

MOCK TEST PAPER
INTERMEDIATE (NEW): GROUP – II
PAPER – 6: AUDITING AND ASSURANCE
SUGGESTED ANSWERS/ HINTS
Division A - Multiple Choice Questions

1. (a)
2. (b)
3. (b)
4. (a)
5. (b)
6. (c)
7. (c)
8. (d)
9. (d)
10. (a)
11. (a)
12. (d)
13. (a)
14. (b)
15. (c)
16. (a)
17. (d)
18. (b)
19. (a)
20. (a)
21. (b)
22. (c)
23. (d)
24. (a)
25. (d)

Division B - Descriptive Answers

1. (i) **Incorrect:** A modelling tool constructs a statistical model from financial and/or non-financial data of prior accounting periods to predict current account balances (e.g., linear regression).
- (ii) **Correct.** — When we are designing audit procedures to address an inherent risk or “what can go wrong”, we consider the nature of the risk of material misstatement in order to determine if a substantive analytical procedure can be used to obtain audit evidence. When inherent risk is higher, we may design tests of details to address the higher inherent risk. When significant risks have been

identified, audit evidence obtained solely from substantive analytical procedures is unlikely to be sufficient.

- (iii) **Incorrect:** According to SA 530 "Audit sampling", 'audit sampling' refers to the application of audit procedures to less than 100% of items within a population of audit relevance such that all sampling units have a chance of selection in order to provide the auditor with a reasonable basis on which to draw conclusions about the entire population.
- (iv) **Correct:** The fundamental principle of an automated environment is the ability to carry out business with less manual intervention and more system driven. The complexity of a business environment depends on the level of automation i.e., if a business environment is more automated, it is likely to be more complex.
- (v) **Incorrect:** Emphasis of Matter paragraph is a paragraph included in the auditor's report that refers to a matter appropriately presented or disclosed in the financial statements that, in the auditor's judgment, is of such importance that it is fundamental to users' understanding of the financial statements.
- (vi) **Incorrect:** The auditor shall express a qualified opinion when:
 - (a) The auditor, having obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence, concludes that misstatements, individually or in the aggregate, are material, but not pervasive, to the financial statements; or
 - (b) The auditor is unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on which to base the opinion, but the auditor concludes that the possible effects on the financial statements of undetected misstatements, if any, could be material but not pervasive
- (vii) **Incorrect:** The assessment of risks is based on audit procedures to obtain information necessary for that purpose and evidence obtained throughout the audit. The assessment of risks is a matter of professional judgment, rather than a matter capable of precise measurement.
- (viii) **Incorrect:** The matters which the banks require their auditors to deal with in the long form audit report have been specified by the Reserve Bank of India.

2. (a) The level of sampling risk that the auditor is willing to accept affects the sample size required. The lower the risk the auditor is willing to accept, the greater the sample size will need to be.

The sample size can be determined by the application of a statistically-based formula or through the exercise of professional judgment. When circumstances are similar, the effect on sample size of factors will be similar regardless of whether a statistical or non-statistical approach is chosen.

Examples of Factors Influencing Sample Size for Tests of Controls: The following are factors that the auditor may consider when determining the sample size for tests of controls. These factors, which need to be considered together, assume the auditor does not modify the nature or timing of tests of controls or otherwise modify the approach to substantive procedures in response to assessed risks.

- ◆ When there is an increase in the extent to which the auditor's risk assessment takes into account relevant controls. The more assurance the auditor intends to obtain from the operating effectiveness of controls, the lower the auditor's assessment of the risk of material misstatement will be, and the larger the sample size will need to be. When the auditor's assessment of the risk of material misstatement at the assertion level includes an expectation of the operating effectiveness of controls, the auditor is required to perform tests of controls. Other things being equal, the greater the reliance the auditor places on the operating effectiveness of controls in the risk assessment, the greater is the extent of the auditor's tests of controls (and therefore, the sample size is increased). Thus, sample size will increase.

- ◆ If there is an increase in the tolerable rate of deviation. Then sample size will decrease, as lower the tolerable rate of deviation, larger the sample size needs to be.
 - ◆ When there is an increase in the expected rate of deviation of the population to be tested then sample size will increase, as higher the expected rate of deviation, larger the sample size needs to be so that the auditor is in a position to make a reasonable estimate of the actual rate of deviation. Factors relevant to the auditor's consideration of the expected rate of deviation include the auditor's understanding of the business (in particular, risk assessment procedures undertaken to obtain an understanding of internal control), changes in personnel or in internal control, the results of audit procedures applied in prior periods and the results of other audit procedures. High expected control deviation rates ordinarily warrant little, if any, reduction of the assessed risk of material misstatement.
 - ◆ An increase in the auditor's desired level of assurance that the tolerable rate of deviation is not exceeded by the actual rate of deviation in the population will increase the sample size. Thus, the greater the level of assurance that the auditor desires that the results of the sample are in fact indicative of the actual incidence of deviation in the population, the larger the sample size needs to be.
 - ◆ In case of large populations, the actual size of the population has little, if any, effect on sample size. For small populations however, audit sampling may not be as efficient as alternative means of obtaining sufficient appropriate audit evidence. Therefore, there will be negligible effect on sample size due to increase in the number of sampling units in the population.
- (b) "The auditor should plan his work to enable him to conduct an effective audit in an efficient and timely manner. Plans should be based on knowledge of the client's business".

Plans should be made to cover, among other things:

- (a) acquiring knowledge of the client's accounting systems, policies and internal control procedures;
- (b) establishing the expected degree of reliance to be placed on internal control;
- (c) determining and programming the nature, timing, and extent of the audit procedures to be performed; and
- (d) coordinating the work to be performed.

Plans should be further developed and revised as necessary during the course of the audit.

SA-300, "Planning an Audit of Financial Statements" further expounds this principle. According to it, planning is not a discrete phase of an audit, but rather a continual and iterative process that often begins shortly after (or in connection with) the completion of the previous audit and continues until the completion of the current audit engagement. The auditor shall establish an overall audit strategy that sets the scope, timing and direction of the audit, and that guides the development of the audit plan.

- (c) Once the overall audit strategy has been established, an audit plan can be developed to address the various matters identified in the overall audit strategy, taking into account the need to achieve the audit objectives through the efficient use of the auditor's resources. The establishment of the overall audit strategy and the detailed audit plan are not necessarily discrete or sequential processes, but are closely inter-related since changes in one may result in consequential changes to the other.
- (d) The fundamental principle of an automated environment is the ability to carry out business with less manual intervention and more system driven. The complexity of a business environment depends on the level of automation i.e., if a business environment is more automated, it is likely to be more complex.

For example, if a company uses an integrated enterprise resource planning system (ERP) viz., SAP, Oracle etc., then it is considered more complex to audit. On the other hand, if a company is using an off-the-shelf accounting software, then it is likely to be less automated and hence less complex environment.

Similarly, there are several other aspects that an auditor should consider to determine the level of automation and complexity of a business environment which we will look at in the following sections.

3. (a) The principal aspect to be covered in an audit concerning final statements of account are the following:
- (i) **An examination of the system of accounting and internal control** to ascertain whether it is appropriate for the business and helps in properly recording all transactions.
 - (ii) **Reviewing the system and procedures** to find out whether they are adequate and comprehensive and incidentally whether material inadequacies and weaknesses exist to allow frauds and errors going unnoticed.
 - (iii) **Checking of the arithmetical accuracy of the books of account** by the verification of postings, balances, etc.
 - (iv) **Verification of the authenticity and validity of transaction** entered into by making an examination of the entries in the books of accounts with the relevant supporting documents.
 - (v) **Ascertaining that a proper distinction has been made between items of capital and of revenue nature** and that the amounts of various items of income and expenditure adjusted in the accounts corresponding to the accounting period.
 - (vi) **Comparison of the balance sheet and profit and loss account or other statements with the underlying record** in order to see that they are in accordance therewith.
 - (vii) **Verification of the title, existence and value of the assets** appearing in the balance sheet.
 - (viii) **Verification of the liabilities** stated in the balance sheet.
 - (ix) **Checking the result shown by the profit and loss** and to see whether the results shown are true and fair.
 - (x) **Where audit is of a corporate body, confirming that the statutory requirements** have been complied with.
 - (xi) **Reporting to the appropriate person/body** whether the statements of account examined do reveal a true and fair view of the state of affairs and of the profit and loss of the organisation.

- (b) The auditor shall assemble the audit documentation in an audit file and complete the administrative process of assembling the final audit file on a timely basis after the date of the auditor's report.

SQC 1 "Quality Control for Firms that perform Audits and Review of Historical Financial Information, and other Assurance and related services", requires firms to establish policies and procedures for the timely completion of the assembly of audit files. An appropriate time limit within which to complete the assembly of the final audit file is ordinarily not more than 60 days after the date of the auditor's report.

The completion of the assembly of the final audit file after the date of the auditor's report is an administrative process that does not involve the performance of new audit procedures or the drawing of new conclusions. Changes may, however, be made to the audit documentation during the final assembly process, if they are administrative in nature.

Examples of such changes include:

- ◆ Deleting or discarding superseded documentation.

- ◆ Sorting, collating and cross referencing working papers.
- ◆ Signing off on completion checklists relating to the file assembly process.
- ◆ Documenting audit evidence that the auditor has obtained, discussed and agreed with the relevant members of the engagement team before the date of the auditor's report.

After the assembly of the final audit file has been completed, the auditor shall not delete or discard audit documentation of any nature before the end of its retention period.

SQC 1 requires firms to establish policies and procedures for the retention of engagement documentation. The retention period for audit engagements ordinarily is no shorter than seven years from the date of the auditor's report, or, if later, the date of the group auditor's report.

- (c) **Shares Issued at discount:** According to section 53 of the Companies Act, 2013, a company shall not issue shares at a discount, except in the case of an issue of sweat equity shares given under section 54 of the Companies Act, 2013.

Any share issued by a company at a discounted price shall be void. Where a company contravenes the provisions of this section, the company shall be punishable with fine which shall not be less than one lakh rupees but which may extend to five lakh rupees and every officer who is in default shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which shall not be less than one lakh rupees but which may extend to five lakh rupees, or with both.

The auditor needs to verify that the Company has not issued any of its shares at a discount by reading the minutes of meeting of its directors and shareholders authorizing issue of share capital and the issue price.

- (d) **Difference between Reserves and Provisions**

- The difference between the two is that provisions are amounts set aside to meet specific/ identified liabilities or diminution in recoverable value of assets. These must be provided for regardless of the fact whether the Company has earned profit or not.
 - Reserves on the other hand, represent amounts appropriated out of profits, held for equalising the dividends of the company from one period to another or for financing the expansion of the company or for generally strengthening the company financially.
 - If we examine the Balance Sheet of a company, at a given time, and deduct the total liabilities to outside trade payables from the value of assets shown therein, the difference between the two figures will represent the net worth of the company based on the book values of assets as on that date. The same shall include the capital contributed by the shareholders as well as total undistributed profit held either to the credit of the Statement of Profit and Loss or to reserves; the reserves again will be segregated as revenue or capital reserves.
4. (a) The objective of the IAASB is to serve the public interest by setting high quality auditing standards and by facilitating the convergence of international and national standards, thereby enhancing the quality and uniformity of practice throughout the world and strengthening public confidence in the global auditing and assurance profession. The IAASB achieves this objective by:
- Establishing high quality auditing standards and guidance for financial statement audits that are generally accepted and recognized by investors, auditors, governments, banking regulators, securities regulators and other key stakeholders across the world;
 - Establishing high quality standards and guidance for other types of assurance services on both financial and non-financial matters;
 - Establishing high quality standards and guidance for other related services;
 - Establishing high quality standards for quality control covering the scope of services addressed by the IAASB; and

- Publishing other pronouncements on auditing and assurance matters, thereby advancing public understanding of the roles and responsibility of professional auditors and assurance service providers.
- (b) **Matters to be included in the Auditor's Report under CARO, 2016:** The auditor's report on the accounts of a company to which CARO applies shall include a statement on the following matters, namely-
- (i) whether the company has defaulted in repayment of loans or borrowing to a financial institution, bank, Government or dues to debenture holders? If yes, the period and the amount of default to be reported (in case of defaults to banks, financial institutions, and Government, lender wise details to be provided).
 - (ii) whether any fraud by the company or any fraud on the Company by its officers or employees has been noticed or reported during the year; If yes, the nature and the amount involved is to be indicated;
- (c) **Control Environment – Component of Internal Control:** The auditor shall obtain an understanding of the control environment. As part of obtaining this understanding, the auditor shall evaluate whether:
- (i) Management has created and maintained a culture of honesty and ethical behavior; and
 - (ii) The strengths in the control environment elements collectively provide an appropriate foundation for the other components of internal control.

What is included in Control Environment?

The control environment includes:

- (i) the governance and management functions and
- (ii) the attitudes, awareness, and actions of those charged with governance and management.
- (iii) The control environment sets the tone of an organization, influencing the control consciousness of its people.

Elements of the Control Environment: Elements of the control environment that may be relevant when obtaining an understanding of the control environment include the following:

- (a) **Communication and enforcement of integrity and ethical values** – These are essential elements that influence the effectiveness of the design, administration and monitoring of controls.
- (b) **Commitment to competence** – Matters such as management's consideration of the competence levels for particular jobs and how those levels translate into requisite skills and knowledge.
- (c) **Participation by those charged with governance** – Attributes of those charged with governance such as:
 - ◆ Their independence from management.
 - ◆ Their experience and stature.
 - ◆ The extent of their involvement and the information they receive, and the scrutiny of activities.
 - ◆ The appropriateness of their actions, including the degree to which difficult questions are raised and pursued with management, and their interaction with internal and external auditors.

- (d) **Management's philosophy and operating style** – Characteristics such as management's:
 - ◆ Approach to taking and managing business risks.
 - ◆ Attitudes and actions toward financial reporting.
 - ◆ Attitudes toward information processing and accounting functions and personnel.
 - (e) **Organisational structure** – The framework within which an entity's activities for achieving its objectives are planned, executed, controlled, and reviewed.
 - (f) **Assignment of authority and responsibility** - Matters such as how authority and responsibility for operating activities are assigned and how reporting relationships and authorisation hierarchies are established.
 - (g) **Human resource policies and practices** – Policies and practices that relate to, for example, recruitment, orientation, training, evaluation, counselling, promotion, compensation, and remedial actions.
5. (a) When inventory is material to the financial statements, the auditor shall obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the existence and condition of inventory by:
- (1) Attendance at physical inventory counting, unless impracticable, to:
 - (i) Evaluate management's instructions and procedures for recording and controlling the results of the entity's physical inventory counting;
 - (ii) Observe the performance of management's count procedures;
 - (iii) Inspect the inventory; and
 - (iv) Perform test counts; and
 - (2) Performing audit procedures over the entity's final inventory records to determine whether they accurately reflect actual inventory count results.
- (b) The auditor shall evaluate whether the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework.

This evaluation shall include consideration of the qualitative aspects of the entity's accounting practices, including indicators of possible bias in management's judgments.

Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Accounting Practices

1. Management makes a number of judgments about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
2. SA 260 (Revised) contains a discussion of the qualitative aspects of accounting practices.
3. In considering the qualitative aspects of the entity's accounting practices, the auditor may become aware of possible bias in management's judgments. The auditor may conclude that lack of neutrality together with uncorrected misstatements causes the financial statements to be materially misstated. Indicators of a lack of neutrality include the following:
 - (i) The selective correction of misstatements brought to management's attention during the audit
 - (ii) Possible management bias in the making of accounting estimates.
4. SA 540 addresses possible management bias in making accounting estimates.

Indicators of possible management bias do not constitute misstatements for purposes of drawing conclusions on the reasonableness of individual accounting estimates. They may, however, affect the auditor's evaluation of whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement.

- (c) **Applicability of section 177 i.e. Constitution of Audit Committee:** Where a company is required to constitute an Audit Committee under section 177, all appointments, including the filling of a casual vacancy of an auditor under this section shall be made after taking into account the recommendations of such committee.

It is important to know that in addition to **listed public companies**, following classes of companies shall constitute an Audit Committee -

- (i) all public companies with a paid up capital of ten crore rupees or more;
 - (ii) all public companies having turnover of one hundred crore rupees or more;
 - (iii) all public companies, having in aggregate, outstanding loans or borrowings or debentures or deposits exceeding fifty crore rupees or more.
- (d) Fraud, whether fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets, involves incentive or pressure to commit fraud, a perceived opportunity to do so and some rationalization of the act. For example:
- Incentive or pressure to commit fraudulent financial reporting may exist when management is under pressure, from sources outside or inside the entity, to achieve an expected (and perhaps unrealistic) earnings target or financial outcome.
 - A perceived opportunity to commit fraud may exist when an individual believes internal control can be overridden, for example, because the individual is in a position of trust or has knowledge of specific deficiencies in internal control.

Individuals may be able to rationalize committing a fraudulent act. Some individuals possess an attitude, character or set of ethical values that allow them knowingly and intentionally to commit a dishonest act. However, even otherwise honest individuals can commit fraud in an environment that imposes sufficient pressure on them.

6. (a) A "Government company" is a company in which not less than 51% of the paid-up share capital is held by the Central Government or by any State Government or Governments or partly by the Central Government and partly by one or more State Governments, and includes a company which is a subsidiary company of such a Government company.

Section 139(7) provides that in the case of a Government company or any other company owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the Central Government, or by any State Government, or Governments, or partly by the Central Government and partly by one or more State Governments, the first auditor shall be appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India within 60 days from the date of registration of the company.

In case the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India does not appoint such auditor within the above said period, the Board of Directors of the company shall appoint such auditor within the next 30 days. Further, in the case of failure of the Board to appoint such auditor within next 30 days, it shall inform the members of the company who shall appoint such auditor within 60 days at an extraordinary general meeting. Auditors shall hold office till the conclusion of the first annual general meeting.

Hence, in the case of Bhartiya Petrol Ltd., being a government company, the first auditor shall be appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Conclusion: Thus, the appointment of first auditor made by the Board of Directors of Bhartiya Petrol Ltd., is null and void.

- (b) **Receipt of Donations:**

- (i) **Internal Control System:** Existence of internal control system particularly with reference to division of responsibilities in respect of authorised collection of donations, custody of receipt

books and safe custody of money.

- (ii) **Custody of Receipt Books:** Existence of system regarding issue of receipt books, whether unused receipt books are returned and the same are verified physically including checking of number of receipt books and sequence of numbering therein.
- (iii) **Receipt of Cheques:** Receipt Book should have carbon copy for duplicate receipt and signed by a responsible official. All details relating to date of cheque, bank's name, date, amount, etc. should be clearly stated.
- (iv) **Bank Reconciliation:** Reconciliation of bank statements with reference to all cash deposits not only with reference to date and amount but also with reference to receipt book.
- (v) **Cash Receipts:** Register of cash donations to be vouched more extensively. If addresses are available of donors who had given cash, the same may be cross-checked by asking entity to post thank you letters mentioning amount, date and receipt number.
- (vi) **Foreign Contributions,** if any, to receive special attention to compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Remittance of Donations to Different NGOs:

- (i) **Mode of Sending Remittance:** All remittances are through account payee cheques. Remittances through Demand Draft would also need to be scrutinised thoroughly with reference to recipient.
 - (ii) **Confirming Receipt of Remittance:** All remittances are supported by receipts and acknowledgements.
 - (iii) **Identity:** Recipient NGO is a genuine entity. Verify address, 80G Registration Number, etc.
 - (iv) **Direct Confirmation Procedure:** Send confirmation letters to entities to whom donations have been paid.
 - (v) **Donation Utilisation:** Utilisation of donations for providing relief to Tsunami victims and not for any other purpose.
 - (vi) **System of NGOs' Selection:** System for selecting NGO to whom donations have been sent.
- (c) The engagement team should hold discussions to gain better understanding of the bank and its environment, including internal control, and also to assess the potential for material misstatements of the financial statements. All these discussions should be appropriately documented for future reference. The discussion provides:
- An opportunity for more experienced engagement team members, including the audit engagement partner, to share their insights based on their knowledge of the bank and its environment.
 - An opportunity for engagement team members to exchange information about the bank's business risks.
 - An understanding amongst the engagement team members about effect of the results of the risk assessment procedures on other aspects of the audit, including decisions about the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures.

The discussion between the members of the engagement team and the audit engagement partner should be done on the susceptibility of the bank's financial statements to material misstatements. These discussions are ordinarily done at the planning stage of an audit.

The engagement team discussion ordinarily includes a discussion of the following matters:

Errors that may be more likely to occur;

Errors which have been identified in prior years;

Method by which fraud might be perpetrated by bank personnel or others within particular account balances and/or disclosures;

Audit responses to Engagement Risk, Pervasive Risks, and Specific Risks;

Need to maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit engagement;

Need to alert for information or other conditions that indicates that a material misstatement may have occurred (e.g., the bank's application of accounting policies in the given facts and circumstances).

(d) Audit of Hospital: The special steps involved in such an audit are stated below-

- (1) **Register of Patients:** Vouch the Register of patients with copies of bills issued to them. Verify bills for a selected period with the patients' attendance record to see that the bills have been correctly prepared. Also see that bills have been issued to all patients from whom an amount was recoverable according to the rules of the hospital.
- (2) **Collection of Cash:** Check cash collections as entered in the Cash Book with the receipts, counterfoils and other evidence for example, copies of patients bills, counterfoils of dividend and other interest warrants, copies of rent bills, etc.
- (3) **Income from Investments, Rent etc:** See by reference to the property and Investment Register that all income that should have been received by way of rent on properties, dividends, and interest on securities have been collected.
- (4) **Legacies and Donations:** Ascertain that legacies and donations received for a specific purpose have been applied in the manner agreed upon.
- (5) **Reconciliation of Subscriptions:** Trace all collections of subscription and donations from the Cash Book to the respective Registers. Reconcile the total subscriptions due (as shown by the Subscription Register and the amount collected and that still outstanding).
- (6) **Authorisation and Sanctions:** Vouch all purchases and expenses and verify that the capital expenditure was incurred only with the prior sanction of the Trustees or the Managing Committee and that appointments and increments to staff have been duly authorised.
- (7) **Grants and TDS:** Verify that grants, if any, received from Government or local authority has been duly accounted for. Also, that refund in respect of taxes deducted at source has been claimed.
- (8) **Budgets:** Compare the totals of various items of expenditure and income with the amount budgeted for them and report to the Trustees or the Managing Committee, significant variations which have taken place.
- (9) **Internal Check:** Examine the internal check as regards the receipt and issue of stores; medicines, linen, apparatus, clothing, instruments, etc. so as to insure that purchases have been properly recorded in the Inventory Register and that issues have been made only against proper authorisation.
- (10) **Depreciation:** See that depreciation has been written off against all the assets at the appropriate rates.
- (11) **Registers:** Inspect the bonds, share scrips, title deeds of properties and compare their particulars with those entered in the property and Investment Registers.
- (12) **Inventories:** Obtain inventories, especially of stocks and stores as at the end of the year and check a percentage of the items physically; also compare their total values with respective ledger balances.
- (13) **Management Representation and Certificate:** Get proper Management Representation and Certificate with respect to various aspects covered during the course of audit.