contracts with the entity that invited the Bids.

Rule 171 Performance Security

- (i) To ensure due performance of the contract, Performance Security is to be obtained from the successful bidder awarded the contract. Unlike contracts of Works and Plants, in case of contracts for goods, the need for the Performance Security depends on the market conditions and commercial practice for the particular kind of goods. Performance Security should be for an amount of five to ten per cent. of the value of the contract as specified in the bid documents. Performance Security may be furnished in the form of an Account Payee Demand Draft, Fixed Deposit Receipt from a Commercial bank, Bank Guarantee from a Commercial bank or online payment in an acceptable form safeguarding the purchaser's interest in all respects.
- (ii) Performance Security should remain valid for a period of sixty days beyond the date of completion of all



contractual obligations of the supplier including warranty obligations.

- (iii) Bid security should be refunded to the successful bidder on receipt of Performance Security.

Rule 172 (1) Advance payment to supplier

Ordinarily, payments for services rendered or supplies made should be released only after the services have been rendered or supplies made. However, it may become necessary to make advance payments for example in the following types of cases :-

- (i) Advance payment demanded by firms holding maintenance contracts for servicing of Air-conditioners, computers, other costly equipment, etc.
- (ii) Advance payment demanded by firms against fabrication contracts, turn-key contracts etc.

Such advance payments should not exceed the following limits :

- (a) Thirty per cent. of the contract value to private firms;
- (b) Forty per cent. of the contract value to a State or Central Government agency or a Public Sector Undertaking; or
- (c) in case of maintenance contract, the amount should not exceed the amount payable for six months under the contract.

Ministries or Departments of the Central Government may relax, in consultation with their Financial Advisers concerned, the ceilings (including percentage laid down for advance payment for private firms) mentioned above. While making any advance payment as above, adequate safeguards in the form of bank guarantee etc. should be obtained from the firm.

Rule 172 (2) Part payment to suppliers:

Depending on the terms of delivery incorporated in a contract, part payment to the supplier may be released after it dispatches the goods from its premises in terms of the contract.

Rule 173 Transparency, competition, fairness and elimination of arbitrariness in the procurement process All government

purchases should be made in a transparent, competitive and fair manner, to secure best value for money. This will also enable the prospective bidders to formulate and send their competitive bids with confidence. Some of the measures for ensuring the above are as follows:-

- (i) the text of the bidding document should be self-contained and comprehensive without any ambiguities. All essential information, which a bidder needs for sending responsive bid, should be clearly spelt out in the bidding document in simple language. The condition of prior turnover and prior experience may be relaxed for Startups (as defined by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion) subject to meeting of quality & technical specifications and making suitable provisions in the bidding document. The bidding document should contain, inter alia.
 - (a) Description and Specifications of goods including the nature, quantity, time and place or places of delivery.
 - (b) the criteria for eligibility and qualifications to be met by the bidders such as minimum level of experience, past performance, technical capability, manufacturing facilities and financial position etc or limitation for participation of the bidders, if any.
 - (c) eligibility criteria for goods indicating any legal restrictions or conditions about the origin of goods etc which may required to be met by the successful bidder.
 - (d) the procedure as well as date, time and place for sending the bids.
 - (e) date, time and place of opening of the bid.
 - (e) Criteria for evaluation of bids
 - (f) special terms affecting performance, if any.
 - (g) Essential terms of the procurement contract



- (h) Bidding Documents should include a clause that "if a firm quotes NIL charges/ consideration, the bid shall be treated as unresponsive and will not be considered".
- (ii) Any other information which the procuring entity considers necessary for the bidders to submit their bids.
- (iii) Modification to bidding document:
 - (a) In case any modification is made to the bidding document or any clarification is issued which materially affects the terms contained in the bidding document, the procuring entity shall publish or communicate such modification or clarification in the same manner as the publication or communication of the initial bidding document was made.
 - (b) In case a clarification or modification is issued to the bidding document, the procuring entity shall, before the last date for submission of bids, extend such time limit, if, in its opinion more time is required by bidders to take into account the clarification or modification, as the case may be, while submitting their bids.
 - (c) Any bidder who has submitted his bid in response to the original invitation shall have the opportunity to modify or re-submit it, as the case may be, or withdraw such bid in case the modification to bidding document materially affect the essential terms of the procurement, within the period initially allotted or such extended time as may be allowed for submission of bids, after the modifications are made to the bidding document by the procuring entity:
Provided that the bid last submitted or the bid as modified by the bidder shall be considered for evaluation
- (iv) Suitable provision should be kept in the bidding document to enable a bidder to question the bidding conditions, bidding process and/ or rejection of its bid. The reasons for rejecting a tender or non-issuing a tender document to a prospective bidder must be disclosed where enquiries are made by the bidder.
- (v) Suitable provision for settlement of disputes, if any, emanating from the resultant contract, should be kept in the bidding document.
- (vi) The bidding document should indicate clearly that the resultant contract will be interpreted under Indian Laws.
- (vii) The bidders should be given reasonable time to prepare and send their bids.
- (viii) The bids should be opened in public and authorised representatives of the bidders should be permitted to attend the bid opening.
- (ix) The specifications of the required goods should be clearly stated without any ambiguity so that the prospective bidders can send meaningful bids. In order to attract sufficient number of bidders, the specification should be broad based to the extent feasible
- (x) Pre-bid conference: In case of turn-key contract(s) or contract(s) of special nature for procurement of sophisticated and costly equipment or wherever felt necessary, a suitable provision is to be kept in the bidding documents for one or more rounds of pre-bid conference for clarifying issues and clearing doubts, if any, about the specifications and other allied technical details of the plant, equipment and machinery etc. projected in the bidding document. The date, time and place of pre-bid conference should be indicated in the bidding document. This date should be sufficiently ahead of bid opening date. The records of such conference shall be intimated to all bidders and, shall also be exhibited on the website(s) where tender was published.
- (xi) Criteria for determining



responsiveness are to be taken into account for evaluating the bids such as:

- (a) time of delivery.
 - (b) Performance/ efficiency/ environmental characteristics.
 - (c) the terms of payment and of guarantees in respect of the subject matter of procurement
 - (d) price.
 - (e) cost of operating, maintaining and repairing etc.
- (xii) Bids received should be evaluated in terms of the conditions already incorporated in the bidding documents; No new condition which was not incorporated in the bidding documents should be brought in for evaluation of the bids. Determination of a bid's responsiveness should be based on the contents of the bid itself without recourse to extrinsic evidence.
- (xiii) Bidders should not be permitted to alter or modify their bids after expiry of the deadline for receipt of bids.
- (xiv) Negotiation with bidders after bid opening must be severely discouraged. However, in exceptional circumstances where price negotiation against an ad-hoc procurement is necessary due to some unavoidable circumstances, the same may be resorted to only with the lowest evaluated responsive bidder.
- (xv) In the Rate Contract system, where a number of firms are brought on Rate Contract for the same item, negotiation as well as counter offering of rates are permitted to the bidders and for this purpose special permission has been given to the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D).
- (xvi) Contract should ordinarily be awarded to the lowest evaluated bidder whose bid has been found to be responsive and who is eligible and qualified to perform the contract satisfactorily as per the terms and conditions incorporated in the corresponding bidding document. However, where the

lowest acceptable bidder against ad-hoc requirement is not in a position to supply the full quantity required, the remaining quantity, as far as possible, be ordered from the next higher responsive bidder at the rates offered by the lowest responsive bidder.

- (xvii) Procurement of Energy Efficient Electrical Appliances: Ministries/ Departments while procuring electrical appliances notified by Department of Expenditure shall ensure that they carry the notified threshold or higher Star Rating of Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
- (xviii) The name of the successful bidder awarded the contract should be mentioned in the CPPP, Ministries or Departments website and their notice board or bulletin.
- (xix) Rejection of all Bids is justified when
- a. effective competition is lacking.
 - b. all Bids and Proposals are not substantially responsive to the requirements of the Procurement Documents.
 - c. the Bids'/Proposals' prices are substantially higher than the updated cost estimate or available budget; or
 - d. none of the technical Proposals meets the minimum technical qualifying score.
- (xx) Lack of competition in rule 173(xix) shall not be determined solely on the basis of the number of Bidders. Even when only one Bid is submitted, the process may be considered valid provided following conditions are satisfied:
- a. the procurement was satisfactorily advertised and sufficient time was given for submission of bids.
 - b. the qualification criteria were not unduly restrictive; and
 - c. prices are reasonable in comparison to market values
- (xxi) When a limited or open tender results in only one effective offer, it shall be treated as a single tender contract.



- (xxii) In case a purchase Committee is constituted to purchase or recommend the procurement, no member of the purchase Committee should be reporting directly to any other member of such Committee in case estimated value of procurement exceeds Rs. 25 lakhs.

Rule 174 Efficiency, Economy and Accountability in Public Procurement System. Public procurement procedure should ensure efficiency, economy and accountability in the system. To achieve the same, the following keys areas should be addressed :

- (i) To reduce delay, appropriate time frame for each stage of procurement should be prescribed by the Ministry or Department.
- (ii) To minimise the time needed for decision making and placement of contract, every Ministry/Department, with the approval of the competent authority, may delegate, wherever necessary, appropriate purchasing powers to the lower functionaries.
- (iii) The Ministries or Departments should ensure placement of contract within the original validity of the bids. Extension of bid validity must be discouraged and resorted to only in exceptional circumstances.
- (iv) The Central Purchase Organisation (e.g. DGS&D) should bring into the Rate Contract system more and more common user items which are frequently needed in bulk by various Central Government Departments. The Central Purchase Organisation (e.g. DGS&D) should also ensure that the Rate Contracts remain available without any break.

Rule 175 (1) Code of Integrity

No official of a procuring entity or a bidder shall act in contravention of the codes which includes

- (i) prohibition of
 - (a) making offer, solicitation or acceptance of bribe, reward or gift or any material benefit, either directly or indirectly, in exchange for an unfair advantage in the procurement process or to

otherwise influence the procurement process.

- (b) any omission, or misrepresentation that may mislead or attempt to mislead so that financial or other benefit may be obtained or an obligation avoided.
- (c) any collusion, bid rigging or anti-competitive behavior that may impair the transparency, fairness and the progress of the procurement process.
- (d) improper use of information provided by the procuring entity to the bidder with an intent to gain unfair advantage in the procurement process or for personal gain.
- (e) any financial or business transactions between the bidder and any official of the procuring entity related to tender or execution process of contract; which can affect the decision of the procuring entity directly or indirectly.
- (f) any coercion or any threat to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or its property to influence the procurement process.
- (g) obstruction of any investigation or auditing of a procurement process.
- (h) making false declaration or providing false information for participation in a tender process or to secure a contract;

(ii) disclosure of conflict of interest.

(iii) Disclosure by the bidder of any previous transgressions made in respect of the provisions of sub-clause (i) with any entity in any country during the last three years or of being debarred by any other procuring entity.

Rule 175 (2) The procuring entity, after giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard, comes to the conclusion that a bidder or prospective bidder, as the case may be, has contravened the code of integrity, may take appropriate measures.



Rule 176 Buy-Back Offer

When it is decided with the approval of the competent authority to replace an existing old item(s) with a new and better version, the department may trade the existing old item while purchasing the new one. For this purpose, a suitable clause is to be incorporated in the bidding document so that the prospective and interested bidders formulate their bids accordingly. Depending on the value and condition of the old item to be traded, the time as well as the mode of handing over the old item to the successful bidder should be decided and relevant details in this regard suitably incorporated in the bidding document. Further, suitable provision should also be kept in the bidding document to enable the purchaser either to trade or not to trade the item while purchasing the new one.

PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES

A. CONSULTING SERVICES

Rule 177 "Consulting Service" means any subject matter of procurement (which as distinguished from 'Non- Consultancy Services' involves primarily non-physical project-specific, intellectual and procedural processes where outcomes/deliverables would vary from one consultant to another), other than goods or works, except those incidental or consequential to the service, and includes professional, intellectual, training and advisory services or any other service classified or declared as such by a procuring entity but does not include direct engagement of a retired Government servant.

Note: These Services typically involve providing expert or strategic advice e.g., management consultants, policy consultants, communications consultants, Advisory and project related Consulting Services which include, feasibility studies, project management, engineering services, finance, accounting and taxation services, training and development etc.

Rule 178 The Ministries or Departments may hire external professionals, consultancy firms or consultants (referred to as consultant hereinafter) for a specific job, which is well defined in terms of content and time frame for its completion.

Rule 179 This chapter contains the fundamental principles applicable to all Ministries or Departments regarding engagement of consultant(s). Detailed instructions to this effect may be issued by the concerned Ministries or Departments. However, the Ministries or Departments shall ensure that they do not contravene the basic rules contained in this chapter.

Rule 180 Identification of Services required to be performed by Consultants: Engagement of consultants may be resorted to in situations requiring high quality services for which the concerned Ministry/ Department does not have requisite expertise. Approval of the competent authority should be obtained before engaging consultant(s).

Rule 181 Preparation of scope of the required Consultant(s): The Ministries/ Departments should prepare in simple and concise language the requirement, objectives and the scope of the assignment. The eligibility and prequalification criteria to be met by the consultants should also be clearly identified at this stage.

Rule 182 Estimating reasonable expenditure: Ministry or Department proposing to engage consultant(s) should estimate reasonable expenditure for the same by ascertaining the prevalent market conditions and consulting other organisations engaged in similar activities.

Rule 183 Identification of likely sources.

- (i) Where the estimated cost of the consulting service is up to Rupees twenty-five lakhs, preparation of a long list of potential consultants may be done on the basis of formal or informal enquiries from other Ministries or Departments or Organisations involved in similar activities, Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Association of consultancy firms etc.
- (ii) Where the estimated cost of the consulting services is above Rupees twenty-five lakhs, in addition to (i) above, an enquiry for seeking 'Expression of Interest' from consultants should be published on Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) at www.eprocure.gov.in and on



GeM. An organisation having its own website should also publish all its advertised tender enquiries on the website. Enquiry for seeking Expression of Interest should include in brief, the broad scope of work or service, inputs to be provided by the Ministry or Department, eligibility and the pre-qualification criteria to be met by the consultant(s) and consultant's past experience in similar work or service. The consultants may also be asked to send their comments on the objectives and scope of the work or service projected in the enquiry. Adequate time should be allowed for getting responses from interested consultants.

Rule 184 Short listing of consultants. On the basis of responses received from the interested parties as per Rule 183 above, consultants meeting the requirements should be short listed for further consideration. The number of short listed consultants should not be less than three.

Rule 185 Preparation of Terms of Reference (TOR).

The TOR should include

- (i) Precise statement of objectives.
- (ii) Outline of the tasks to be carried out.
- (iii) Schedule for completion of tasks.
- (iv) The support or inputs to be provided by the Ministry or Department to facilitate the consultancy.
- (v) The final outputs that will be required of the Consultant.

Rule 186 Preparation and Issue of Request for Proposal (RFP). RFP is the document to be used by the Ministry/Department for obtaining offers from the consultants for the required service. The RFP should be issued to the shortlisted consultants to seek their technical and financial proposals. The RFP should contain :

- (i) A letter of Invitation
- (ii) Information to Consultants regarding the procedure for submission of proposal.
- (iii) Terms of Reference (TOR).
- (iv) Eligibility and pre-qualification criteria in case the same has not been ascertained through Enquiry for Expression of Interest.

- (v) List of key position whose CV and experience would be evaluated.
- (vi) Bid evaluation criteria and selection procedure.
- (vii) Standard formats for technical and financial proposal.
- (viii) Proposed contract terms.
- (ix) Procedure proposed to be followed for midterm review of the progress of the work and review of the final draft report.

Rule 187 Receipt and opening of proposals

Proposals should ordinarily be asked for from consultants in 'Two bid' system with technical and financial bids sealed separately. The bidder should put these two sealed envelopes in a bigger envelope duly sealed and submit the same to the Ministry or Department by the specified date and time at the specified place. On receipt, the technical proposals should be opened first by the Ministry or Department at the specified date, time and place.

Rule 188 Late Bids. Late bids i.e. bids received after the specified date and time of receipt should not be considered.

Rule 189 Evaluation of Technical Bids: Technical bids should be analysed and evaluated by a Consultancy Evaluation Committee (CEC) constituted by the Ministry or Department. The CEC shall record in detail the reasons for acceptance or rejection of the technical proposals analysed and evaluated by it.

Rule 190 Evaluation of Financial Bids of the technically qualified bidders: The Ministry or Department shall open the financial bids of only those bidders who have been declared technically qualified by the Consultancy Evaluation Committee as per Rule 189 above for further analysis or evaluation and ranking and selecting the successful bidder for placement of the consultancy contract.

Rule 191 Methods of Selection/ Evaluation of Consultancy Proposals

The basis of selection of the consultant shall follow any of the methods given in Rule 192 to 194 as appropriate for the circumstances in each case.

Rule 192. Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS): QCBS may be used for Procurement of consultancy services,



where quality of consultancy is of prime concern.

- (i) In QCBS initially the quality of technical proposals is scored as per criteria announced in the RFP. Only those responsive proposals that have achieved at least minimum specified qualifying score in quality of technical proposal are considered further.
- (ii) After opening and scoring, the Financial proposals of responsive technically qualified bidders, a final combined score is arrived at by giving predefined relative weight ages for the score of quality of the technical proposal and the score of financial proposal.
- (iii) The RFP shall specify the minimum qualifying score for the quality of technical proposal and also the relative weight ages to be given to the quality and cost (determined for each case depending on the relative importance of quality vis-a-vis cost aspects in the assignment, e.g. 70:30, 60:40, 50:50 etc). The proposal with the highest weighted combined score (quality and cost) shall be selected.
- (iv) The weight age of the technical parameters i.e. non- financial parameters in no case should exceed 80 percent.

Rule 193 Least Cost System (LCS). LCS is appropriate for assignments of a standard or routine nature (such as audits and engineering design of non-complex works) where well established methodologies, practices and standards exist. Unlike QCBS, there is no weight age for Technical score in the final evaluation and the responsive technically qualified proposal with the lowest evaluated cost shall be selected.

Rule 194 Single Source Selection/Consultancy by nomination. The selection by direct negotiation/nomination, on the lines of Single Tender mode of procurement of goods, is considered appropriate only under exceptional circumstance such as:

- (i) tasks that represent a natural continuation of previous work carried out by the firm;
- (ii) in case of an emergency situation, situations arising after natural

disasters, situations where timely completion of the assignment is of utmost importance; and

- (iii) situations where execution of the assignment may involve use of proprietary techniques or only one consultant has requisite expertise.
- (iv) Under some special circumstances, it may become necessary to select a particular consultant where adequate justification is available for such single-source selection in the context of the overall interest of the Ministry or Department. Full justification for single source selection should be recorded in the file and approval of the competent authority obtained before resorting to such single-source selection.
- (v) It shall ensure fairness and equity, and shall have a procedure in place to ensure that the prices are reasonable and consistent with market rates for tasks of a similar nature; and the required consultancy services are not split into smaller sized procurement.

Rule 195 Monitoring the Contract. The Ministry/Department should be involved throughout in the conduct of consultancy, preferably by taking a task force approach and continuously monitoring the performance of the consultant(s) so that the output of the consultancy is in line with the Ministry /Department's objectives.

Rule 196 Public competition for Design of symbols/logos. Design competition should be conducted in a transparent, fair and objective manner. Wide publicity should be given to the competition so as to ensure that the information is accessible to all possible participants in the competition. This should include publication on the website of Ministry/Department concerned, as also the Central Public Procurement Portal. If the selection has been by a jury of experts nominated for the purpose, the composition of the jury may also be notified.

B. OUTSOURCING OF SERVICES

Rule 197 "Non-Consulting Service" means any subject matter of procurement (which as distinguished from 'Consultancy



Services'), involve physical, measurable deliverables/ outcomes, where performance standards can be clearly identified and consistently applied, other than goods or works, except those incidental or consequential to the service, and includes maintenance, hiring of vehicle, outsourcing of building facilities management, security, photocopier service, janitor, office errand services, drilling, aerial photography, satellite imagery, mapping etc.

Rule 198 Procurement of Non-consulting Services.

A Ministry or Department may procure certain non-consulting services in the interest of economy and efficiency and it may prescribe detailed instructions and procedures for this purpose without, however, contravening the following basic guidelines.

Rule 199 Identification of likely contractors.

The Ministry or Department should prepare a list of likely and potential contractors on the basis of formal or informal enquiries from other Ministries or Departments and Organisations involved in similar activities, scrutiny of 'Yellow pages', and trade journals, if available, web site etc.

Rule 200 Preparation of Tender enquiry.

Ministry or Department should prepare a tender enquiry containing, inter alia :

- (i) The details of the work or service to be performed by the contractor;
- (ii) The facilities and the inputs which will be provided to the contractor by the Ministry or Department;
- (iii) Eligibility and qualification criteria to be met by the contractor for performing the required work/service; and
- (iv) The statutory and contractual obligations to be complied with by the contractor.

Rule 201 Invitation of Bids.

- (i) For estimated value of the non-consulting service up to Rupees ten lakhs or less: The Ministry or Department should scrutinise the preliminary list of likely contractors as identified as per Rule 199 above, decide the prima facie Eligible and

capable contractors and issue limited tender enquiry to them asking for their offers by a specified date and time etc. as per standard practice. The number of the contractors so identified for issuing limited tender enquiry should be more than three.

- (ii) For estimated value of the non-consulting service above Rs.10 lakhs: The Ministry or Department should issue advertisement in such case should be given on Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) at www.eprocure.gov.in and on GeM. An organisation having its own website should also publish all its advertised tender enquiries on the website. The advertisements for invitation of tenders should give the complete web address from where the bidding documents can be downloaded.

Rule 202 Late Bids. Late bids i.e. bids received after the specified date and time of receipt should not be considered.

Rule 203 Evaluation of Bids Received.

The Ministry or Department should evaluate, segregate, rank the responsive bids and select the successful bidder for placement of the contract.

Rule 204 Procurement of Non-consulting services by nomination. Should it become necessary, in an exceptional situation to procure a non-consulting service from a specifically chosen contractor, the Competent Authority in the Ministry or Department may do so in consultation with the Financial Adviser. In such cases the detailed justification, the circumstances leading to such procurement by choice and the special interest or purpose it shall serve, shall form an integral part of the proposal.

Rule 205 Monitoring the Contract. The Ministry or Department should be involved throughout in the conduct of the contract and continuously monitor the performance of the contractor.

Rule 206 Any circumstances which are not covered in Rule 198 to Rule 205 for procurement of non-consulting services, the procuring entity may refer Rule 135 to Rule 176 pertaining to procurement of goods and not to the procurement of consulting services.



INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

Rule 207 This chapter contains the basic rules applicable to all Ministries or Departments regarding inventory management. Detailed instructions and procedures relating to inventory management may be prescribed by various Ministries or Departments broadly in conformity with the basic rules contained in this chapter.

Rule 208 (1) Receipt of goods and materials from private suppliers.

- (i) While receiving goods and materials from a supplier, the officer-in-charge of stores should refer to the relevant contract terms and follow the prescribed procedure for receiving the materials.
- (ii) All materials shall be counted, measured or weighed and subjected to visual inspection at the time of receipt to ensure that the quantities are correct, the quality is according to the required specifications and there is no damage or deficiency in the materials. Technical inspection where required should be carried out at this stage by Technical Inspector or Agency approved for the purpose. An appropriate receipt, in terms of the relevant contract provisions may also be given to the supplier on receiving the materials.
- (iii) Details of the material so received should thereafter be entered in the appropriate stock register, preferably in an IT-based system. The officer-in-charge of stores should certify that he has actually received the material and recorded it in the appropriate stock registers.

Rule 209 Receipt/issue of goods and materials from internal divisions of the same organisation.

- (i) The indenting officer requiring goods and materials from internal division(s) of the same organisation should project an indent in the prescribed form for this purpose. While receiving the supply against the indent, the indenting officer shall examine, count, measure or weigh the materials as the case may be, to ensure that the quantities are correct, the quality is in line with the required specifications and there is no damage or deficiency in the materials. An appropriate

receipt shall also be given to this effect by the indenting officer to the division sending the materials.

- (ii) In the case of issue of materials from stock for departmental use, manufacture, sale, etc., the Officer-in-charge of the stores shall see that an appropriate indent, in the prescribed form has been projected by the indenting officer. A written/online acknowledgement of receipt of material issued shall be obtained from the indenting officer or his authorised representative at the time of issue of materials.
- (iii) In case of materials issued to a contractor, the cost of which is recoverable from the contractor, all relevant particulars, including the recovery rates and the total value chargeable to the contractor should be got acknowledged from the contractor duly signed and dated.
- (iv) If the Officer-in-charge of the stores is unable to comply with the indent in full, he should make the supply to the extent available and make suitable entry to this effect in the indenter's copy of the indent. In case alternative materials are available in lieu of the indented materials, a suitable indication to this effect may be made in the document.

Rule 210 Custody of goods and materials. The officer-in-charge of stores having custody of goods and materials, especially valuable and/or combustible articles, shall take appropriate steps for arranging their safe custody, proper storage accommodation, including arrangements for maintaining required temperature, dust free environment etc.

Rule 211 Lists and Accounts.

- (i) The Officer-in-charge of stores shall maintain suitable item-wise lists and accounts and prepare accurate returns in respect of the goods and materials in his charge making it possible at any point of time to check the actual balances with the book balances.

The form of the stock accounts mentioned above shall be determined with reference to the nature of the



goods and materials, the frequency of the transactions and the special requirements of the concerned Ministries/Departments.

- (ii) Separate accounts shall be kept for
 - (a) Fixed Assets such as plant, machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures etc. in the Form GFR-22.
 - (b) Consumables such as office stationery, chemicals, maintenance spare parts etc. in the Form GFR-23.
 - (c) Library books in the Form GFR 18
 - (d) Assets of historical/artistic value held by museum/government departments in the Form GFR-24.

Note: These forms can be supplemented with additional details by Ministries/Departments as required.

Rule 212 Hiring out of Fixed Assets. When a fixed asset is hired to local bodies, contractors or others, proper record should be kept of the assets and the hire and other charges as determined under rules prescribed by the competent authority, should be recovered regularly. Calculation of the charges to be recovered from the local bodies, contractors and others as above should be based on the historical cost.

Rule 213 (1) Physical verification of Fixed Assets. The inventory for fixed assets shall ordinarily be maintained at site. Fixed assets should be verified at least once in a year and the outcome of the verification recorded in the corresponding register. Discrepancies, if any, shall be promptly investigated and brought to account.

Rule 213 (2) Verification of Consumables: A physical verification of all the consumable goods and materials should be undertaken at least once in a year and discrepancies, if any, should be recorded in the stock register for appropriate action by the competent authority.

Rule 213 (3) Procedure for verification :

- (i) Verification shall always be made in the presence of the officer, responsible for the custody of the inventory being verified.
- (ii) A certificate of verification along with the findings shall be recorded in the stock register.

- (iii) Discrepancies, including shortages, damages and unserviceable goods, if any, identified during verification, shall immediately be brought to the notice of the competent authority for taking appropriate action in accordance with provision given in Rule 33 to 38.

Rule 214 Buffer Stock. Depending on the frequency of requirement and quantity thereof as well as the pattern of supply of a consumable material, optimum buffer stock should be determined by the competent authority.

Note: As the inventory carrying cost is an expenditure that does not add value to the material being stocked, a material remaining in stock for over a year shall generally be considered surplus, unless adequate reasons to treat it otherwise exist. The items so declared surplus may be dealt as per the procedure laid down under Rule 217.

Rule 215 Physical verification of Library books.

- (i) Complete physical verification of books should be done every year in case of libraries having not more than twenty thousand volumes. For libraries having more than twenty thousand volumes and up to fifty thousand volumes, such verification should be done at least once in three years. Sample physical verification at intervals of not more than three years should be done in case of libraries having more than fifty thousand volumes. In case such verification reveals unusual or unreasonable shortages, complete verification shall be done.
- (ii) Loss of five volumes per one thousand volumes of books issued/consulted in a year may be taken as reasonable provided such losses are not attributable to dishonesty or negligence. However, loss of a book of a value exceeding Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees One thousand only) and rare books irrespective of value shall invariably be investigated and appropriate action taken.

Rule 216 Transfer of charge of goods, materials etc. In case of transfer of Officer-in-charge of the goods, materials etc., the transferred officer shall see that the goods or material



are made over correctly to his successor. A statement giving all relevant details of the goods, materials etc., in question shall be prepared and signed with date by the relieving officer and the relieved officer. Each of these officers will retain a copy of the signed statement.

Rule 217 Disposal of Goods.

- (i) An item may be declared surplus or obsolete or unserviceable if the same is of no use to the Ministry or Department. The reasons for declaring the item surplus or obsolete or unserviceable should be recorded by the authority competent to purchase the item.
- (ii) The competent authority may, at his discretion, constitute a committee at appropriate level to declare item(s) as surplus or obsolete or unserviceable.
- (iii) The book value, guiding price and reserved price, which will be required while disposing of the surplus goods, should also be worked out. In case where it is not possible to work out the book value, the original purchase price of the goods in question may be utilised. A report of stores for disposal shall be prepared in Form GFR - 10.
- (iv) In case an item becomes unserviceable due to negligence, fraud or mischief on the part of a Government servant, responsibility for the same should be fixed.
- (v) **Sale of Hazardous waste/Scrap Batteries/Electronic waste:** Scrap lots comprising of hazardous waste, batteries etc. shall be sold keeping in view the extant guidelines of Ministry of Environment & Forest. Prospective bidders of such lots of hazardous waste/scrap batteries/ e-waste should be in possession of registration, valid on the date of e-Auction and on the date of delivery, as recycler/ pre-processor agency.

Rule 218 Modes of Disposal.

- (I) Surplus or obsolete or unserviceable goods of assessed residual value above Rupees Two Lakh should be disposed of by :
 - (a) obtaining bids through advertised tender or
 - (b) public auction.

- (ii) For surplus or obsolete or unserviceable goods with residual value less than Rupees Two Lakh, the mode of disposal will be determined by the competent authority, keeping in view the necessity to avoid accumulation of such goods and consequential blockage of space and, also, deterioration in value of goods to be disposed of. Ministries/ Departments should, as far as possible prepare a list of such goods.
- (iii) Certain surplus or obsolete or unserviceable goods such as expired medicines, food grain, ammunition etc., which are hazardous or unfit for human consumption, should be disposed of or destroyed immediately by adopting suitable mode so as to avoid any health hazard and/or environmental pollution and also the possibility of misuse of such goods.
- (iv) Surplus or obsolete or unserviceable goods, equipment and documents, which involve security concerns (e.g. currency, negotiable instruments, receipt books, stamps, security press etc.) should be disposed of/ destroyed in an appropriate manner to ensure compliance with rules relating to official secrets as well as financial prudence.

Rule 219 Disposal through Advertised Tender.

- (i) The broad steps to be adopted for this purpose are as follows :
 - (a) Preparation of bidding documents.
 - (b) Invitation of tender for the surplus goods to be sold.
 - (c) Opening of bids.
 - (d) Analysis and evaluation of bids received.
 - (e) Selection of highest responsive bidder.
 - (f) Collection of sale value from the selected bidder.
 - (g) Issue of sale release order to the selected bidder.
 - (h) Release of the sold surplus goods to the selected bidder.
 - (i) Return of bid security to the unsuccessful bidders.
- (ii) The important aspects to be kept



in view while disposing the goods through advertised tender are as under:-

- (a) The basic principle for sale of such goods through advertised tender is ensuring transparency, competition, fairness and elimination of discretion. Wide publicity should be ensured of the sale plan and the goods to be sold. All the required terms and conditions of sale are to be incorporated in the bidding document comprehensively in plain and simple language. Applicability of taxes, as relevant, should be clearly stated in the document.
- (b) The bidding document should also indicate the location and present condition of the goods to be sold so that the bidders can inspect the goods before bidding.
- (c) The bidders should be asked to furnish bid security along with their bids. The amount of bid security should ordinarily be ten per cent. of the assessed or reserved price of the goods. The exact bid security amount should be indicated in the bidding document.
- (d) The bid of the highest acceptable responsive bidder should normally be accepted. However, if the price offered by that bidder is not acceptable, negotiation may be held only with that bidder. In case such negotiation does not provide the desired result, the reasonable or acceptable price may be counter offered to the next highest responsive bidder(s).
- (e) In case the total quantity to be disposed of cannot be taken up by the highest acceptable bidder, the remaining quantity may be offered to the

next higher bidder(s) at the price offered by the highest acceptable bidder.

- (f) Full payment, i.e. the residual amount after adjusting the bid security should be obtained from the successful bidder before releasing the goods.
- (g) In case the selected bidder does not show interest in lifting the goods, the bid security should be forfeited and other actions initiated including re-sale of the goods in question at the risk and cost of the defaulter, after obtaining legal advice.

(iii) Late bids i.e. bids received after the specified date and time of receipt should not to be considered.

Rule 220 Disposal through Auction.

- (i) A Ministry or Department may undertake auction of goods to be disposed of either directly or through approved auctioneers.
- (ii) The basic principles to be followed here are similar to those applicable for disposal through advertised tender so as to ensure transparency, competition, fairness and elimination of discretion. The auction plan including details of the goods to be auctioned and their location, applicable terms and conditions of the sale etc. should be given wide publicity in the same manner as is done in case of advertised tender.
- (iii) While starting the auction process, the condition and location of the goods to be auctioned, applicable terms and conditions of sale etc., (as already indicated earlier while giving wide publicity for the same), should be announced again for the benefit of the assembled bidders.
- (iv) During the auction process, acceptance or rejection of a bid should be announced immediately on the stroke of the hammer. If a bid is accepted, earnest money (not less than twenty-five per cent. of the bid value) should immediately be taken on the spot from the successful bidder



either in cash or in the form of Deposit-at-Call-Receipt (DACR), drawn in favour of the Ministry or Department selling the goods. The goods should be handed over to the successful bidder only after receiving the balance payment.

- (v) The composition of the auction team will be decided by the competent authority. The team should however include an officer of the Internal Finance Wing of the department

Rule 221 Disposal at scrap value or by other modes. If a Ministry or Department is unable to sell any surplus or obsolete or unserviceable item in spite of its attempts through advertised tender or auction, it may dispose of the same at its scrap value with the approval of the competent authority in consultation with Finance division. In case the Ministry or Department is unable to sell the item even at its scrap value, it may adopt any other mode of disposal including destruction of the item in an eco-friendly manner.

Rule 222 A sale account should be prepared for goods disposed of in Form GFR 11 duly signed by the officer who supervised the sale or auction.

Rule 223 (1) Powers to write off. All profits and losses due to revaluation, stock-taking or other causes shall be duly recorded and adjusted where necessary. Formal sanction of the competent authority shall be obtained in respect of losses, even though no formal correction or adjustment in government accounts is involved. Powers to write off of losses are available under the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules.

Rule 223 (2) Losses due to depreciation : Losses due to depreciation shall be analysed, and recorded under following heads, as applicable :-

- (i) normal fluctuation of market prices;
- (ii) normal wear and tear;
- (iii) lack of foresight in regulating purchases; and
- (iv) negligence after purchase.

Rule 223 (3) Losses not due to depreciation : Losses not due to depreciation shall be grouped under the following heads :-

- (i) losses due to theft or fraud;
- (ii) losses due to neglect;

- (iii) anticipated losses on account of obsolescence of stores or of purchases in excess of requirements;
- (iv) losses due to damage, and
- (v) losses due to extra ordinary situations under 'Force Majeure' conditions like fire, flood, enemy action, etc.;



CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Rule 224 (1) All contracts shall be made by an authority empowered to do so by or under the orders of the President in terms of Article 299 (1) of the Constitution of India.

Rule 224 (2) All the contracts and assurances of property made in the exercise of the executive power of the Union shall be executed on behalf of the President. The words "for and on behalf of the President of India" should follow the designation appended below the signature of the officer authorized in this behalf.

Note 1: The various classes of contracts and assurances of property, which may be executed by different authorities, are specified in the Notifications issued by the Ministry of Law from time to time.

Note 2: The powers of various authorities, the conditions under which such powers should be exercised and the general procedure prescribed with regard to various classes of contracts and assurances of property are laid down in Rule 21 of the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules.

Rule 225 General principles for contract.

The following general principles should be observed while entering into contracts:—

- (i) The terms of contract must be precise, definite and without any ambiguities. The terms should not involve an uncertain or indefinite liability, except in the case of a cost plus contract or where there is a price variation clause in the contract.
- (ii) Standard forms of contracts should be adopted wherever possible, with such modifications as are considered necessary in respect of individual contracts. The modifications should be carried out only after obtaining financial and legal advice.
- (iii) In cases where standard forms of contracts are not used, legal and financial advice should be taken in drafting the clauses in the contract.
- (iv) (a) A Ministry or Department may, at its discretion, make purchases of value up to Rupees two lakh and fifty thousand by issuing purchase orders containing basic terms and conditions:
(b) In respect of Works Contracts, or Contracts for purchases valued

between Rupees one lakh to Rupees ten lakhs, where tender documents include the General Conditions of Contract (GCC), Special Conditions of Contract (SCC) and scope of work, the letter of acceptance will result in a binding contract.

- (c) In respect of contracts for works with estimated value of Rupees ten lakhs or above or for purchase above Rupees ten lakhs, a Contract document should be executed, with all necessary clauses to make it a self-contained contract. If however, these are preceded by Invitation to Tender, accompanied by GCC and SCC, with full details of scope and specifications, a simple one page contract can be entered into by attaching copies of the GCC and SCC, and details of scope and specifications, Offer of the Tenderer and Letter of Acceptance.
- (d) Contract document should be invariably executed in cases of turnkey works or agreements for maintenance of equipment, provision of services etc.
- (v) No work of any kind should be commenced without proper execution of an agreement as given in the foregoing provisions.
- (vi) Contract document, where necessary, should be executed within 21 days of the issue of letter of acceptance. Non-fulfilment of this condition of executing a contract by the Contractor or Supplier would constitute sufficient ground for annulment of the award and forfeiture of Earnest Money Deposit.
- (vii) Cost plus contracts should ordinarily be avoided. Where such contracts become unavoidable, full justification should be recorded before entering into the contract. Where supplies or special work covered by such cost plus contracts have to continue over a long duration, efforts should be made to convert future contracts on a firm price basis after allowing a reasonable period to the suppliers/contractors to



stabilize their production/ execution methods and processes.

Explanation : A cost plus contract means a contract in which the price payable for supplies or services under the contract is determined on the basis of actual cost of production of the supplies or services concerned plus profit either at a fixed rate per unit or at a fixed percentage on the actual cost of production.

- (viii) (a) Price Variation Clause can be provided only in long-term contracts, where the delivery period extends beyond 18 months. In short-term contracts firm and fixed prices should be provided for. Where a price variation clause is provided, the price agreed upon should specify the base level viz, the month and year to which the price is linked, to enable variations being calculated with reference to the price levels prevailing in that month and year.
- (b) A formula for calculation of the price variations that have taken place between the Base level and the Scheduled Delivery Date should be included in this clause. The variations are calculated by using indices published by Governments or Chambers of Commerce periodically. An illustrative formula has been appended to these rules at Appendix-11 for guidance.
- (c) The Price variation clause should also specify cut off dates for material and labour, as these inputs taper off well before the scheduled Delivery Dates.
- (d) The price variation clause should provide for a ceiling on price variations, particularly where escalations are involved. It could be a percentage per annum or an overall ceiling or both. The buyer should ensure a provision in the contract for benefit of any reduction in the price in terms of the price variation clause being passed on to him.
- (e) The clause should also stipulate a

minimum percentage of variation of the contract price above which price variations will be admissible (e.g. where resultant increase is lower than two per cent. no price adjustment will be made in favour of the supplier).

- (f) Where advance or stage payments are made there should be a further stipulation that no price variations will be admissible on such portions of the price, after the dates of such payment.
- (g) Where deliveries are accepted beyond the scheduled Delivery Date subject to levy of liquidated damages as provided in the Contract, the liquidated damages (if a percentage of the price) will be applicable on the price as varied by the operation of the Price variation clause.
- (h) No price variation will be admissible beyond the original Scheduled Delivery Date for defaults on the part of the supplier.
- (i) Price variation may be allowed beyond the original Scheduled Delivery Date, by specific alteration of that date through an amendment to the contract in cases of Force Majeure or defaults by Government.
- (j) Where contracts are for supply of equipment, goods etc, imported (subject to customs duty and foreign exchange fluctuations) and/or locally manufactured (subject to excise duty and other duties and taxes), the percentage and element of duties and taxes included in the price should be specifically stated, along with the selling rate of foreign exchange element taken into account in the calculation of the price of the imported item.
- The mode of calculation of variations in duties and taxes and Foreign exchange rates and the documents to be produced in support of claims for such variations should also be stipulated in the Contract.



- (k) The clause should also contain the mode and terms of payment of the price variation admissible.
- (ix) Contracts should include provision for payment of all applicable taxes by the contractor or supplier.
- (x) "Lump sum" contracts should not be entered into except in cases of absolute necessity. Where lump sum contracts become unavoidable, full justification should be recorded. The contracting authority should ensure that conditions in the lump sum contract adequately safeguard and protect the interests of the Government.
- (xi) Departmental issue of materials should be avoided as far as possible. Where it is decided to supply materials departmentally, a schedule of quantities with the issue rates of such material as are required to execute the contract work should form an essential part of the contract.
- (xii)(a) In contracts where government property is entrusted to a contractor either for use on payment of hire charges or for doing further work on such property, specific provision for safeguarding government property (including insurance cover) and for recovery of hire charges regularly, should be included in the contracts.
- (b) Provision should be made in the contract for periodical physical verification of the number and the physical condition of the items at the contractor's premises. Results of such verification should be recorded and appropriate penal action taken where necessary.
- (xiii) Copies of all contracts and agreements for purchases of the value of Rupees Twenty-five Lakhs and above, and of all rate and running contracts entered into by civil departments of the Government other than the departments like the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals for which a special audit procedure exists, should be sent to the Audit Officer and /or the Accounts officer as the case may be.
- (xiv)(a) The terms of a contract, including the scope and specification once entered into, should not be materially varied.
- (b) Wherever material variation in any of the terms or conditions in a contract becomes unavoidable, the financial and other effects involved should be examined and recorded and specific approval of the authority competent to approve the revised financial and other commitments obtained, before varying the conditions.
- (c) All such changes should be in the form of an amendment to the contract duly signed by all parties to the contract.
- (xv) Normally no extensions of the scheduled delivery or completion dates should be granted except where events constituting force majeure, as provided in the contract, have occurred or the terms and conditions include such a provision for other reasons. Extensions as provided in the contract may be allowed through formal amendments to the contract duly signed by parties to the contract.
- (xvi) All contracts shall contain a provision for recovery of liquidated damages for defaults on the part of the contractor. Only in exceptional circumstances to be justified by procuring entity in writing, an exemption from such provision can be made.
- (xvii) A warranty clause should be incorporated in every contract, requiring the supplier to, without charge, repair or rectify defective goods or to replace such goods with similar goods free from defect. Any goods repaired or replaced by the supplier shall be delivered at the buyers premises without costs to the buyer.
- (xviii) All contracts for supply of goods should reserve the right of Government to reject goods which do not conform to the specifications.



- (xix) No claim for the payment from contractor shall be entertained after the lapse of three years of arising of the claim.

Rule 226 Management of Contracts.

- (i) Implementation of the contract should be strictly monitored and notices issued promptly whenever a breach of provisions occurs.
- (ii) Proper procedure for safe custody and monitoring of Bank Guarantees or other Instruments should be laid down. Monitoring should include a monthly review of all Bank Guarantees or other instruments expiring after three months, along with a review of the progress of supply or work. Extensions of Bank Guarantees or other instruments, where warranted, should be sought immediately.

Rule 227 Legal Advice.

Wherever disputes arise during implementation of a contract, legal advice should be sought before initiating action to refer the dispute to conciliation and/or arbitration as provided in the contract or to file a suit where the contract does not include an arbitration clause. The draft of the plaint for arbitration should be got vetted by obtaining legal and financial advice. Documents to be filed in the matter of resolution of dispute, if any, should be carefully scrutinized before filing to safeguard government interest.



GRANTS-IN-AID AND LOANS

I. GRANTS-IN-AID

Rule 228 As a general principle Grants-in-aid can be given to a person or a public body or an institution having a distinct legal entity. Thus Grants-in-aid including scholarships may be sanctioned by an authority competent to do so under the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules to :—

- (a) Institutions or Organizations set up as Autonomous Organisations, under a specific statute or as a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 or Indian Trusts Act, 1882 or other statutes.
- (b) Voluntary organizations or Non-Government Organisations carrying out activities which promote the welfare schemes and programmes of the Government should be selected on the basis of well-defined criteria regarding financial and other resources, credibility and type of activities undertaken.
- (c) Educational and other institutions by way of scholarships or stipends to the students.
- (d) Urban and Rural local self-government institutions
- (e) Co-operative societies.
- (f) Societies or clubs set up by Government servants to promote amongst themselves social, cultural and sports activities as recreational avenues.

Rule 229 **General Principles for setting up of Autonomous Organisations** referred to under Rule 228(a):-

- (i) No new autonomous institutions should be created by Ministries or Departments without the approval of the Cabinet.
- (ii) No new autonomous institution should be created by an Autonomous Body itself, the appraisal/approval process for creation of new autonomous bodies would apply in such cases too. However, Regional Centres/Offices/Sub-Stations of any autonomous body can be created with prior approval of the administrative ministry in consultation with Ministry of Finance.

- (iii) Stringent criteria should be followed for setting up of new autonomous organisations and the type of activities to be undertaken by them. The Ministry or Department should examine in detail: (a) whether the activities proposed to be taken up are necessary at all; (b) whether these activities, if necessary, need to be undertaken by setting up an autonomous organisation only or whether these could be performed by the concerned Government agency or any other organisation already existing.
- (iv) All autonomous organisations, new or already in existence should be encouraged to maximise generation of internal resources and eventually attain self-sufficiency.
- (v) The Ministry or Department may consider creating a Corpus Fund for an Autonomous Body only with prior concurrence of Ministry of Finance if the corpus is created out of budgetary allocation. If the corpus is created out of internal accruals of the body, approval of the administrative Ministry must be obtained.
- (vi) User Charges: Governing Body of the Autonomous Body shall review user charges/ sources of internal revenue generation at least once a year and inform the administrative Ministry. This exercise should preferably be completed before the formulation of Union Annual Budget.
- (vii) All Autonomous Bodies should maintain database relating to grants, income, expenditure, investment assets and employee strength in the format prescribed by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.
- (viii) Financial advice for Autonomous Bodies: Every autonomous organisation should designate an officer at appropriate level to render financial advice whose concurrence should be obtained for sanction and incurring of expenditure. The financial limits up to which such concurrence is mandatory may be drawn up by each organisation. The Chief Executive Officer of the Autonomous body will be responsible for overall financial



management of the autonomous bodies.

- (ix) Peer review of autonomous organisations: Ministry shall put in place a system of external or internal peer review of autonomous organisations every three or five years depending on the size and nature of activity. Such a review should be the responsibility of the concerned administrative division of the Ministry/Department and should focus, inter alia, on;
 - (a) the objective for which the autonomous organisation was set up and whether these objectives have been or are being achieved;
 - (b) whether the activities should be continued at all, either because they are no longer relevant or have been completed or if there has been a substantial failure in achievement of objectives.
 - (c) whether the nature of the activities is such that these need to be performed only by an autonomous organisation.
 - (d) whether similar functions are also being undertaken by other organisations, be it in the Central Government or State Governments or the Private Sector, and if so, whether there is scope for merging or winding up the organisations under review.
 - (e) whether the total staff complement, particularly at the support level, is kept at a minimum: whether the enormous strides in information technology and communication facilities as also facilities for outsourcing of work on a contract basis, have been taken into account in determining staff strength; and whether scientific or technical personnel are being deployed on functions which could well be carried out by non-scientific or non-technical personnel etc.
 - (f) whether user charges including overhead/ institutional charges / management fee in respect of sponsored projects, wherever the output or benefit of services are

utilised by others, are levied at appropriate rates

- (g) the scope for maximizing internal resources generation in the organisation so that the dependence upon Government budgetary support is minimised.
- (x) An organisation whose performance is found to be outstanding and internationally acclaimed as a result of the review envisaged under Para (v) above should be granted greater autonomy and increased flexibility in matters of recruitment and financial rules thereby enabling it to devise and adopt staff structures, procedures and rules suited to improving their productivity.
- (xi) Autonomous organisations as also others with a budgetary support of more than Rupees five crores per annum, should be required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Administrative Ministry or Department, spelling out clearly performance parameters, output targets in terms of details of programme of work and qualitative improvement in output, along with commensurate input requirements. The output targets, given in measurable units of performance, should form the basis of budgetary support extended to these organisations. The roadmap for improved performance with clear milestones should form part of the MoU.
- (xii) Findings of the peer review should be examined and put up for appropriate decision to the Secretary by the concerned programme division of the Administrative Department. Further releases of Grant (after three or five years, as the case may be), should be made conditional on conduct and decisions on the findings of such peer review.

Rule 230 (1) Principles and Procedure for award of Grants-in-aid.

Any Institution or Organisation seeking Grants-in-aid from Government will be required to submit an application which includes all relevant information such as



Articles of Association, bye-laws, audited statement of accounts, sources and pattern of income and expenditure etc. enabling the sanctioning authority to assess the suitability of the Institution or Organisation seeking Grant. The application should clearly spell out the need for seeking Grant and should be submitted in such form as may be prescribed by the sanctioning authority. The Institution or Organisation seeking Grants-in-aid should also certify that it has not obtained or applied for grants for the same purpose or activity from any other Ministry or Department of the Government of India or State Government.

Rule 230 (2) In order to obviate duplication in Grants-in-aid, each Ministry or Department should maintain a list of institutions or organisations along with details of amount and purpose of Grants given to them. These details should also be made available on the website of the Ministry/Department.

Rule 230 (3) Award of Grants should be considered only on the basis of viable and specific schemes drawn up in sufficient detail by the institution or organisation. The budget for such schemes should disclose, inter alia, the specific quantified and qualitative targets likely to be attained against the outlay. In the cases of the schemes where Grants are given as part of the expenditure on reimbursement basis (i.e. the expenditure has already been incurred on approved project/scheme and reimbursement from the Government in the form of Grant/Subsidy etc. is due) the same will be treated as the Central Financial Assistance (CFA) and no Utilization Certificate shall be required in such cases of reimbursements.

Rule 230 (4) Recurring Grant is defined as one which is released periodically to the same organization for the same purpose. Non-recurring Grant is one time release to an organization for a special purpose (which could be released in instalments). Every order sanctioning a Grant shall indicate whether it is recurring or non-recurring and specify clearly the object for which it is being given and the general and special conditions, if any, attached to the Grant. In the case of non-recurring Grants for specified object, the order shall also specify the time limit within which the

Grant or each instalment of it, is to be spent.

Rule 230 (5) Central Autonomous Organisations which receive Grants should account for capital and revenue expenditure separately. The Government of India, Ministry of Finance has formulated standard formats for presentation of final accounts, for all Central Autonomous Organisations. All Grant sanctioning authorities should enforce the condition of maintaining and presenting their annual accounts in the standard formats on all Central Autonomous Organisations.

Rule 230 (6) The Grants sanctioning authorities should not only take into account the internally generated resources while regulating the award of Grants but should consider laying down targets for internal resources generation by the Grantee Institutions or Organisations every financial year, particularly where Grants are given on recurring basis every year.

Rule 230 (7) **Unspent Balances:** When recurring Grants-in-aid are sanctioned to the same Institution or Organisation for the same purpose, the unspent balance of the previous Grant should be taken into account in sanctioning the subsequent Grant. For this purpose, the Programme Division of Ministries/Department shall take help of PFMS Portal to know the bank balance of the recipients before making each release. The instructions of Department of Expenditure regarding the use of PFMS Portal for Central Sector Schemes issued from time to time shall be strictly followed by all Ministries/Departments. The principles of 'just in time release', should be applied for releases in respect of all payments to the extent possible. The following broad principles shall be adhered to:

- (i) Cash balance at a time should preferably not be more than 3 months of requirements
- (ii) Funds should be released as per actual requirements and that sanction may precede the release of funds, though its validity may be limited to that financial year.

Rule 230 (8) All interests or other earnings against Grants in aid or advances (other than reimbursement) released to any Grantee institution should be mandatorily remitted



to the Consolidated Fund of India immediately after finalisation of the accounts. Such advances should not be allowed to be adjusted against future releases.

Rule 230 (9) In making Grants to Non-Government or Quasi-Government Institutions or Organisations, a condition should be laid down that assets acquired wholly or substantially out of Government Grants, except those declared as obsolete and unserviceable or condemned in accordance with the procedure laid down in the General Financial Rules, shall not be disposed of without obtaining the prior approval of the authority which sanctioned the Grants-in-aid.

Rule 230 (10) The sanctioning authority may prescribe conditions regarding quantum and periodicity for release of Grants-in-aid in instalments in consultation with the Financial Adviser. However, the release of the last instalment of the Annual Grant must be conditional upon the Grantee Institutions providing reasonable evidence of proper utilization of instalments released earlier. In the cases where Central Financial Assistance (CFA) has been sanctioned, the grant will be released in one instalment upon the Grantee Institutions/ Organisation providing complete evidence of achieving the specified objectives and expenditure incurred supported by Audited Statement of Expenditure. In these cases, the grantee institutions will not be required to submit Utilization Certificates.

Rule 230 (11) In order to finalize the Budgetary Estimates of Grants in aid to the Grantee Institutions, the Ministry or Department should impress upon Institution or Organisation desiring Grants from Government, to submit their requirement with supporting details by the end of September in the year preceding the year for which the Grants-in-aid is sought. The Ministry or Department should finalize their examination of the requests with the utmost expedition and make the necessary Budget provision where it is decided to sanction Grants. The Institution or Organisation should be informed of the result of their requests by April of the succeeding year.

Rule 230 (12)

- (i) All Grantee Institutions or Organisations which receive more than fifty per cent. of their recurring expenditure in the form of Grants-in-aid, should ordinarily formulate terms and conditions of service of their employees which are, by and large, not higher than those applicable to similar categories of employees in Central Government. In exceptional cases relaxation may be made in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.
- (ii) Grantee Institutions or Organisations should be encouraged to take advantage of the pension or gratuity schemes or Group Insurance Schemes or house buildings loans or vehicle loans schemes etc. available in the market for employees instead of undertaking liability on their own or Government account.

Rule 230 (13) The sanctioning authority, while laying down the pattern of assistance, may decide whether the ownership of buildings constructed with Grants-in-aid may vest with Government or the Grantee Institution or Organisation. Where the ownership is vested in the Government, the Grantee Institution or Organisation may be allowed to occupy the building as a lessee. In such cases suitable record of details of location, cost, name of lessee and terms and conditions of lease must be maintained in the records of the granting Ministry or Department. In all cases of buildings constructed with Grants-in-aid, responsibility of maintenance of such buildings shall be of the Grantee Institution or Organisation.

Rule 230 (14) Any other special terms and conditions or procedures for transaction of business as Government may desire to be followed by the Grantee Institution or Organisation, shall be got incorporated in the Articles of Association or bye-laws of the Institution or Organisation concerned before release of Grants-in-aid.

Rule 230 (15) Grants-in-aid may be sanctioned to meet the bonafide expenditure incurred not earlier than two years prior to the date of issue of the sanction.

Rule 230 (16) The stipulation in regard to refund of



the unutilised amount of Grant-in-aid with interest thereon should be brought out clearly in the letter sanctioning the Grant as well as in the bond so required to be executed.

Rule 230. (17) (i) As a precondition to the sanction of Grants-in-aid to the agencies where:

- (a) the recipient body employs more than twenty persons on a regular basis and at least fifty per cent of its recurring expenditure is met from Grants-in-aid from Central Government; and
- (b) the body is a registered society or a co-operative institution and is in receipt of a general purpose annual Grants-in-aid of Rupees twenty lakhs and above from the Consolidated Fund of India;

the Grant sanctioning authority should ensure that a suitable clause is invariably included in the terms and conditions under which the Grants-in-aid are given, to provide for reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or OBC in posts and services under such organizations or agencies. The relative provision may be on the following lines :-

" (Name of Institution or Organization etc.) agrees to make reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or OBC in the posts or services under its control on the lines indicated by the Government of India".

- (ii) While sanctioning Grants-in-aid to Institutions or Organisations referred to in (a) above, the Grant sanctioning authority should keep in view the progress made by such Institutions or Organisations in employing Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or OBC candidates in their services.

Rule 231 (1) Grants-in-aid to "Voluntary Organisations" Subject to the following terms and conditions, Grants-in-aid towards administrative expenditure may be sanctioned to voluntary organizations to ensure a certain minimum staff structure and qualified personnel to improve their effectiveness and expand their activities under the following conditions :-

- (i) The Grants-in-aid should not exceed twenty-five per cent. of approved administrative expenditure on pay and allowances of the personnel of the voluntary organisation concerned;
- (ii) Grants-in-aid to meet administrative expenditure to any private institutions other than the voluntary organizations should not ordinarily be sanctioned. In exceptional cases such Grants can be considered for sanction in consultation with Internal Finance Wing.

Rule 231 (2) Before a Grant is released, the members of the Executive Committee of the Grantee should be asked to Execute Bonds in a prescribed format binding themselves jointly and severally to:-

- (i) abide by the conditions of the Grants-in-aid by the target dates, if any, specified therein; and
- (ii) not to divert the Grants or entrust execution of the scheme or work concerned to another Institution(s) or Organization(s); and
- (iii) abide by any other conditions specified in the agreement governing the Grants-in-aid.
- (iv) In the event of the Grantee failing to comply with the conditions or committing breach of the conditions of the Bond, the signatories to the Bond shall be jointly and severally liable to refund to the President of India, the whole or a part amount of the Grant with interest at ten per cent. per annum thereon or the sum specified under the Bond. The stamp duty for this Bond shall be borne by the Government.

Rule 231 (3) Execution of Bond will not apply to Quasi-Government Institutions, Central Autonomous Organisations and Institutions whose budget is approved by the Government

Rule 232 General Principles for award of Grants-in-aid for Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The following principles should be kept in view by Ministries/Departments of the Central Government at the time of designing Centrally Sponsored Schemes for implementation in State Governments or Union Territories and approving and releasing assistance to State Governments or Union Territories for such schemes: -



- (i) Every Centrally Sponsored Scheme should have a time-bound quantifiable and measurable outcome targets with provisions for periodic monitoring, mid-term evaluation and detailed impact studies.
- (ii) The scheme should be designed in consultation with States and Union Territories. States should be delegated adequate powers to change the details of the schemes to suit local conditions, subject to reporting such changes to the concerned Ministry or Department.
- (iii) Where schemes are in operation with similar objectives targeting the same population, the schemes should be converged.
- (iv) To ensure monitoring and effective control over such schemes, the number of schemes should be restricted, so that the gain from the expenditure on such schemes is maximized. The role of the Central Ministries or Departments should be capacity building, inter-sectoral coordination and detailed monitoring.
- (v) The release of funds to State Governments and monitoring further utilisation should be undertaken through PFMS. The Ministries or Departments should establish a mechanism to ensure that the funds earlier released have been effectively utilised and that the data and facts reported by the State Governments or Union Territories relating to physical and financial performance are correct. Before releasing further funds, it should also be ensured that the State Governments or Union Territories have the capacity to actually spend the balance from the previous years and the releases during the current year.
- (vi) The Ministries or Departments should focus attention on the attainment of the objectives and not on expenditure only. A mechanism for avoiding release of large part of funds towards the end of the year should be devised and incorporated in the Scheme design itself.

- (vii) A concurrent monitoring and evaluation mechanism should be built into the Scheme. A periodic review of every Centrally Sponsored Scheme should be undertaken for any required mid-course correction or changes in the scheme design
- (viii) A post-completion review of every Centrally Sponsored Scheme should be undertaken by the State Government(s) or Union Territories implementing the scheme, highlighting the time and cost overruns, if any, and suggestions for formulating and implementing future schemes. A copy of the review should be obtained by the Ministry concerned and kept in view while formulating new Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Rule 233 Funding of Sponsored Projects or Schemes.

- (i) Ministries or Departments of Government sponsor projects or schemes to be undertaken by Universities, Indian Institute of Technology and other similar Autonomous Organisations such as ICAR, CSIR, ICMR etc., the results from which are expected to be in national interest. Normally the entire expenditure on such projects or schemes including capital expenditure, is funded by the Ministry or Department. The funds released for such projects or schemes in one or more installments are not treated as Grants-in-aid in the books of the implementing agency. Apart from the requirement of submission of technical and financial reports on completion of the project or scheme, a stipulation should be made in such cases that the ownership in the physical and intellectual assets created or acquired out of such funds shall vest in the sponsor. While the Project or Scheme is ongoing, the recipients should not treat such assets as their own assets in their Books of Accounts but should disclose their holding and using such assets in the Notes to Accounts specifically.
- (ii) On completion of the Projects or Schemes and the receipt of technical and financial reports, the Ministries/ Departments should decide and



communicate to the implementing agencies whether the assets should be returned, sold or retained by them.

- (iii) If the assets are to be sold, the proceeds therefrom should be credited to the account of the sponsoring Department/Organisation. If the assets are allowed to be retained by the Institution/Organisation, the implementing agency should include the assets at the book value in their own accounts.

Rule 234 Register of Grants. A Register of Grants shall be maintained by the sanctioning authority in the format given in Form GFR - 21.

- (i) Columns (i) to (v) of the Register in format at Form GFR - 21 should be filled in simultaneously with the issue of the order sanctioning each Grant. These columns should be attested by any Gazetted Officer nominated for the purpose by the sanctioning authority. The serial number should be recorded on the body of the sanction at the time the item is entered in the Register as under : "Noted at Serial Noin the Register of Grants".
- (ii) Such a record will guard against the possibility of double payment. Columns (vi) and (vii) should be filled in and attested by the Gazetted Officer concerned as soon as the bill is ready. The bill should then be submitted to the Gazetted Officer nominated to act as Drawing and Disbursing Officer with the register for signing the bill and to the sanctioning authority for giving dated initials in column (viii) of Register. It should also be the duty of the sanctioning authority to verify that the conditions, if any, attached to the Grant have been duly accepted by the Grantee without any reservation and that no other bill for the same purpose has already been paid before. No bill should be signed unless it has been noted in the Register of Grants against the relevant sanction. This will also facilitate watching of payments in instalments, if any, in the case of lump sum sanctions.

- (iii) Information at column (xiii) of the Form GFR-21 above should be used also for regulating the subsequent Grants.

Rule 235 Accounts of Grantee Institutions.

Institutions or Organisations receiving Grants should, irrespective of the amount involved, be required to maintain subsidiary accounts of the Government grant and furnish to the Accounts Officer a set of audited statement of accounts. These audited statements of accounts should be required to be furnished after utilization of the Grants-in-aid or whenever called for.

Rule 236 (1) Audit of Accounts. The accounts of all Grantee Institutions or Organisations shall be open to inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under the provision of CAG(DPC) Act 1971 and internal audit by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry or Department, whenever the Institution or Organisation is called upon to do so and a provision to this effect should invariably be incorporated in all orders sanctioning Grants-in-aid.

Rule 236 (2)

- (i) The accounts of the Grantee Institution or Organisation shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under Section 14 of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971, if the Grants or loans to the institution in a financial year are not less than Rupees twenty-five lakhs and also not less than seventy-five percent of the total expenditure of the Institution. The accounts may also be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India if the Grants or loans in a financial year are not less than Rupees one crore. Where the accounts are so audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in a financial year, he shall continue to audit the accounts for a further period of two years notwithstanding that the conditions outlined above are not fulfilled.
- (ii) Where any Grant and /or loan is given for any specific purpose to any Institution or Organisation or



authority, not being a foreign State or international Body/Organization, the Comptroller and Auditor General is competent under Section 15 (1) of the CAG's (DPC) Act, 1971, to scrutinize the procedures by which the sanctioning authority satisfies itself as to the fulfillment of the conditions subject to which such Grants and/or loans were given and shall, for this purpose, have right of access to the books and accounts of that Institute or Organisation or authority.

Rule 236 (3) In all other cases, the Institution or Organisation shall get its accounts audited from Chartered Accountants of its own choice.

Rule 236 (4) Where the Comptroller and Auditor General of India is the sole auditor for a local Body or Institution, auditing charges will be payable by the auditee Institution in full unless specifically waived by Government

Rule 237 Time Schedule for submission of annual accounts. The dates prescribed for submission of the annual accounts for Audit leading to the issue of Audit Certificate by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and for submission of annual report and audited accounts to the nodal Ministry for timely submission to the Parliament are listed below:-

- (i) Approved and authenticated annual accounts to be made available by the Autonomous Body to the concerned Audit Office and commencement of audit of annual accounts-30th June
- (ii) Issue of the final SAR in English version with audit certificate to Autonomous Body/ Government concerned -31st October
- (iii) Submission of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts to the Nodal for it to be laid on the Table of the Parliament -31st December

Rule 238 (1) Utilization Certificates. In respect of non-recurring Grants to an Institution or Organisation, a certificate of actual utilization of the Grants received for the purpose for which it was sanctioned in Form GFR 12-A, should be insisted upon in the order sanctioning the Grants-in-aid. The Utilization Certificate in respect of Grants referred to in Rule 230 (10) should also disclose whether the specified,

quantified and qualitative targets that should have been reached against the amount utilised, were in fact reached, and if not, the reasons therefor. They should contain an output based performance assessment instead of input based performance assessment. The Utilization Certificate should be submitted within twelve months of the closure of the financial year by the Institution or Organisation concerned. Receipt of such certificate shall be scrutinised by the Ministry or Department concerned. Where such certificate is not received from the Grantee within the prescribed time, the Ministry or Department will be at liberty to blacklist such Institution or Organisation from any future grant, subsidy or other type of financial support from the Government.

Rule 238 (2) In respect of recurring Grants, Ministry or Department concerned should release any amount sanctioned for the subsequent financial year only after Utilization Certificate in respect of Grants of preceding financial year is submitted. Release of Grants-in-aid in excess of seventy five per cent of the total amount sanctioned for the subsequent financial year shall be done only after utilisation certificate and the annual audited statement relating to Grants-in-aid released in the preceding year are submitted to the satisfaction of the Ministry/Department concerned. Reports submitted by the Internal Audit parties of the Ministry or Department and Inspection Reports received from Indian Audit and Accounts Department and the performance reports if any received for the third and fourth quarter in the year should also be looked into while sanctioning further Grants.

Rule 238 (3) Utilization certificates need not be furnished in cases where the Grants -in -aid / CFA are being made as reimbursement of expenditure already incurred on the basis of duly audited accounts. In such cases the sanction letters should specify clearly that the Utilization Certificates will not be necessary.

Rule 238 (4) In respect of Central Autonomous Organisations, the Utilization Certificate shall disclose separately the annual expenditure incurred and the funds given to suppliers of stores and assets, to construction agencies, to staff for (House



Building and Purchase of conveyance) which do not constitute expenditure at that stage but have been met out of Grants and are pending adjustments. These shall be treated as unutilized Grants allowed to be carried forward. While recording the Grants in the subsequent year the amount carried forward shall be taken into account.

Rule 238 (5) In the case of Private and Voluntary Organizations receiving recurring Grants-in-aid from Rupees ten lakhs to less than Rupees fifty lakhs, all the Ministries or Departments of Government of India should include in their Annual Report a statement showing the quantum of funds provided to each of those organizations and the purpose for which they were utilized, for the information of Parliament. The Annual Reports and accounts of Private and Voluntary Organizations receiving recurring Grants-in-aid to the tune of Rupees fifty lakhs and above should be laid on the Table of the House within nine months of the close of the succeeding financial year of the Grantee Organisations.

Rule 238 (6) In the case of organizations receiving one-time assistance or non recurring Grants as Grants-in-aid from Rupees ten lakhs to Rupees fifty lakhs, all Ministries or Departments of Government of India should include in their Annual Reports, statements showing the quantum of funds provided to each of these organizations and the purpose for which the funds were utilized, for the information of Parliament. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Private and Voluntary Organizations or societies registered under the Registration of Societies Act, 1860, receiving one-time assistance/non-recurring Grants of Rupees fifty lakhs and above should also be laid on the Table of the House, within nine months of the close of the succeeding financial year of the grantee Organisations.

Rule 239 **State Government to submit Utilization Certificate for Grants-in-aid relating to Scheme.** When Central Grants are given to State Governments for implementation of Central Scheme, Utilization Certificate in format GFR 12-C may be submitted by the State Government in respect of the Scheme. The

UC should be counter-signed by the Administrative Secretary of the Division regulating the Scheme/Finance Secretary.

Rule 240 **State Government to submit Utilization Certificate when expenditure incurred through local bodies.** When Central Grants are given to State Governments for expenditure to be incurred by them through local bodies or private institutions, the Utilization Certificates should be furnished by the State Government concerned.

Rule 241 **Utilisation Certificate in case of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme.** In case of the schemes covered under Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT), where the fund flow is directly from the Central Government to the beneficiaries, the intimation from the bank/National Payments Corporation of India (Aadhaar Payment Bridge) regarding deposit of the funds in the beneficiaries' bank accounts, generated as per procedure prescribed by the Controller General of Accounts, may be treated as a Utilization Certificate. The Ministry/Department releasing the Grant should keep proper record and accounts relating to such direct releases under DBT to the beneficiaries bank accounts.

Rule 242 (1) **Performance parameters.** Performance parameters should be clearly set to allow better oversight of the Autonomous Body.

Rule 242 (2) **Submission of Achievement-cum-Performance Reports.**

- i. The Grantee Institutions or Organisations should be required to submit performance cum achievement reports soon after the end of the financial year, and in any case, not later than six months after the close of the financial year.
- ii. In regard to non-recurring Grants such as those meant for celebration of anniversaries, conduct of special tours and maintenance Grants for education, performance-cum-achievement reports need not be obtained.
- iii. In the case of recurring Grants, submission of achievement-cum-performance reports should usually be insisted upon in all cases. However, in the case of Grants-in-aid not



exceeding Rupees twenty five lakhs, the sanctioning authority may dispense with the submission of performance-cum-achievement reports and should, in that event, refer to the Utilization Certificates and other information available with it to decide whether or not the Grants-in-aid should continue to be given.

- iv. (a) The Annual Reports and Audited Statements of Accounts of Autonomous Organisations are required to be laid on the table of the Parliament. In such cases, the Ministries or Departments of Central Government need not incorporate performance-cum-achievement reports in the Annual Reports.
- (b) In all other cases, if the Grants-in-aid exceed Rupees ten lakhs but less than rupees fifty lakhs, the Ministry or Departments of the Central Government should include a statement in their Annual Report of their own assessment of the achievements or performance of the Institution or Organisations.
- (c) In cases where the Grants-in-aid are for Rupees fifty lakhs or more, the Ministry or Departments of the Central Government should include in their Annual Report a review of the utilization of the Grants-in-aid individually, specifying in detail the achievements vis-à-vis the amount spent, the purpose and destination of Grants.
- v. Where the accounts of the Grantee Institutions or Organisations are audited by the CAG of India copies of the performance-cum-achievement reports, furnished by the grantee Institution to the Administrative Ministry or sanctioning authority should be made available to audit. In other cases copies of such reports, received by the Departments of the Central Government or the sanctioning authority should be made available to audit when local audit of such Grants-in-aid in the Administrative Ministry or Department

or sanctioning authority is conducted or when it is called for by the Accountant General.

Rule 243 Discretionary Grants. When an allotment for Discretionary Grants is placed at the disposal of a particular authority, the expenditure from such Grants shall be regulated by general or special orders of the competent authority specifying the object for which the Grants can be made and any other condition(s) that shall apply to them. Such Discretionary Grants must be non-recurring and not involve any future commitment.

Rule 244 Other Grants. Grants, subventions, etc., including Grants to States other than those dealt with in the foregoing rules, shall be made under special orders of Government.

- Rule 245**
- (i) Regulation of recurring Grants-in-aid for Government employees' welfare :—
 - a. Grants-in-aid for provision of amenities or of recreational or welfare facilities to the staff of the offices of the Government are regulated under orders of the Ministry of Home Affairs issued from time to time. The admissibility of the Grants-in-aid for the welfare of the employees of the Government should be regulated in the following manner :—
 - i. The Grant in aid will be admissible on the basis of the total strength borne on the regular strength of an organization, i.e., Ministry or Department, etc., and its Attached and Subordinate Offices and such statutory bodies whose budget forms part of Consolidated Fund of India, irrespective of the fact whether any individual is a member of the staff club, etc., or not. However, Grant-in-aid in respect of Gazetted Officers will be admissible only to that Ministry or Department or Office where membership of recreation club is open to such officers.

Staff paid from contingencies, work-charged staff etc., will not be taken into calculation for this purpose. Staff eligible for similar concession under some other rule or statutory provision, e.g., industrial workers will also not be covered by these orders.



- ii) Amounts of Grants-in-aid. (a) The rate of the Grant-in-aid will be Rupees fifty per head per annum. In addition to this, an additional Grant-in-aid up to Rupees twenty-five per head per annum to match the subscriptions collected during the previous financial year by the existing staff clubs will be admissible. In the case of staff clubs which are started during the financial year in which Grant-in-aid is to be given, an additional matching grants-in-aid up to Rupees twenty-five per head per annum, to match the subscription collected by such clubs up to the date on which the proposal for the Grant is mooted, may be sanctioned. The total strength of the eligible staff will be that existing on the thirty-first March of the previous financial year or that on the date on which proposal for Grant is mooted in the case of new staff clubs above rates, as revised from time to time will apply.
- iii) An illustrative list of items on which expenditure can be incurred out of Grants-in-aid sanctioned by Government for provision of amenities is given below:
 - i) Articles of sports – Outdoor and indoor games equipment
 - ii) Cost of uniforms, etc., supplied to teams of players.
 - iii) Magazines and periodicals.
 - iv) Entry fee for tournaments
 - v) Hiring of playgrounds
 - vi) Hiring and repair for furniture, etc.,
 - vii) Purchase of furniture.
 - viii) Conveyance expenses incurred locally.
 - ix) Entertainments.
 - x) Prizes.
 - xi) Film shows.
 - xii) Hiring of accommodation for Club/Association, etc.
 - xiii) Cultural, Sports and Physical development programme(s).
 - xiv) Inter-Ministerial meets.
 - xv) Inter-Departmental meets
2. A maximum one time Grant of Rupees fifty thousand may be sanctioned for setting up of a Recreation Club.
3. Grants-in-aid to the Ministry or Departments of the Central Government and their Attached and Subordinate Offices will be allocated by the concerned Ministry or Department on receipt of formal requests in the prescribed manner. For the purposes of these Grants-in-aid, the Departments of the Central Government and their attached and Subordinate Offices will be treated as a single unit. It will be the responsibility of that Ministry or Department to distribute the amount further to its Attached and Subordinate Offices and to their different clubs. The accounts of these clubs for the preceding year duly audited by an Internal Auditor should be obtained immediately after the close of the financial year in any case by the thirtieth April by the Ministry or Department before allocating funds for the next financial year.
4. Grants-in-aid for the provision of amenities or recreational or welfare facilities to the staff of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department are regulated by separate orders

II. LOANS

Rule 246 The rules in this Section shall be observed by all authorities competent to sanction loans of public moneys to State Governments, Local Administrations of Union Territories, local bodies, foreign Government on specific recommendation of State Government, Government institutions and other Government bodies.

Rule 247 (1) Powers and Procedure for sanction of loans. The powers of Departments of the Central Government and Administrators as well as other subordinate authorities to sanction loans are given in the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules and other general and special orders issued under that rule.

Rule 247 (2) Nodal Division in Ministry of Finance. The Budget Division, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance shall be the nodal division in the Ministry of Finance to finalise terms and conditions of loans by the Central Government.



Rule 248 All sanctions of loans issued by a Department of Central Government or an Administrator of Union Territory in exercise of their powers under the relevant provision of Delegation of Financial Powers Rules shall include a certificate to the effect that the same is in accordance with the rules or principles prescribed by the Ministry of Finance and that the rate of interest on the loan and the period of repayment thereof have been fixed with the approval of that Ministry.

Rule 249 (1) All sanctions to loans shall be subject to the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules and shall specify the terms and conditions relating to them including the terms and conditions of their repayment and payment of interest.

Rule 249 (2) Borrowers shall be required to adhere strictly to the terms settled for the loans made to them. Modifications of these terms can be made subsequently only for very special reasons and after seeking prior concurrence of Ministry of Finance.

Rule 250 (1) **General conditions for regulating all loans :** All loans shall be regulated by the following general conditions :-

- (i) A specific term shall be fixed which shall be as short as possible, within which each loan has to be fully repaid with interest due. The terms may, in very special cases, extend to thirty years.
- (ii) The term is to be calculated from the date on which the loan is completely drawn or declared by competent authority to be closed.
- (iii) The repayment of loans shall be effected by instalments, which shall ordinarily be fixed on annual basis, and with due dates of payment being specially prescribed.
- (iv) Any instalment paid before its due date may be taken entirely towards the principal, provided it is accompanied by payment toward interest due up-to-date of actual payment of instalment; if not, the amount of the instalment shall first be adjusted towards the interest due for preceding and current periods and the balance, if any, shall alone be applied towards the principal. If, however, the payment of the instalment is in advance of the due

date by fourteen days or less, interest for the full period (half-year or full year, as the case may be) shall be payable.

- (v) When the due date of repayment of any instalment of principal or interest falls on a Sunday or a public holiday, the payment made on the next working day following the Sunday or the public holiday, shall be regarded as payment on the due date and no interest shall be charged for the day or days by which the recovery is so postponed.

Exception. If an instalment of principal or interest is payable on the thirty-first March of a year, and if that day happens to be a public holiday the recoveries shall be made on the immediately preceding working day. In case, the due date for the repayment of a loan or payment of interest falls on a holiday observed by the Reserve Bank of India, at which the effective credit of the same is to take place this shall be shifted to the next working day, except when the due date is thirty-first March.

- (vi) The payment of interest and the repayment of principal of a loan are always to be made with reference to the calendar date on which the loan in question is paid. However, where payment of instalment is in advance of the due date by fourteen days or less, interest for the full year or half year (depending on the prescribed mode of recovery) shall be charged thereon. In the case of a loan sanctioned by the Central Government to a State Government on or before thirty-first March of a year, which is adjusted in the books of the Reserve Bank of India in the month of April but in the accounts of the previous year the instalment of principal and/or interest shall fall due for payment on the thirty-first March of the succeeding year and not on the anniversaries of the calendar date in April on which the inter-Governmental adjustment was carried out.
- (vii) The date of drawal of a loan by a State Government shall be determined as indicated below –



- (a) When monetary settlement is involved—Normally the calendar date on which amount of a loan is actually credited to the account of the State Government by the Reserve Bank is to be treated as the date of its drawal.

This position shall also hold in cases where adjustment in accounts is made in one month but date of adjustment in the books of the Reserve Bank of India falls in the following calendar month. The calendar date on which the credit is actually afforded to the State Government in the books of the Reserve Bank of India in such cases shall be treated as the date of its drawal.

Exception. An exception to this arrangement is in the case of loans for which credit is afforded to the recipient State Government in the month of April by the Reserve Bank of India but in the accounts of previous year. In such cases, a loan shall be deemed to have been paid on the thirty-first March of the financial year in the accounts for which the payment is adjusted. Consequently, payment of annual interest as also repayment of instalment of principal in respect of such loans shall fall due on the thirty-first March of the succeeding years and not on the anniversaries of the calendar date in April on which inter-Governmental adjustment on account of such loans was carried out in the books of the Reserve Bank of India.

- (b) Where no monetary settlement is involved.—In regard to cases where adjustment in the books of the Accounts Offices are only involved and actual credit through the Reserve Bank of India is not necessary, the last date of the month of account in which the adjustment is effected shall be taken as the date of drawal of loan for purposes of repayment and charging interest.

(viii) In order to avoid any default in the

payment of loan, the Principal Accounts Officers or Pay and Accounts Officers who maintain the detailed accounts of loans, shall issue notices in Form GFR-19 to the loanees (other than State and Union Territory Governments) i.e. Public Sector Undertakings, statutory bodies and Government institutions etc., say, a month in advance of the due date for the repayment of any instalment of the principal and/ or interest thereon. However, omission to give notice does not give the loanees any claim to exemption from the consequences of default in the repayment of the principal and/or interest thereon.

Rule 250 (2) Before sanctioning a loan to private Institutions the lending Ministry or Department shall examine the financial health and managerial ability of such institutes.

Rule 250 (3) (i) Before considering a loan application from parties other than State Governments and Local Administrations of Union Territories, the following requirements shall be fulfilled:-

- (a) it shall be seen that there is adequate budget provision;
- (b) it shall be seen whether the grant of the loan is in accordance with approved Government policy and accepted patterns of assistance.

(ii) Before approving the loan, the applicant shall be asked to furnish the following materials and information:-

- (a) copies of profit and loss (or income and expenditure) accounts and balance sheets for the last 3 years;
- (b) the main sources of income and how the loan is proposed to be repaid within the stipulated period;
- (c) the security proposed to be offered for the loan together with a valuation of the security offered by an independent authority and a certificate to the effect that the asset offered as security is not already encumbered.
- (d) Details of loan or loans taken from the Central Government or a State



Government in the past, indicating amount, purpose, rate of interest, stipulated period of repayment, date of original loan and amount outstanding against the loan(s) on the date of the application and the assets, if any, given as security;

- (e) a complete list of all other loans, outstanding on the date of application and the assets given as security against them;
- (f) the purpose for which the loan is proposed to be utilized and the economics of the scheme.

NOTE. Where the loan is to be given to Government institution on the strength of a guarantee given by the trust managing it, similar information should be called for in respect of the trust also.

- (iii) On receipt of the information called for as mentioned in (ii) above, confidential enquiries shall be made from the other Departments of the Central Government or State Governments from which the party has taken loans, to judge the performance in regard to the previous loans. If the replies indicate that the performance was not satisfactory, the loan shall be refused. It must be analysed that the financial position of the party is sound. It shall also be ensured that the security offered is adequate and its value is at least thirty-three and one-third per cent. above the amount of the loan. If possible, an independent valuation of the security offered shall be obtained. The applicant for the loan must satisfy both the criteria for financial soundness and adequacy of security before a loan is sanctioned.
- (iv) In the case of Institutions which receive Grants-in-aid from Government to meet a part of their deficits and the balance is met by the State Government and the Trustees of Management, it shall be ensured—
 - (a) that in computing the deficit for purpose of the Grant-in-aid, the income from the scheme, if any, earmarked for servicing the loan and the instalment of repayment of the loan and interest (if any) is

not included;

- (b) that as far as possible, the scheme for which the loan is given is self-financing and does not throw an additional burden on the general income of the institutions, e.g., in the case of hostels for colleges that the rents proposed are adequate;
- (c) the Institution produces an undertaking from the State Government or the Management that any shortfall towards repayment of the loan and interest shall be made good by it. In the latter case the financial position of the Management (Trust) shall be investigated after calling for information on the lines of Rule 250. (3) (i) above.
- (v) Ministries or Departments of the Central Government shall lay down a procedure for periodical review of the old loans so that prompt action can be taken, if necessary, for enforcing regular payments.

Rule 250 (4) The detailed procedure to be followed in connection with the Grant of loans to local bodies shall be regulated by the provisions of the Local Authorities Loans Act and other special Acts and by rules made thereunder.

Rule 251 (1) **Interest on Loans.** Interest shall be charged at the rate prescribed by the Government for any particular loan or for the class of loans concerned.

Rule 251 (2) A loan shall bear interest for the day of payment but not for the day of repayment. Interest for any shorter period than a complete year shall be calculated as follows, unless any other method of calculation is prescribed in any particular case or class of cases.

$$\frac{\text{Number of days} \times \text{Yearly rate of interest}}{365 \text{ (366 in case of a leap year)}}$$

Rule 252 (1) **Procedure to be followed for recovery of loans and interest thereon and Grant of moratorium.** The instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance from time to time prescribing the interest rates and other terms and conditions of loans to State and Union Territory Governments, Local Bodies,



Statutory Corporations, financial, industrial and commercial undertakings in the Public Sector shall be strictly followed.

Rule 252 (2) The recovery of loans shall ordinarily be effected in annual equal instalments of principal together with interest due on the outstanding amount of principal from time to time. The repayment and interest instalments may be rounded off to the nearest rupee subject to final adjustment at the time of payment of last instalment of principal and/or interest.

Rule 252 (3) A suitable period of moratorium towards repayment might be agreed to in individual cases having regard to the projects for which the loans are to be utilized. However, no moratorium shall ordinarily be allowed in respect of interest payable on loans.

Rule 253 (1) **Loans to State and Union Territory Governments, Local Bodies, Statutory Corporations, Public Sector Undertakings, etc.** Loans shall ordinarily be sanctioned at the normal rates of interest prescribed by Government for the particular category of the loanee. In cases where the normal rate is considered too high and a concession is justified, it shall take the form of direct subsidy debitable to the grants of the sanctioning authority. In such cases interest shall, however, be paid by the borrower in the first instance at the normal rates and subsidy shall be claimed separately.

Rule 253 (2) **Agreements and other documentation.**

- (i) In the case of loans to parties other than State Governments and wholly owned Government Companies, a loan agreement specifying all the terms and conditions shall be executed. A clause shall invariably be inserted in all such agreements enabling Government at any time to call for accounts of the applicant relating to any accounting year with power to depute an officer specially authorized for this purpose to inspect the applicant's books, if necessary.
- (ii) A written undertaking in Form GFR 15 shall be obtained from a wholly Government-owned company at the time of sanctioning the loan. The sanction shall specifically state that such an undertaking would be

obtained from the loanee before the drawal of the amount of loan and a certificate that the undertaking has been obtained, shall be recorded by the Drawing Officer of the office of the sanctioning authority in the bill for drawal of the amount of loan. The sanction in respect of loans to other organizations, where a formal agreement is required to be executed, shall also be issued in the same manner.

Rule 254 **Undertaking to be obtained from wholly-owned Government Companies.**

In the case of loans to wholly-owned Government Companies, a written undertaking to the effect that the fixed assets of the company shall not be hypothecated without prior approval of the Government shall be obtained in Form GFR 32. No stamp duty need be paid on these written undertakings.

Rule 255 Loans to parties other than State Governments, wholly owned Government Companies and Local Administration of Union Territories shall be sanctioned only against adequate security. The security to be taken shall ordinarily be at least thirty-three and one-third per cent. more than the amount of the loan. However, a competent authority may accept security of less value for adequate reasons to be recorded.

Rule 256 (1) **Submission of Utilization Certificate, Reports, Statements, etc.** In cases in which conditions are attached to the utilization of loan, either in the shape of the specification of the particular objects on or the time within which the money must be spent or otherwise, the authority competent to sanction the loan shall be primarily responsible for certifying to the Accounts Officer where necessary, the fulfilment of the conditions attaching to the loan, unless there is any special rule or order to the contrary. The loans sanctioned to the State Governments and the Local Administration of Union Territories shall not, however, come within the purview of this rule.

Rule 256 (2)

- (i) The certificate referred to in Rule 256 (1) above shall be furnished as in Form GFR 12-B and at such intervals as may



be agreed to between the Audit Officer and/or the Accounts Officer, as the case may be, and the Ministry or Department concerned. Before recording the certificate, the certifying officer shall take steps to satisfy himself that the conditions, on which the loan was sanctioned, have been or are being fulfilled. For this purpose, he may require the submission to him at suitable intervals of such reports, statements, etc., which shall establish the utilization of loan for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. The loanee institution may also be required to furnish a certificate from its Auditors that the conditions attaching to the loan have been or are being fulfilled. The certificate shall give details of the breaches, if any, of those conditions.

- (ii) A Certificate of Utilization of the loan shall be furnished to the Accounts Officer in every case of loan made for specific purposes, even if of the any conditions is not specifically attached to the grant. Such certificates are not, however, necessary in cases where loans are sanctioned not for any specific purpose or object but take the shape of a temporary financial aid or where the loans have been sanctioned to the Public Sector Undertakings intended for financing of their approved capital outlays. The repayment of loan, however, has to be watched in the usual manner.
- (iii) In respect of loans the detailed accounts of which are maintained in the Audit Offices, the authorities sanctioning the loan shall furnish the Utilization Certificate in respect of each individual case.
- (iv) Where the detailed accounts of the loans are maintained by the Departmental authorities, a consolidated Utilization Certificate shall be furnished to Audit by the Ministries/Departments sanctioning the loans to Institutions/Organisations for the total amount of the loans disbursed during each year for different purposes including the loans sanctioned by their subordinate officers. This certificate shall not cover the loans to individuals for which

Utilization Certificates need not be furnished to the Accounts Officer. The Certificate shall indicate the year-wise and object-wise break-up of loans disbursed and the loans for which Utilizations Certificates are furnished. The utilization certificate shall also show the loans disbursed separately for each sub-head of account to facilitate verification by the Accounts Officer.

- (v) The Utilization Certificates shall be furnished within a 'reasonable time' after the loan is paid to the institutions. The Department of Central Government shall prescribe, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance, target dates for the submission of the Utilization Certificates by the Department concerned to the Accounts Officer. The target date shall, as far as possible, be not later than eighteen months from the date of sanction of the loan.
- (vi) In respect of loans, the detailed accounts of which are maintained by Departmental Officers and where consolidated Utilization Certificates are to be furnished to Accounts Officer, the period of 18 months shall be reckoned from the expiry of the financial year in which the loans are disbursed. The consolidated Utilization Certificates in respect of such loans paid each year shall, therefore, be furnished not later than September of the second succeeding financial year.
- (vii) The due dates for submission of the Utilization Certificates shall be specified in the letter of sanction for loan. The target date as specified shall be rigidly enforced and extension shall only be allowed in very exceptional circumstances in consultation with the Ministry of Finance under intimation to the Audit Officer and/or the Accounts Officer, as the case may be. No further loans shall be sanctioned unless the sanctioning authorities are satisfied about the proper utilization of the earlier loan sanctioned to an Institution, etc.

Rule 257 Instalments of Loans. When a loan of public money is taken out in instalments, each instalment of the loan so drawn shall



be treated as a separate loan for purposes of repayment of principal and payment of interest thereon except where the various instalments drawn during a financial year are, for this purpose, allowed to be consolidated into a single loan as at the end of that particular financial year. In the latter event, simple interest at the prescribed rate on the various loan instalments from the date of drawal of each instalment to the date of their consolidation shall be separately payable by the borrower. Repayment of each loan or the consolidated loan, as the case may be, and the payment of interest thereon shall be arranged by the borrower annually on or before the anniversary date of drawal or consolidation of the loan in such number of instalments as the sanctioning authority may prescribe. The sanctioning authority may allow, in deserving cases a moratorium towards repayment of principal but not for the payment of interest. Should it appear that there is an undue delay on the part of the debtor in taking out the last instalment of a loan the authority sanctioning the loan may at any time declare that loan closed, and order repayment of capital to begin. The Accounts Officer shall bring to notice any delay that appears to him to require this remedy and he shall take this step whether or not there are any dates fixed for taking of instalments.

NOTE 1. These instructions are applicable mutatis mutandis to loans, the repayments of which are made by other than annual instalments.

NOTE 2. It must be remembered that the calculation fixing the amount of equal periodical instalments, by which a loan is repaid with interest, presupposes punctual payment of the instalment and that, if any instalment is not punctually repaid, the interest amount shall need to be recalculated.

Rule 258 (1) Defaults in Payment. The loan sanctions in favour of State or Union Territory Governments and the loan sanctions or undertakings or agreements in case of wholly Government owned companies or Public Sector Undertakings shall invariably include provision for the levy of penal interest on overdue instalments of interest or principal and interest. The loan sanctions and

agreements in all other cases shall invariably stipulate a higher rate of interest and provide for lower rate of interest in the case of punctual payments. The penal or the higher rate of interest, as the case may be, shall not, except under special orders of Government, be less than two and half per cent per annum above the normal rate of interest prescribed by Government from time to time for the loans advanced.

Rule 258 (2) Any default in the payment of interest upon a loan or in the repayment of principal, shall be promptly reported by the Accounts Officer, to the authority which sanctioned the loan. The responsibility of the Accounts Officer, under this rule refers only to the loans, the detailed accounts for which are kept by him.

Rule 258 (3) Procedure to be followed in case of defaults in repayment of interest free loans or loans sanctioned at concessional rates of interest :

- (i) In the case of grant of interest free loans e.g., loans to technical educational institutions for construction of hostels, prompt repayment shall be made a condition for the grant of interest free loans. The sanction letter in such cases shall provide that in the event of any default in repayment, interest at rates prescribed by Government from time to time will be chargeable on the loans.
- (ii) In the case of loans sanctioned at concessional rates of interest the difference between the normal rate and concessional rate), shall be made conditional upon prompt repayments of principal and payment of interest thereon by the entity concerned.
- (iii) In the cases where in addition to interest free loans, subsidy is also provided to meet running expenses the sanction letter shall provide that in the event of any default in repayment, the defaulted dues would be recovered out of the subsidy payable.

Rule 258 (4) On receipt of a report of default referred to in sub-rule (2) above, the authority concerned shall immediately take steps to get the default remedied and also consider enforcement of penal or higher rate of interest on the overdue amounts. Where the sanctioning authority



is satisfied, having regard to the circumstances of the case, that penal or higher interest need not be recovered, the borrower shall ordinarily be asked to pay interest, at the normal rate prescribed in the loan sanction, on the overdue amount (of principal and/or interest) from the due date of payment up to the date of settlement of the default. The recovery of additional interest shall not be waived except in special circumstances or where the period of defaults is very short, e.g., a few days.

Rule 259 Irrecoverable Loans. A competent authority, after prior approval of the Ministry of Finance may remit or write off any loans owing to their irrecoverability or otherwise.

Rule 260 Accounts and Control. Subject to such general or specific directions as may be given by the Comptroller and Auditor-General in this behalf, detailed accounts of loans to Institutions and Organizations, etc., shall be maintained by the Accounts Officer who shall watch their recovery and see that the conditions attached to each loan are fulfilled.

Rule 261 The instructions contained in this Chapter relating to cost of audit of Grants-in-aid are applicable Mutatis mutandis in the case of loans as well.

Rule 262 Annual Returns. Each Principal Accounts Officer shall submit to the concerned Ministry or Department of Government, a statement in Form GFR 13 showing the details of outstanding Central Loans borne on his books as on thirty-first March each year. This statement shall be submitted not later than the following thirtieth September and shall indicate the aggregate of outstanding balance of loans, details of defaults, if any, in repayment of principal and/ or interest and the earliest period to which the default pertains, against each State or Union Territory Government, foreign Government, Railway or Department of Posts funds, Central Public Sector and other Government Institutions etc. Where, however, detailed accounts are not required to be maintained by the Accounts Office, the statement shall contain departmental authority-wise aggregate balances of outstanding loans.

Rule 263 (1) Review of Annual Statements with a

view to enforce repayments of the principal and interest due.

The Administrative Ministries shall keep watch over the receipt of the Annual Statements in Form GFR 20 regularly from the Accounts Officer and conduct a close review of the cases of defaults in repayment of the instalments of principal and/or interest due, as revealed from these Annual Statements and take suitable measures for enforcing repayments of the principal and interest due. If these statements are not received in time, the Accounts Officer shall be reminded promptly. To facilitate a proper review of the position of outstanding loans, the Ministries may also arrange to maintain centrally a list of all sanctions issued relating to loans advanced to State Governments and other entities.

Rule 263 (2) Submission of Annual Assessment Report.

A copy of Annual Assessment Report on status of all outstanding loans, including timely and accurate payment of principal and interest due, shall be submitted by the Financial Advisor of the Administrative Ministry concerned to the Ministry of Finance by 30th June of each financial year.



BUDGETING AND ACCOUNTING OF EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECTS

Rule 264 (1) Implementation of Projects or Schemes through external aid receipt.

The projects or schemes of the Government of India to be implemented through external aid receipt from multilateral or bilateral funding agencies shall be shown in the budget proposals approved annually by the Parliament.

Rule 264 (2) The external aid comes from bilateral and multilateral sources as follows:

- (i) Bilateral funding to finance specific project(s) by the funding agency(ies) under Government to Government agreement(s); and,
- (ii) Multi-lateral funding by Multi-Lateral Funding Agencies, such as the World Bank under agreement(s) between the borrower (Government of India) and the Multilateral Funding Agency(ies).

Rule 264 (3) The Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance as the nodal agency shall execute the legal agreement for loans or grants from external funding Agency(ies). However, grant agreements for Technical Assistance can also be executed by the beneficiary Ministries or Departments with the approval of Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs.

Rule 264 (4) The Office of the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit (CAAA) in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance shall be responsible for implementing the financial covenants laid down in the agreement(s) executed by Department(s) of Government of India and the External Funding Agency(ies). A copy of all such agreements shall be sent to the Office of Controller, Aid Accounts and Audit, Department of Economic Affairs for this purpose.

Rule 265 Currency of external aid.

The external aid shall flow from the Funding Agency in foreign currency or Indian Rupees and shall be received by the Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai which shall remit the rupee equivalent to the account of Controller, Aid Accounts and Audit, Department of Economic Affairs at Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi. The remittances shall be accounted as external loan/Grant receipts in the Consolidated Fund of India.

Rule 266 Accounting of Cash grants. Cash grants, as distinct from commodity grant or other assistance in kind received from external sources shall be accounted for only by the office of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit, Department of Economic Affairs.

Rule 267 Procedure for withdrawal. The concerned administrative Ministries or Departments shall be required to make provision of funds under the relevant head of account as 'External Aided Component' in their Detailed Demands for Grants for release of external aid amounts during the year to the respective Project Implementing Agencies. There are mainly two procedures laid down for withdrawal of funds from the loan or grant account:

Rule 267 (1) Reimbursement procedure. Under the reimbursement procedure the Project Implementing Agency shall initially spend or incur expenditure and subsequently claim the amount from the Funding Agency through the office of the Controller, Aid Accounts. The remittances shall be accounted as External Loan or Grant receipt in the Consolidated Fund of India. There are two ways of dealing with the reimbursement claims as given below:

(i) Reimbursement through Special Account (Revolving Fund Scheme).

Under the Revolving Fund Scheme, the Funding Agency disburses the estimated expenditure of four months for the projects as initial advance to Government of India under the respective loan or credit or grant agreement. Office of Controller of Aid Accounts & Audit withdraws the amount specified in the agreement as initial deposit from the Funding Agency, by sending a simple withdrawal application in the prescribed format after the loan is declared effective. Such initial deposit designated in US Dollars is received by Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai and Rupee equivalent shall be passed on to Controller of Aid Accounts & Audit through Government Foreign Transaction (GFT) advice. However, Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai shall maintain a loan wise proforma account for liquidation of advance



received from Funding Agency. Office of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit, on receipt of reimbursement claims from Project Implementing Agency, shall send an advice to Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai advising it to debit the Special Account with the US Dollars equivalent of the amount of the eligible claim. Office of Controller, Aid Accounts and Audit shall consolidate all such claims and submit to Funding Agency for replenishment of Special Account. This shall be accompanied by a statement of debits and credits made during the period by Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai and supporting documents received from the Project Implementing Agency.

- (ii) **Reimbursement outside Special Account:** Under the reimbursement procedure (where there is no provision in the loan or credit agreement for the Special Account or the balance in the Special Account is 'Nil') office of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit shall send the reimbursement claims received from the Project Implementing Agency direct to the Funding Agency after checking the eligibility aspect. The Funding Agency shall disburse the eligible expenditure to the borrower's account with Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai, who shall pass on the Rupee equivalent to the account of the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit at Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi by issue of Government Foreign Transaction (GFT) advice.

Rule 267 (2) Direct Payment Procedure. Under this procedure adopted in some cases the Funding Agency, on the request of the Project Implementing Agency (received through Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit), duly supported by relevant documents, shall directly pay to the contractor or supplier or consultant from the loan or credit or grant account. The Funding Agency, after satisfying itself as to the eligibility of the expenditure etc. remits the amount directly to the account of the payees as per the payment instructions. The Funding Agency apprises the office of Controller of Aid Accounts

and Audit and the Project Implementing Agency of the particulars of the payment made. Office of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit shall work out the rupee equivalent of the foreign currency payment. This rupee equivalent shall be recovered by office of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit from the Project Implementing Agencies or State Governments which have availed of the Direct Payment Procedure.

Note : In the case of Central Projects, Centrally Sponsored Projects and Public Sector or Financial Institutions, the concerned administrative Ministry or Department shall release the fund to the Project Implementing Agency with the instruction to deposit rupee equivalent of the foreign currency that have been availed of under Direct Payment Procedure by them to the account of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit at Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi or Branch of SBI so authorised.

Rule 268

(1) Fund Flow for State Projects financed from external aid source. The respective Departments of the State Government shall provide in the Budget such expenditure proposed to be incurred under Plan Schemes during the financial year by the Project Implementing Agencies. These shall be in respect of State projects to be financed from external aid sources both under loan or credit and grants and eligible for disbursement from Funding Agency under Reimbursement or Direct Payment Procedure.

Rule 268

(2) Fund flow for State Projects under Reimbursement Procedure. The disbursements under the "Reimbursement through Special Account" and "Reimbursement out side Special Account", referred to in Rule 267 (i), shall be consolidated at periodical intervals under each loan or credit State-wise by the office of the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit. The details of the same shall be sent to Plan Finance Division of the Department of Expenditure in the Ministry of Finance for release of funds to the respective State Governments. The Plan Finance division of Department of Expenditure in the Ministry of Finance shall issue sanctions for actual release of the disbursement for each State. A copy of such sanction shall be endorsed



to the Finance Department of the concerned State Government for information. The office of the Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Finance shall issue the Inter-Government (IG) Advice to Reserve Bank of India, Central Accounts Section, Nagpur, for effecting the release to the concerned State Governments. The account of the State Government maintained at Reserve Bank of India, Central Accounts Section, Nagpur, shall be credited with the amount so released, thus, completing the cycle of funds from the expenditure incurred from the Budget of the State till receipt of funds of such expenditure from Government of India to the State.

Rule 268 (3) Fund flow for State Projects under Direct Payment Procedure.

Under Direct Payment Procedure the claims shall be processed as mentioned in Rule 267 (ii). Office of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit shall work out the Rupee equivalent of such Direct Payment based on Reserve Bank of India buying rate applicable for the value date on which the Direct Payment was made. Office of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit shall consolidate such disbursement in Rupees, and send a list of such disbursement State-wise to Plan Finance Division of Department of Expenditure at periodical intervals requesting them to release the amount to the State concerned notionally and recover the same for credit to Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit's account. The Plan Finance Division shall issue a separate sanction for the amount to be released to the State concerned and for simultaneous recovery and credit back to the account of the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit. A copy of such sanction shall also be endorsed to the Finance Department of the State Government concerned. The office of the Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Finance shall advise Reserve Bank of India, Central Accounts Section, Nagpur, for making necessary adjustment entries in the accounts of the State concerned under intimation to the Finance Department of the State and Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit. This completes the cycle of funds flow in the case of direct payment claims.

Rule 269 Fund flow for Central or Central sponsored Projects. Under the Central or Central sponsored project financed from external aid, whether loan or grant, the process of disbursement of such claims by the Funding Agency shall be the same as explained in Rule 267. The respective Ministry or Department get EAP funds under a separate budget head when Demands for Grants are passed in the Parliament and advised by the Budget Division of the Ministry of Finance. The funds shall be released to Project Implementing Agency within six weeks by the administrative Ministry or Department with reference to expenditure incurred by the Project Implementing Agency.

Rule 270 Fund flow for Public Sector or Financial Institutions. When the Project Implementing Agency under Loan or Credit Agreement is a Public Sector or Financial Institution or Autonomous Body and Government of India is the Borrower, the Administrative Ministry concerned shall provide in its budget funds required to be passed on to the Project Implementing Agency for the expenditure incurred by the latter under the externally aided project. The Project Implementing Agency shall submit claims under reimbursement or direct payment procedures to the office of the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit, Department of Economic Affairs. The disbursement of the claims by the Funding Agency shall be similar as explained in Rule 267. The concerned administrative Ministry or Department releases the amount to Project Implementing Agency based on the certification of disbursement received from the Funding Agency as certified by the office of the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit.

However, where the loan is negotiated directly by a particular Public Sector Undertaking or Financial Institution, the funds from the Funding Agency shall flow direct to the borrowing entity.

Rule 271 Repayment of loans. Office of Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit shall be responsible for prompt repayment of principal on the due date as per the agreements. The remittance of foreign currency is arranged through designated Public Sector Commercial Banks and Reserve Bank of India. The Rupee



equivalent and the amount of foreign currency remitted shall be intimated by the Banks to Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit. The Rupee equivalent of the foreign currency remitted is credited to the respective Banks' account maintained at Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi, by debit to Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit's account as per standing arrangement. On the receipt of the advice from Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi, Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit shall debit the concerned loan account in the Consolidated Fund of India. The repayment of loans shall be classified as charged expenditure. In cases where the funds from externally aided Projects are further passed on as loans, the recovery of the loan along with interest shall be the responsibility of the respective administrative Ministry or Department.

Rule 272 Interest Payments. Interest on external loans shall be paid on the due date as stipulated in the loan or credit agreements against the budget provision made for this purpose. Interest payments shall be accounted for as debit under the Major Head '2049-Interest Payments' for external loans in the Consolidated Fund of India. The procedure for transfer of amount shall be the same as followed in the case of repayment of loans, referred to in Rule 271 above. The interest payment shall be classified as charged expenditure.

Rule 273 Accounting of exchange variation. The exchange variation in respect of foreign loans that have been fully repaid shall be adjusted written off to "8680-Miscellaneous Government Accounts - Write off in terms of Government Accounting Rules and the procedures prescribed by CGA in consultation with CAG.

Rule 274 Aid in form of materials and equipment. In cases where materials, equipment and other commodities, without involving any cash inflow, are received as aid from foreign countries, the Funding Agency issues an advice to the concerned Ministry or Department giving details of materials supplied along with the value thereof. The Ministry or Department concerned in turn shall intimate the details to the office of the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit,

Department of Economic Affairs for making the budget provision in regard to aid material or equipment.

Note : Refer to Para 4.8.1 of Civil Accounts Manual and Note (1) below Major Head '3606-Aid Materials and Equipments' of List of Major and Minor Heads of Account of Union and States for detail procedure of adjustment of value of the materials etc. received



GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES

Rule 275 (1) Power to Give and Limits on Government Guarantees. The power of the Union Government to give guarantees emanates from and is subject to such limits as may be fixed in terms of Article 292 of the Constitution of India, the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act and Rules framed there under as amended from time to time.

Rule 275 (2) In terms of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act and Rules framed thereunder, the Central Government shall not give guarantees aggregating the amount prescribed therein.

Rule 275 (3) Powers to grant Government of India Guarantee, including those on external borrowings, vests with the Budget Division, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA).

Rule 276 Objectives of Government Guarantees: The sovereign guarantee is normally extended for the purpose of achieving the following objectives:

- (i) To improve viability of projects or activities undertaken by central entities with significant social and economic benefits;
- (ii) To enable central public sector companies to raise resources at lower interest charges or on more favourable terms;
- (iii) To fulfil the requirement in cases where sovereign guarantee is a precondition for concessional loans from bilateral/ multilateral agencies to central public sector companies/agencies.

Rule 277 Guidelines for grant of Government of India Guarantee: The following guidelines should be followed by the Ministries or Departments of the Government of India for recommending guarantee or counter guarantee.—

- (i) A proposal for guarantee by Government must be justified in public interest such as in the case of borrowings by central public sector institutions for approved development purposes or borrowings by central public sector undertakings from Banks for working capital and other purposes.
- (ii) The Administrative Ministry/ Department or the credit Divisions of Department of Economic Affairs shall

examine the proposal in consultation with the Financial Adviser in the same manner as a proposal for loan. While examining the proposal the following considerations shall be kept in view :-

- (a) Public interest which the guarantee is expected to serve.
 - (b) Credit worthiness of the borrower to ensure that no undue risk is involved.
 - (c) Terms of the borrowing shall take into account the yields as applicable on Government paper of similar maturity.
 - (d) The conditions prescribed in the guarantee order/agreement in order to ensure continued credit worthiness of the borrower.
- (iii) Risk associated with assumption of a new contingent liability/guarantee proposal, including the probability of future payouts should be thoroughly assessed by the concerned Administrative Ministry/Department or Credit Divisions of Department of Economic Affairs recommending the proposal. Such assessment should ideally be entrusted to an independent unit and should be undertaken even when it has already been decided by a higher authority to provide guarantees. The assessment should reveal an accurate picture of the financial condition of the entity to be guaranteed; risks associated with implementation of the project/ scheme, etc. This information would be useful to estimate the funds needed to meet associated contingent liabilities if the need should arise, in current or future budgets.
- (iv) After examination in the concerned Ministry or Department or Credit Division of DEA, all proposals for extending guarantees shall be referred to Budget Division, DEA for approval. No guarantees shall be given without the approval of Budget Division, DEA
- (v) With a view to enable the Ministry of Finance to examine cases of Government of India guarantees and extension thereto, all Ministries or Departments should furnish to that Ministry, data of certain operational



parameters of the Public Sector Undertaking or Entity, as given in GFR 26. In case the accounts of the Central Public Sector Undertaking or Entity have been audited by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India, the effect of the comments of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on the Central Public Sector Undertaking's profitability should be brought out. Further, where BIFR targets have been assigned or Cabinet directions issued to the Company, the actuals vis-à-vis targets for the preceding three years should be indicated. The data should be furnished in the Form GFR 26 along with the proposal for guarantee.

- (vi) Guarantees shall normally be restricted to the repayment of principal and normal interest component of the loan. Other risks shall not form part of the guarantee.
- (vii) Government guarantees will be extended to only central public sector companies/agencies.
- (viii) Government guarantees shall not be provided to the private sector.
- (ix) Government guarantees should normally not be extended for external commercial borrowings.
- (x) Government guarantees may be given on all soft loan components of the bilateral/multilateral aid. However, guarantee shall not be normally given for the commercial loan components of such aid.
- (xi) Government of India guarantee will not be given in cases of grants. However, if the donor insists on ensuring performance, the same may be listed as a negotiating condition for getting the grant.
- (xii) Appropriate conditions, may be made by Government while giving the guarantee e.g. period of guarantee, levy of fee to cover risk, representation for Government on the Board of Management, Mortgage or lien on the assets, submission to Government of periodical reports and accounts, right to get the accounts audited on behalf of Government etc. Even if fee, representation and mortgage are not

considered necessary, the right to verify the continued credit-worthiness of the borrower should be ensured.

- (xiii) Guarantees may not be proposed for pursuing low priority objectives or programmes. Proposal for grant of guarantee as an off-budget support should also be examined comprehensively by the proposing Ministry/Department against other alternative forms of support which may be more appropriate and cost-effective. For example, in the case of provision of credit guarantees to enterprises that continually incur losses as a result of government's pricing policy, budgetary subsidies or direct government loans may be a more effective and less costly option.
- (xiv) Guarantees may not be proposed in respect of Central Public Sector Enterprises whose strong financial credentials and high credit rating would indicate inherent ability to directly raise the required resources without the support of government guarantee.

Rule 278 Borrowings from multilateral agencies by Central Public Sector Undertakings.

- (i) All borrowings from the multilateral agencies by Central Public Sector Undertakings would be direct (without Government of India's intermediation) on the terms as agreed mutually between the borrower and the lender and approved by the Government of India. However, where such terms involve guarantee of Government of India, prior approval of the Budget Division of the Ministry of Finance may be obtained.
- (ii) The borrowing should relate to the Projects approved by the prescribed competent authority of the Central Government.
- (iii) Wherever guarantee is to be given by Government of India, the borrower shall enter into an agreement with the Government of India for the payment of guarantee fee on the principal amount of the loan drawn and loan outstanding from time to time.
- (iv) The Government of India Guarantee would only cover the principal amount



and the normal interest. All other risks including the exchange rate risk would be shared between the borrower and lender as per terms and conditions prescribed in the loan agreement.

Rule 279 (1) Levy of Guarantee Fees. The rates of fee on guarantees would be as notified by the Budget Division, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance from time to time. The rates of guarantee fee are given in Appendix - 12. Ministries or Departments shall levy the prescribed fee in respect of all cases. The fees are also to be levied in respect of non-fund based borrowings or credits (viz. letters of credit, Bank guarantees etc.). In case of any doubt with regard to the categorisation of any particular undertaking or organization or the nature of borrowing for the purpose of levy of fee, the matter may be referred to the Budget Division for clarification. The Ministries or Departments should also take adequate steps to ensure prompt recovery of the prescribed fees.

Rule 279 (2) The guarantee fee should be levied before the guarantee is given and thereafter on first April every year. The rate of guarantee fee is to be applied on the amount outstanding at the beginning of the guarantee year.

Rule 279 (3) Where the guarantee fee is not paid on the due date, fee should be charged at double the normal rates for the period of default.

Rule 279 (4) The Government may guarantee no more than 80% of the project loan, depending on the conditions imposed by the lender. This would incentivize the lenders to make proper analysis of the project, credit worthiness of the borrower(s), and build strategies for risk management. In such cases, bankers/ lenders may be asked to share the risk by bearing a minimum of 20% of the net loss associated with any default. The arrangement would ensure that the lenders undertake a more rigorous assessment of the risk exposure.

Provided further that in certain exceptional circumstances, the Government of India may guarantee 100% of the financing where the organisation concerned is discharging some function on behalf of the Government of India.

Rule 280 Execution of Government Guarantees.

- (i) Once the guarantee is approved by Ministry of Finance, the guarantees will be executed and monitored by the Administrative Ministries concerned, who are also required to report the status in this regard on an annual basis till they are invoked or are obliterated. The following guidelines need to be kept in view while issuing guarantees-
 - a) The obligations of the borrower to service the loan and the guarantee, and the monitoring of the utilization of the guaranteed loans, and adherence to the terms and conditions of the guarantee by the Borrower shall be ensured by the Administrative Ministry/ Department through a back-to-back agreement with the borrower which may be drawn up and implemented to the satisfaction of the Administrative Ministry concerned. For this purpose, necessary records to monitor the guarantee, including servicing of guarantee fee shall be maintained by the Line Ministries/ Departments concerned.
 - b) Administrative Ministry should ensure that there are no inconsistencies between the guarantee approval given by the Ministry of Finance and the guarantee agreement signed by it with the borrower. The obligations enforced by the Government as guarantor would be duly factored in.
 - c) Deviations/modifications/ amendments on the main conditions of the guarantee, particularly with reference to the rate of interest on the loan to be guaranteed and obligations of the Government to be covered, should not be referred in a routine manner to Budget Division for clarification/ change. The Administrative Ministry concerned shall make out a separate case, fully justifying the need for considering any proposed modifications/ amendments, after thorough



scrutiny of the request of the borrower for the same, before placing these proposals before the Budget Division for a final decision.

- d) In respect of bilateral and multilateral credit, Standard format of Guarantee of the lending institutions may be examined with a view that the same are not in contradiction with the conditions of sovereign guarantee prescribed in this chapter, before signing by the Administrative Ministry/ Department. The guarantee agreement may also not omit any conditions as brought out in this Chapter. New conditions or covenants, and differences, if any, shall be referred to Budget Division of the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for concurrence.
- e) Guarantee proposals approved by the Budget Division shall have to be executed in the same financial year. If the guarantee/ loan agreement is not signed in the same financial year as that of the approval of the guarantee proposal, the guarantee proposal shall have to be submitted again.
- f) The guarantee shall hold only for the specific purpose agreed to by the Budget Division.
- g) Guarantee given by Government of India shall be non-transferrable and would cease to exist in case the ownership of the entity is transferred from Government of India, unless the Guarantee is re-confirmed by the Budget Division.
- (ii) The Financial Advisers in Ministry/ Department will perform the responsibility of maintenance of records and reporting including for the Finance Accounts and the IGAS, through the office of Controller/Chief Controller of Accounts.

Rule 281 (1) Review of Guarantees. All Ministries or Departments shall ensure that all guarantees are reviewed every year. The

monitoring or review undertaken should examine whether the borrower is discharging repayment obligations or interest obligations as per terms of the loan agreement, whether the repaying capacity for the loan and guarantee amount is imposed in any manner, and whether all covenants and conditions are being religiously followed. The Financial Advisers of the Ministries or Departments should undertake these reviews. A copy of the review report including on timely and correct payment of guarantee fees, shall be forwarded by the Finance Advisor to the Budget Division by 30th April every year for the previous financial year.

Rule 281 (2) The Financial Adviser of the Ministries or Departments would be responsible for ensuring that the annual reviews are carried out by the Ministries or Departments concerned. They shall also ensure that a register of guarantees in Form GFR 25 is maintained :-

- (i) to keep a record of guarantees;
- (ii) to retain information required from time to time in respect of guarantees;
- (iii) to keep record of the annual reviews to see that these are carried out regularly;
- (iv) to keep record of levy and recovery of guarantee fee;
- (v) to send data as contained in Form GFR 25, duly updated every year to the Budget Division in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs by tenth of April.

Rule 281 (3) In respect of guarantees issued by the Ministry of Finance for external loans, the respective credit divisions of Department of Economic Affairs shall conduct an annual review in consultation with the Financial Adviser (DEA). For this purpose the Financial Adviser (DEA) shall ensure the maintenance of the required registers, as well as ensure that the annual reviews are carried out by the concerned credit divisions, and report forwarded to the Budget Division in Form GFR 25. In cases, where the guarantees on external loans are issued by the concerned administrative Ministry, that Ministry would be responsible for conducting the review.

Rule 281 (4) Classification of guarantees. For the purpose of record keeping, guarantees shall be classified as under:-



- (i) guarantees given to the RBI, other banks and industrial and financial institutions for repayment of principal and payment of interest, cash credit facility, financing seasonal agricultural operations and/or providing working capital to companies, corporations, cooperative societies and banks;
- (ii) guarantees given for repayment of share capital, payment of minimum annual dividend and repayment of bonds or loans, debentures issued or raised by the statutory corporations and central public sector undertakings;
- (iii) guarantees given in pursuance of agreements entered into by the Government of India with international financial institutions, foreign lending agencies, foreign governments, contractors, suppliers, consultants etc., towards repayment of principal, interest and/ or commitment charges on loans etc., and /or for payment against supplies of material and equipment;
- (iv) counter guarantees to banks in consideration of the banks having issued letters of credit or authority to foreign suppliers for supplies made or services rendered.
- (v) guarantees given to Railways for due and punctual payment of dues by Central Government companies or corporation;
- (vi) Others guarantees not covered under above five classes.

Rule 282 Accounting for Guarantees. In order to ensure greater transparency in its fiscal operations in the public interest, Rule 6 of the FRBM Rules, 2004 requires government to publish a disclosure statement on guarantees given by government, at the time of presenting the annual financial statement and demands for grants. This statement covers, inter alia, details regarding the class and number of guarantees, amounts guaranteed, outstanding, invocations, guarantee fee payable and other material details.

- (i) The statement is to be compiled by the Administrative Ministries/ Departments and submitted to Controller General of Accounts, for

onward submission to Budget Division. Based upon the inputs, a statement of Guarantees given by the Central Government is depicted as an annexure in the Receipt Budget.

- (ii) While furnishing the Statement of guarantees to the Ministry of Finance, the Administrative Ministries or Departments should ensure and certify that the amounts shown tally with the total figures in the statement to be included in the Detailed Demands for grants.
- (iii) While furnishing the summary statements, the Ministries or Departments should also certify that the information tallies with the material furnished to the Controller General of Accounts for the purpose of inclusion in the Finance Accounts of the relevant year and is compliant with Indian Government Accounting Standard- 1 (IGAS-1) relating to Government Guarantees.

Rule 283 (1) Invocation of Guarantee. A Guarantee Redemption Fund (GRF) has been established in the Public Account of India for redemption of guarantees given to CPSEs, Financial Institutions, etc., by the Central Government whenever such guarantees are invoked. The funding to the Guarantee Redemption Fund is to be done through budgetary appropriations, as considered appropriate, under the head 'Transfer to Guarantee Redemption Fund' through the Demands for Grants of the Department of Economic Affairs.

Rule 283 (2) The Administrative Ministries/ Departments should inform any case of impending/likely invocation, well in advance, to the Budget Division, along with the proposed corrective measures.

Rule 283 (3) In the event of invocation of a guarantee, the obligation may be discharged by sanctioning loan to the borrowing entity equal to the amount of guarantee outstanding with the approval of Budget Division, Ministry of Finance. However, any payment on this account will finally be charged to the Guarantee Redemption Fund maintained in the Public Accounts.



MISCELLANEOUS SUBJECTS

I. ESTABLISHMENT

Rule 284 (1) Proposal for additions to Establishment.

All proposals for additions to establishment shall be submitted to sanctioning authority in accordance with the instructions contained in Rule 11 of the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules and other such instructions which may be prescribed in this regard.

Rule 284 (2) All proposals for creation of new posts or a revision in an existing establishment should contain, inter alia:-

- (i) the present cost of the establishment in existence;
- (ii) cost implications of the change proposed giving details of pay and allowances of post(s) proposed;
- (iii) expenditure in respect of claim to pension or gratuity or other retirement benefits that may arise in consequence of the proposals;
- (iv) details on how the expenditure is proposed to be met including proposed re-appropriations.

Rule 284 (3) Continuation of an existing post beyond the specified duration will be with explicit approval of Ministry of Finance, based on functional justification.

Rule 284 (4) All proposals for increase in emoluments for an existing post(s) shall be referred to the Ministry of Finance for approval.

Rule 285 All service matters from entry to exit, including leave, transfer, promotion, performance appraisal should be maintained in a digitised format.

Rule 286 (1) Transfer of Charge. A report of transfer of a Gazetted Government servant duly made in Form GFR 16 and signed both by the relieved and relieving Government servants, shall be sent on the same day to the Head of the Department or other Controlling Officers concerned except in the following types of cases in respect of which report of transfer of charge need not be signed both by the relieving and relieved Government servants simultaneously and may be sent independently:-

- (i) Where a Gazetted Government servant assumes charge of a newly

created or vacant post or relinquishes charge of a post which has been abolished.

- (ii) Where a Gazetted government servant vacates a post for a short period and no formal appointment or officiating arrangement is made in his place.
- (iii) Where due to administrative exigencies a government servant is required to move to another post relinquishing his post against local arrangement.

Rule 286 (2) In cases in which the transfer of charge involves assumption of responsibility for cash, stores, etc., the following instructions should be observed :-

- (i) The Cash Book or imprest account should be closed on the date of transfer and a note recorded in it over the signatures of both the relieved and the relieving Government servants, showing the cash and imprest balances and the number of unused cheques/receipt books, if any, made over and received by them respectively.
- (ii) The relieving Government servant should bring to notice anything irregular or objectionable in the conduct of business that may have come officially to his notice to the incoming officer.
- (iii) In the case of any sudden casualty occurring or any emergent necessity arising for a Government servant to relinquish his charge, the next senior officer of the department present shall take charge. When the person who takes charge is not a Gazetted Government servant, he must at once report the circumstances to his nearest departmental superior and obtain orders as to the cash in hand, if any.

Rule 286 (3) The additional procedure to be followed by an Audit Officer or Accounts Officer, etc., in making over charge of his functions in connection with the Charitable Endowments and other Trust Accounts is laid down in Appendix – 8.

Rule 287 Date of Birth. Every person newly appointed to a service or a post under



Government shall, at the time of the appointment, declare the date of birth by the Christian era with confirmatory documentary evidence such as a Matriculation Certificate, where prescribed qualification for appointment is Matriculation or above. In other cases Municipal Birth Certificate or Certificate from the recognised school last attended shall be treated as a valid document.

Rule 288 (1) Service Book. Detailed Rules for maintenance of Service Books are contained in SRs. Service Books maintained in the establishment should be verified every year by the Head of Office who, after satisfying himself that the services of Government servants concerned are correctly recorded in each Service Book shall record the following certificate "Service verified from(the date record from which the verification is made) upto(date)....."

Rule 288 (2) The service book of a government servant shall be maintained in duplicate. First copy shall be retained and maintained by the Head of the Office and the second copy should be given to the government servant for safe custody as indicated below :-

- (i) To the existing employees - within six months of the date on which these rules become effective, if not already given.
- (ii) To new appointees - within one month of the date of appointment.

Rule 288 (3) In January each year the Government servant shall handover his copy of the Service Book to his office for updation. The office shall update and return it to the Government Servant within thirty days of its receipt.

Rule 288 (4) In case the Government servants' copy is lost by the government servant, it shall be replaced on payment of a sum of Rs. 500/-.

Rule 288 (5) All Service Books should be digitised for easy reference and to avoid problems in case of loss of Service Books.

Rule 289 Retrospective claim due from date of sanction. In the case of sanction accorded with retrospective effect the charge does not become due before it is sanctioned. In such cases the time-limit specified in Rule

296 (1) should be reckoned from the date of sanction and not from the date on which the sanction takes effect.

Rule 290 Due date of T. A. claim. Travelling allowance claim of a government servant shall fall due for payment on the date succeeding the date of completion of the journey. He shall submit the travelling allowance claim within sixty days of its becoming due failing which it shall stand forfeited.

Rule 291 Reckoning the date in case of T.A. claims by retired Government servants appearing in a Court of Law for defending himself.— Retired Government servants become eligible for reimbursement of Travelling expenses in respect of travel(s) for appearing in court of law for defending himself only when the judgement relating to his honorable acquittal is pronounced by the court. In such cases the date of pronouncements of the judgement shall be the reference point for submission and reimbursement of his T.A claim.

Rule 292 Due date of Leave Travel Concession claim. Leave Travel Concession claim of a government servant shall fall due for payment on the date succeeding the date of completion of return journey. The time limit for submission of the claims shall be as under :-

- (i) In case advance drawn : Within thirty days of the due date.
- (ii) In case advance not drawn : Within sixty days of the due date.

In case of (i) above if the claim is not submitted within one month of the due date, the amount of advance shall be recovered but the Government employee shall be allowed to submit the claim as under (ii) above. In case of failure to submit the claim in both the cases within the prescribed time lines, the claim shall stand forfeited.

Rule 293 Due date of Over Time Allowance claims. A claim for overtime allowance shall fall due for payment on first day of the month following the month to which the overtime allowance relates. The claim shall stand forfeited if not submitted within 60 days of the due date.

Rule 294 Due date of a withheld increment. In the absence of any specific order withholding an ordinary increment under



FR 24 before the date on which it falls due for payment, the period of one year should be counted from the date on which it falls due and not with reference to the date on which the Increment Certificate is signed by the competent authority. Even where an increment is withheld, the time-limit should be reckoned from the date on which it falls due after taking into account the period for which it is withheld.

Rule 295 (1) Arrear Claims. Any arrear claim of a Government servant which is preferred within two years of its becoming due shall be settled by the Drawing and Disbursing Officer or Accounts Officer, as the case may be, after usual checks.

Rule 295 (2) For the purpose of the above provisions, the date on which the claim is presented at the office of disbursement should be considered to be the date on which it is preferred.

Rule 295 (3)

- (i) A claim of a government servant which has been allowed to remain in abeyance for a period exceeding two years, should be investigated by the Head of the Department concerned. If the Head of Department is satisfied about the genuineness of the claim on the basis of the supporting documents and there are valid reasons for the delay in preferring the claims, the claims should be paid by the Drawing and Disbursing Officer or Accounts Officer, as the case may be, after usual checks.
- (ii) A Head of Department may delegate the powers, conferred on him by sub rule (i) above to the subordinate authority competent to appoint the Government servant by whom the claim is made.

Rule 296 (1) Procedure for dealing with time-barred claims.

Even a time barred claim of a Government servant, shall be entertained by the concerned authority provided that the concerned authority is satisfied that the claimant was prevented from submitting his claim within the prescribed time limit on account of causes and circumstance beyond his control.

Rule 296 (2) A time barred claim referred to in Rule 296 (1) shall be paid with the express

sanction of the Government issued with the previous consent of the Internal Finance Wing of the Ministry or Department concerned.

Rule 297 Time barred claims of persons not in Government service. The provisions of Rule 289 to Rule 296 shall apply mutatis mutandis to arrear claims preferred against Government by persons not in Government service.

Rule 298 Retrospective sanctions. Retrospective effect shall not be given by competent authorities to sanctions relating to revision of pay or grant of concessions to Government servants, except in very special circumstances with the previous consent of the Ministry of Finance.

Rule 299 Currency of sanction of Provident Fund advance/withdrawal. A sanction to an advance or a non-refundable part withdrawal from Provident Fund shall, unless it is specifically renewed, lapse on the expiry of a period of three month. This will, however, not apply to withdrawals effected in instalments. In such cases the sanction accorded for non-refundable withdrawals from Provident Fund will remain valid up to a particular date to be specified by the sanctioning authority in the sanction order itself.

II. REFUND OF REVENUE

Rule 300 Sanctions of refunds of revenue. All sanctions to refunds of revenue shall be regulated by the orders of an Administrator or of the departmental authority, as the case may be, according to the provisions of the rules and orders contained in the departmental manuals etc.

Rule 301 (1) Communication of refund sanctions to audit. The sanction to a refund of revenue may either be given on the bill itself or quoted therein and a certified copy of the same attached to the bill in the latter case.

Rule 301 (2) Suitable note of refund to be made in original Cash Book entry and other documents. Before a refund of revenue is made, the original demand or realization, as the case may be, must be linked and a reference to the refund should be recorded against the original entry in the Cash Book



or other documents so as to make the entertainment of a double or erroneous claim impossible.

Rule 301 (3) Remission of revenue before collection is not refund. Remissions of revenue allowed before collection are to be treated as reduction of demands and not as refunds.

Rule 301 (4) Refunds not regarded as expenditure for allotment. Refunds of revenues are not regarded as expenditure for purposes of grants or appropriation.

Rule 301 (5) Competent authority in case of credits wrongly classified. In cases where revenue is credited to a wrong head of account or credited wrongly under some misapprehension, the authority competent to order refund of revenue shall, in such cases, be the authority to whom the original receipts correctly pertain.

Rule 302 Compensation for accidental loss of property. No compensation for accidental loss of property shall be paid to an officer except with the approval of the Ministry of Finance. Compensation will not ordinarily be granted to an officer for any loss to his property which is caused by floods, cyclone, earthquake or any other natural calamity or which is due to an ordinary accident, which may occur to any citizen, for example, loss by theft or as a result of a railway accident or fire etc. The mere fact that at the time of the accident, the Government servant is technically on duty or is living in Government quarters in which he is forced to reside for the performance of his duties will not be considered as a sufficient ground for the grant of compensation.

III. DEBT AND MISCELLANEOUS OBLIGATIONS OF GOVERNMENT

Rule 303 Public Debt. The public debt raised by government by issue of securities shall be managed by the Reserve Bank. The Reserve Bank shall also manage securities created and issued under any other law or rule having the force of law, provided such law or rule provides specifically for their management by the Reserve Bank.

Rule 304 (1) Provident Funds. The procedure relating to the recovery of, subscriptions to

and withdrawals from, the Provident Funds established under accordance with the provisions of the respective Provident Fund Rules. Following instructions should be carefully observed by the Head of the Offices for correct preparation of the Provident Fund schedules:-

- (i) A complete list of subscribers to each fund should be maintained in each disbursing office in the form of the schedule.
- (ii) Each new subscriber should be brought on this list and any subsequent changes resulting from his transfer or in the rate of subscription etc. clearly indicated in the schedule.
- (iii) When a subscriber dies, quits service or is transferred to another office, full particulars should be duly recorded in the list.
- (iv) In the case of transfer of a subscriber to another office, the necessary note of transfer should be made in the list of both the offices.
- (v) From this list the monthly schedule to be appended to the pay bill should be prepared and tallied with recoveries made before the submission of the bill for payment.

Similar provisions shall also be made towards subscribers to New Pension System(NPS).

Rule 304 (2) Crediting of Interest. The deposit accounts of these funds on the Government book will be credited with interest at such rates and at such intervals as may be prescribed by Ministry of Finance in each case.

Rule 305 (1) Maintenance of a register for recovery of Postal Life Insurance Premia. All drawing officers should maintain in Form (GFR 20) record of Postal Life Insurance policy (PLI) holders.

Rule 305 (2) The register should be kept upto date, the names of the policy holders should be noted in alphabetical order according to surnames, leaving sufficient space between two entries to enable newcomers names being inserted in the right place.

- (i) A separate entry should be made in the register for each policy in the case of a policy holder having more than one policy.



- (ii) On receipt of an intimation from the Director, Postal Life Insurance, Kolkata, about the issue of a policy in favour of a subscriber authorizing the Drawing Officer to commence recovery from pay, or on receipt of a Last Pay Certificate in respect of the subscriber transferred from another office, the Drawing Officer should make a note of the particulars of the policy in the register. The name of the office from which the subscriber has been transferred should invariably be noted in the remarks column. Wherever a subscriber is transferred to another office or his policy is discharged, his name should be scored out from the register giving necessary remarks.
- (iii) After the preparation of the monthly pay bill, the amount of recovery on account of PLI premium shown in the bill should be posted in the monthly column in the register with proper reference to the bills or the vouchers. The fact of excess or non-recovery should be briefly noted in the remarks column. Extracts should be attached to the relevant bills in support of the recoveries. While taking extracts it should be seen that the names of those insurants from whom recoveries were made in previous months but no recoveries have been made during the current month either on account of transfer or discharge of that policy or on account of leave salary being not drawn or the official being on leave without pay, should be included in the current month's schedule and necessary remarks noted against their names.
- (iv) Similarly, the remarks 'New Policy' or Transferred from..... Office should be given in the schedule against the names of insurant entered for the first time in current month. Reasons for short or excess recovery should be noted briefly in the remarks column. In short, schedule of Postal Life Insurance recoveries to be attached to the bills, would be a record not only of those from whom the recovery has actually been affected but also of those from whom

recovery was being affected previously but has not been affected.

IV. SECURITY DEPOSITS

Rule 306 (1) Furnishing of security by Government servants handling cash.

Subject to any general or special instructions prescribed by Government in this behalf, every Government servant, who actually handles cash or stores shall be required to furnish security, for such amount and in such form as Central Government or an Administrator may prescribe according to circumstances and local conditions in each case, and to execute a security bond setting forth the conditions under which Government will hold the security and may ultimately refund or appropriate it.

Rule 306 (2) The amount of security to be obtained from a Government servant shall be determined on the basis of actual cash handled which shall not include account payee cheques and drafts.

Rule 306 (3) Security should be furnished in the form of a Fidelity Bond in GFR 17, the security bond should be executed in Form GFR 14. The Administration shall see that the government servant pays the premia necessary to keep the Bond alive, for which the government servant shall submit premium receipt in time. If the government servant fails to submit the premium receipt he shall not be allowed to perform the duties of his post and he shall be dealt with in accordance with the terms of his appointment.

Rule 306 (4) A Government servant who is officiating against the post of another cash or store handling Government servant shall be required to furnish the full amount of the security prescribed for the post. The Ministry or Department of Central Government, Administrators and the Comptroller and Auditor General in respect of persons serving in Indian Audit and Accounts Department may, however, exempt a Government servant officiating in such a short-term vacancy from furnishing security if the circumstances warrant such exemption provided that -

- (i) they are satisfied that there is no risk involved;



- (ii) such exemption is granted only in the case of a permanent Government servant; and
- (iii) the period of officiating arrangement does not exceed four months.

Rule 307 Notwithstanding anything contained in **Rule 275**, security need not be furnished in cases of –

- (a) Government servants who are entrusted with the custody of stores, which in the opinion of the competent authority are not considerable.
- (b) Government servants, who are entrusted with the custody of office furniture, stationery and other articles required for office management, if the Head of Office is satisfied about the safeguards against loss through pilferage.
- (c) Librarian and Library Staff.
- (d) Drivers of Government vehicles.

Rule 308 **Retention of Security.** A security deposit taken from Government servant shall be retained for at least six months from the date he vacates his post, but a security bond shall be retained permanently or until it is certain there is no further necessity for keeping it.

V. TRANSFER OF LAND AND BUILDINGS

Rule 309 Save as otherwise provided in any law, rule or order relating to the transfer of Government land, no land belonging to the Government or any of its bodies, including autonomous bodies, PSUs, etc. shall be sold without previous sanction of the Government.

Rule 310 **(1) Transfer of Land.** Transfer of land from a Union Territory to a Central Government Department (i.e. Ministry or Department of the Union Government including Defence, Railways, and Posts and Telegraphs) or vice versa shall be on 'no profit no loss' basis.

Rule 310 **(2)** Transfer of land from one Department of the Government (as defined in Rule 309) to another shall be on 'no profit no loss' basis.
'No profit no loss' as indicated at rules 310(1) and 310(2) above does not necessarily mean transfer being effected with 'zero cost'. Transfer can be on the

basis of mutually agreeable terms and conditions or in exchange for equal value land or payment of value of land or cost of acquisition.

Rule 310 **(3)** Transfer of buildings and superstructures on land shall be treated similar to transfer of land. Transfer of buildings and superstructures on land vide above shall be at the present day cost minus depreciation of these structure(s) standing on the land. Valuation for this purpose shall be obtained from the Central Public Works Department at the time of transfer.

Rule 310 **(4)** The allotment of land to, and recovery of cost of buildings from the Public Sector Undertakings shall be at 'market value' as defined in paragraph - 2 of Appendix - 7.

Rule 310 **(5)** The transfer of land and building between the Union and State Governments shall be regulated by the provisions of Articles 294, 295, 298 and 299 of the Constitution and subsidiary instructions issued by the Union Government which are reproduced as Appendix - 7.

VI. CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS AND OTHER TRUSTS

Rule 311 Detailed instructions relating to Charitable Endowments and other Trusts are embodied in Appendix -8.

VII. LOCAL BODIES

Rule 312 **(1) Financial arrangements between Central Government and Local Bodies.** Unless any one of the following arrangements is authorized by specific orders of Government, a local body will be required to pay, in advance, the estimated amount of charges to be incurred or cost of services to be rendered, by Government on account of the fund:-

- (i) payments made by Government are debited to the balances of the deposits of the local fund with government; or
- (ii) payments are made as advances from public funds in the first instance pending recovery from the local funds.

Rule 312 **(2)** Notwithstanding the provision contained in Rule 281 (1) in case of



emergency such as epidemics pre-payment will not be insisted upon from local bodies for supply of medicines from Medical Stores Depots of the Ministry of Health.

Rule 313 Any amount or loan not paid on due date to Government by a local body, may be adjusted from any non-statutory grant sanctioned for payment to it.

Rule 314 Taxes etc. collected by Government on behalf of Local Bodies. Proceeds of taxes, fines or other revenues levied or collected by Government for or on behalf of local bodies shall not be appropriated direct to a local fund without passing them through the Consolidated Fund unless expressly authorised by law.

Rule 315 Payments to Local Bodies. Subject to provision of relevant act and rules, payments to local bodies in respect of revenue and other moneys raised or received by Government on their behalf will be made in such manner and on such date, as may be authorized by general or special orders of Government.

Rule 316 Audit of Account of Local Bodies. Subject to the provisions of any law made under Article 149 of the Constitution, the accounts of local bodies, other non-Government bodies, or institutions will be audited by the Indian Audit and Accounts Department under such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the Government and the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Rule 317 Audit Fees. Audit fees on the basis of daily rates prescribed by Government in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India from time to time shall be charged by the Indian Audit and Accounts Department for the audit of local and other non-Government funds, excluding funds for the audit of which the rates of fees recoverable are prescribed by law or by rules having the force of law.

Provided that nothing contained in this rule shall be held to override any special instructions of Government exempting any particular local body or institution wholly or partially from the payment of audit fees.

Rule 318 In the case of Government Companies, the recovery of the cost of Supplementary Audit conducted under Section 143(6) of Companies Act, 2013 as amended from

time to time, should be waived in those cases where the audit is done by the Comptroller and Auditor General through his own departmental staff but should be enforced in cases where the Comptroller and Auditor General employs professional auditors for the Supplementary Audit.

Rule 319 Financial transactions between Government and local bodies shall be rounded off to the nearest Rupee.

VIII. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

Rule 320 (1) Destruction of Records. Subject to any general or special rules or orders applicable to particular departments as prescribed in their departmental manuals, no Government record connected with accounts shall be destroyed except in accordance with the provisions of Appendix -9.

Rule 320 (2) All the records prescribed for retention in Appendix - 9, if maintained in electronic form should mandatorily have a back up and adhere strictly to the retention period and the prescribed formats. The responsibility for verification and certification on a monthly/annual basis as prescribed under relevant rules should also be ensured.

IX. CONTINGENT & MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE

Rule 321 Rules relating to contingent expenditure are available at Rule 13 of the Delegation of the Financial Powers Rules and Rules 96 to 98 of the Government of India (Receipts and Payments) Rules, 1983.

Rule 322 Permanent Advance or Imprest. Permanent advance or Imprest for meeting day to day contingent and emergent expenditure may be granted to a government servant by the Head of the Department in consultation with Internal Finance Wing, keeping the amount of advance to the minimum required for smooth functioning. Procedures for maintenance of permanent advance or Imprest are available in para 10.12 of the Civil Accounts Manual.

Rule 323 (1) Advances for Contingent and Miscellaneous purpose. The Head of the



Office may sanction advances to a Government Servant for purchase of goods or services or any other special purpose needed for the management of the office, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) The amount of expenditure being higher than the Permanent Advance available, cannot be met out of it.
- (ii) The purchase or other purpose cannot be managed under the normal procedures, envisaging post-procurement payment system.
- (iii) The amount of advance should not be more than the power delegated to the Head of the Office for the purpose.
- (iv) The Head of the Office shall be responsible for timely recovery or adjustment of the advance.

Rule 323 (2) The adjustment bill, along with balance if any, shall be submitted by the government servant within fifteen days of the drawal of advance, failing which the advance or balance shall be recovered from his next salary(ies).

Rule 324 The Ministry or Department may sanction the grant of an advance to a Government Pleader in connection with law suits, to which Government is a party, up to the maximum limit of Rupees twenty-five thousand at a time. The amount so advanced should be adjusted at the time of settlement of Counsel's fee bills.



APPENDIX– 1

[See Rule 37]

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGULATING THE ENFORCEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, ETC.

1. The cardinal principle governing the assessment of responsibility is that, every Government officer should exercise the same vigilance in respect of expenditure from public fund generally as a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in respect of the expenditure and the custody of his own money. While, the competent authority may, in special cases, condone an officer's honest errors of judgement involving financial loss if the officer can show that he has acted in good faith and done his best up to the limits of his ability and experience, personal liability shall be strictly enforced against all officers who are dishonest, careless or negligent in the duties entrusted to them.
2. In cases where loss is due to delinquencies of subordinate officials and where it appears that this has been facilitated by laxity of supervision on the part of a superior officer, the latter shall also be called strictly to account and his personal liability in the matter carefully assessed.
3. (a) The question of enforcing pecuniary liability shall always be considered as well as the question of other forms of disciplinary action. In deciding the degree of an officer's pecuniary liability, it will be necessary to look not only to the circumstances of the case but also to the financial circumstances of the officer, since it should be recognized that the penalty should not be such as to impair his future efficiency.
(b) In particular if the loss has occurred through fraud, every endeavour should be made to recover the whole amount lost from the guilty persons and if laxity of supervision has facilitated the fraud, the supervising officer at fault may properly be penalized either directly by requiring him to make good in money a sufficient proportion of the loss or indirectly by reduction or stoppage of his increments of pay.
(c) It should always be considered whether the depreciated value of the Government property or equipment lost, damaged or destroyed by the carelessness of individuals entrusted with their care should be recovered from the delinquent official. The depreciated value of the stores may be calculated by applying the 20% of depreciation in the case of vehicles, including cycles, and 15% in the case of calculating machines, on the reduced balance every year. The amount to be recovered may be limited to the Government servant's capacity to pay.
4. When a pensionable Government servant is concerned in any irregularity or loss, the authority investigating the case shall bear in mind the provisions contained in Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules 1972 as amended from time to time and immediately inform the Audit Officer and/or the Accounts Officer, as the case may be, responsible for reporting on his title to Pension or Death-Cum-Retirement Gratuity, and the authority competent to sanction Pension or Death-Cum-Retirement Gratuity and it will be the duty of the latter to make a note of the information and see that the Gratuity or Death-Cum-Retirement Gratuity is not paid before a conclusion is arrived at as regards the Government servant's culpability and final orders are issued thereon.
5. The fact that Government servants who were guilty of frauds or irregularities have been demobilized or have retired and have thus escaped punishment, should not be made a justification for absolving those who are also guilty but who still remain in service.
6. It is of the greatest importance to avoid delay in the investigation of any loss due to fraud, negligence, financial irregularity, etc. Should the administrative authority require the assistance of the Audit Officer and/or the Accounts Officer, as the case may be, in pursuing the investigation, he may call on that officer for all vouchers and other documents that may be relevant to the investigation; and if the investigation is complex and he needs the assistance of an expert Audit Officer/ Accounts Officer to unravel it, he should apply forthwith for that assistance to Government which will then negotiate with Audit Officer and/or the Accounts Officer concerned for the services of an investigating staff. Thereafter, the administrative authority and the Audit /Accounts authority shall be personally responsible within their respective spheres, for the expeditious conduct of the enquiry. In any case in which it appears that recourse to judicial proceedings is likely, the Special Police Establishment or the State Police should be associated with the investigation.
7. Depending upon the results of the inquiry, departmental proceedings and/or prosecution shall be instituted at the earliest moment against the delinquent officials concerned and conducted with strict adherence to the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1957, and other instructions prescribed in this regard by Government.



APPENDIX– 2

[See Rule 52]

PROCEDURE FOR PREPARATION OF
DETAILED ESTIMATES OF RECEIPTS

1. **Revenue receipts.** - These comprise (i) Central taxes, duties and cesses administered by the Central Board of Direct Taxes and the Central Board of Excise and Customs; (ii) local taxes and duties and other receipts in relation to the Union Territories without Legislature; (iii) interest receipts of loans and advances by the Central Government as also interest charged to commercial departments, etc., (iv) notional receipts from adjustments based on principles of accounting like grant assistance from foreign Governments or International institutions; and (v) all other revenue receipts including dividends on equity investments of the Central Government, cesses collected by the Ministries and Departments, etc.
2. **Capital Receipts.** These comprise (i) Internal debt (market loan, treasury bills, etc.); (ii) External debt; (iii) Repayment of loans and advances made by the Central Government; (iv) Disinvestment Receipts (v) Other Liabilities.
3. (1) Estimates of receipts of Central Taxes and Duties and External Aid receipts are prepared within the Ministry of Finance by the Central Board of Direct Taxes, the Central Board of Excise and Customs and the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit. Estimates of internal debt (market loans) receipts are framed by the Budget Division.
3. (2) Estimates of revenue receipts of the Union Territory Administrations will be furnished to the Ministry of Finance by the concerned Audit Officer / Accounts Officer wherever departmentalization of accounts has not taken place and by the Controller of Accounts of the Union Territory Administrations where departmentalization of accounts has been introduced.
3. (3) Estimates of receipts in all other cases will be prepared by Controller of Accounts of each Department after obtaining necessary data by the 30th November from the various organizations / field units and such scrutiny as may be necessary in the light of policy decisions and other post Budget developments.
4. Estimates will be furnished to the Ministry of Finance in prescribed forms (GFR 2, 2-A and 2-B) by the prescribed date, each year for the ensuing Budget.
5. (1) In preparing the Revised Estimates, while previous year's actuals and current year's trends will be material factors to review the original Budget Estimates, special attention should be devoted to making as realistic an estimate as possible of receipts which are likely to materialize during the rest of the financial year.
5. (2) In framing the Budget Estimates for the ensuing year, the estimating authorities should exercise utmost care. While all receipts which can be foreseen in the light of latest trends, decisions and developments must be provided for, care should be taken to ensure that undue optimism does not influence these estimates. Similarly, where the receipts have a seasonal character, due note should be taken thereof in preparing the estimates.
5. (3) Receipts by way of recoveries from Central Government Ministries / Departments, are to be excluded in preparing Receipt Estimates. Other recoveries (from the State and Union Territory Governments, foreign Governments, companies and statutory bodies, individuals, etc.) will, however, be included in the Receipt Estimates.
5. (4) Estimates of receipts by way of interest on loans and advances will be based on the terms of the loans sanctioned, as entered in the Loan Registers, including defaults, if any. The estimates should be realistic; that is to say, that the estimates should reflect not merely what is due but what is likely to be realized during the year together with the reasons for non-recovery of the difference between receipts due and assumed in the estimates. In the case of Public Sector Units, interest receipts expected from their internal resources should be distinguished from notional recoveries offset by corresponding expenditure provisions in the form of subsidies and loans. Similarly, where repayments due are refinanced by further loans or by conversion of past loans into equity, the details should be furnished.
5. (5) In reporting estimates of receipts by way of foreign grant assistance in cash or in kind, care should be taken to classify foreign grant receipts in cash under the Major Head '1605 External Grant Assistance' and those in the form of commodities under the Major Head '1606 Aid Materials and Equipment'. In the case of commodities grants, identical provision will be made in expenditure estimates under the Major head '3606 Aid Materials and



Equipment's' (both as debits to represent the notional payment therefor and as credits - recoveries in reductions of expenditure - to reflect the counter-balancing entries), as well as under the final functional Head of Account showing the final destination and use of the aid materials and equipment. **(Refer to Form GFR 2A)**

NOTE. For utilization of cash grants, provision in expenditure estimates under the final functional Heads of Account will be necessary.

5. **(6)** In reporting the estimates, the estimating authorities should confine their estimates to those items of receipts which are to be accounted for finally in their own accounts and ultimately in the accounts of the Ministry/ Department to which they are subordinate. All other receipts/recoveries entering the accounts of another Ministry/ Department should be communicated to the concerned Ministry/Department for consolidation in their estimates (e.g., receipts of CGHS contributions and rent recoveries in respect of Government accommodation).



APPENDIX– 3

[Rule 52]

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF DETAILED
ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FROM THE CONSOLIDATED FUND

- For purpose of Budget Estimates, expenditure from the Consolidated Fund –with the merger of Plan and Non-Plan from Budget 2017-18 will comprise of expenditure on revenue account and on capital account including loans and advances, and shown in the separate categories as applicable, comprising of I. Central Expenditure: (i) Secretariat Expenditure; (ii) Central Sector Schemes and (iii) Other Central Expenditure and II. Transfers: (i) Centrally Sponsored Schemes (ii) Finance Commission Transfers and (iii) Other Transfers.

A. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES

- To facilitate appropriate scrutiny and consolidation of Expenditure Estimates for reporting to the Ministry of Finance, the Financial Adviser in each Ministry / Department will obtain detailed estimates and other supporting data from each of the estimating authorities under the control of the Ministry / Department, in appropriate forms, sufficiently in advance.
- The framing of the Revised Estimates for the current year should always precede estimation for the ensuing year. The Revised Estimates should be framed with great care to include only those items which are likely to materialize for payment during the current year, in the light of (i) actuals so far recorded during the current year, compared with the actuals for corresponding period of the last and previous years, (ii) seasonal character or otherwise of the nature of expenditure, (iii) sanctions for expenditure and orders of appropriation or re- appropriation already issued or contemplated and (iv) any other relevant factor, decision or development.

The Budget Estimate for the ensuing year should likewise be prepared on the basis of what is expected to be paid, under proper sanction, during the ensuing year, including arrears of previous years, if any. Due attention to considerations of economy must be paid and while all inescapable and foreseeable expenditures should be provided for, care should be taken that the estimate is not influenced by undue optimism.

- No lump sum provision will be made in the Budget except where urgent measures are to be provided for meeting emergent situations or for meeting preliminary expenses on a project/scheme which has been accepted in principle for being taken up in the financial year. In latter cases Budget provision will be limited to the requirements of preliminary expenses and for such initial outlay, as, for example, on collection of material, recruitment of skeleton staff, etc.

Provision for a 'token' demand should not be made in the Budget Estimates for the purpose of seeking approval in principle for big schemes without the full financial implications being worked out and got approved by the appropriate authorities. In accordance with instructions contained in Paragraph (viii) of Appendix (5), a 'token' demand can be made during the course of a year for a project / scheme when the details thereof are ready and funds are also available for undertaking it but it cannot be started without Parliament's approval, it being in the nature of a 'New Service/New Instrument of Services'.

- All estimates should be prepared on gross basis and 'voted' and 'charged' portions must be shown separately; even expenditure met partly or fully from receipts taken in reduction of such expenditure or those counterbalanced by receipts credited as revenue to the Consolidated Fund, must be reported in such estimates on gross basis. Care should also be taken to ensure that all notional receipts reported in 'Receipt Estimates' (such as interest receipts fully or partly subsidized, loan repayment receipts partly or fully refinanced through further loans or conversions into equity, receipts of foreign grant assistance in the form of commodities or material, etc.) are properly matched by adequate provisions in expenditure estimates.
- The estimates of expenditure should include all items which are fully accounted for in the accounts of the Ministry/Departments to which the estimating authority is subordinate; they shall also cover expenditure, if any, in Union Territories without Legislature, whether provided for in the demands of the said Ministry / Department or in the 'Area' demand of the concerned Union Territory. Estimates of 'Works Expenditure', if any, against the provisions in the demands of the Ministry of Urban Development, as well as expenditure on pensions (including commutation payments, gratuity payments, pension contributions, etc.) interest payments, loans and advances