

## **NEWS ITEMS ON CAG/ AUDIT REPORTS (23.09.2022)**

### **1. CAG admonishes UP for excessive payments to private entities for constructing cancer hospital ([thehindubusinessline.com](http://thehindubusinessline.com)) Updated: Sep 22, 2022**

The State ended up paying ₹64.60 crore more due to inflated estimated cost of constructing the cancer hospital in Lucknow at a cost of ₹854.51 cr

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has severely admonished the Uttar Pradesh government for excessive payments to leading real estate developer Shapoorji Pallonji and Company Pvt Ltd, third-party consultant for quality control Mukesh & Associates and architect Archohm Consults, for building a cancer institute in Lucknow at a cost of ₹854.51 crore.

The State ended up paying ₹64.60 crore more since the estimated cost of constructing the cancer hospital itself was inflated, the CAG reprimanded in a "compliance audit report" for the year ended March 31, 2020. Similar instances of payments to private entities on jacked up prices have been exposed by the CAG in its report submitted to the UP assembly on Wednesday. UP government's Department of Medical Education had made the PSU UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Limited (UPRNN) the project executing agency in 2015.

#### **Delay flayed**

The auditors have criticised UPRNN also for the project delay of more than four years. The hospital construction at Medicity in Lucknow was slated to get over by October 22, 2017, but it was still going on at the time of two-month long audit, from November of 2020, and the CAG charged that the UPRNN did not seek liquidated damages from Shapoorji Pallonji though a clause, the penalty would escalate with delay of time, was spelt out in the agreement.

"The estimated cost of the project was inflated by ₹75.91 crore due to adoption of rates without obtaining competitive rates from market and adoption of incorrect rates. As the bids were benchmarked against such inflated estimate and justification statement of rates was also not prepared, it resulted in extra expenditure of ₹64.60 crore when compared to actual procurement cost or correct/reasonable rates," the CAG observed.

The Department of Medical Education, said the CAG, accorded administrative approval in February 2015 to construction at a cost of ₹854.51 crore which included cost of work amounting to ₹796.84 crore. The estimate of cost was prepared by architect Archohm Consults on the basis of UP Public Works Department's Schedule of Rates, Central Public Works Department's Delhi Schedule of Rates and analysis of market rates in case of non-scheduled items. The estimated cost, including of items, was ₹499.38 crore and were based on analysis of market rates. Of the total sanctioned cost of work of ₹796.84 crore, more than half, i.e. 62.67 per cent was based on market rates and these were determined by the architect by obtaining budgetary offers/quotations, the auditors stressed.

The UPRNN, stated the CAG, without obtaining rates of non-scheduled items from manufacturers on a competitive basis to verify the veracity of the rates independently invited tenders for execution of the project on the basis of sanctioned estimate. This despite the fact that the Expenditure Finance Committee while giving nod to the estimated cost in January 2015 had noted that UPRNN should obtain rates from manufacturers on competitive basis to avoid purchase on inflammatory prices, it pointed out.

### **Single budgetary offer**

During the audit, the CAG detected that nine non-scheduled items having estimated cost of ₹99 crore were high rates and adopted based on single budgetary offer/quotation resulting in increase in the estimated cost by 45.50 crore. Shockingly, the estimated costs of the nine items were inflated ranging from 33 percent to 395 percent when compared each of them from the invoices attached with the bills submitted by the construction agency.

In its reply, the UP government stated that since the contractor was not required to quote for individual items but on an overall cost percentage basis, there may be multiple instances where the contractor had estimated his rates as much lower than the tender rates. They were, however, not reflected due to the nature of contract, UP told the CAG.

In addition to that, the audit also found that the prices of five other items were evaluated on higher side -- from 6 percent to 100 percent when compared to the competitive rates -- to get an estimated cost of ₹153.64 crore. This puffed up the estimated cost by ₹30.41 crore. <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/cag-admonishes-up-for-excessive-payments-to-private-entities-for-constructing-cancer-hospital/article65922873.ece>

## **2. UP discoms violated rules in purchase of transformers: CAG report ([hindustantimes.com](http://hindustantimes.com)) Sep 22, 2022**

Lucknow Power companies of Uttar Pradesh violated rules in the purchase of transformers with officers arbitrarily giving contracts to ineligible firms for the supply of transformers worth crores. Ignoring the requirement of registration with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), contracts were given to firms that only submitted applications without following norms, pointed out the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) placed in both houses of the legislature on Wednesday.

The report also recommended action against the officers responsible for the purchase of sub-standard transformers.

The CAG report reviewed the procurement of transformers by Madhyanchal, Purvanchal, Dakshinanchal and Pashchimanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam from 2016-17 to 2018-19. During this period, the discoms submitted 146 tenders for the purchase of 3,01,336 distribution transformers worth ₹2,489.71 crore.

The power companies also finalised tenders for repairs worth ₹290.23 crore. The CAG reviewed 33% tenders for the purchase of 1,67,379 transformers and 45% tenders for

repairs worth ₹147.73 crore. The contracts were awarded in an arbitrary manner, stated the report.

In some cases, it also came to fore that tenders were opened first and BIS certificate was given later. Due to failure to implement the price fallback clause, power companies had to incur an additional expenditure of ₹1.37 crore.

### **QUALITY CHECK NOT DONE**

According to the report, necessary quality testing of 1,26,205 transformers worth ₹802.92 crore was not done. The audit also revealed that undue advantage was extended to a firm based in Meerut in the purchase of transformers despite the sample failing the quality test. According to the report, many firms were not fulfilling the pre-qualification conditions and they fell well short of the prescribed standards.

### **DISCOM'S UNDUE FAVOUR TO TORRENT**

The CAG report accused Dakshinanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam of giving undue favour to Torrent Power Ltd handling electricity supply in Agra. The report stated that the discom recovered ₹79.90 crore lesser regulatory surcharge from Torrent Power Ltd due to which the company suffered ₹29.77 crore loss of interest. The CAG also put the discom in the dock for the purchase of sheet moulding compounding (SMC) boxes in excess of the requirement, saying that unreasonable purchases of ₹7.86 crore were made.

### **UNREASONABLE PURCHASES BY MVVNL**

The CAG report also revealed that the Madhyanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam (MVVNL) made unreasonable purchases of transformer protection boxes worth ₹7.25 crore, which remained unutilised for more than four years.

However, UPPCL officials were not ready to speak over the CAG report. A highly placed official said there was always scope for improvement in the system, and if directed, action would be taken as per the recommendations of the report. <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/lucknow-news/up-discoms-violated-rules-in-purchase-of-transformers-cag-report-101663858573827.html>

### **3. ₹64.60 crore excess expenditure on cancer institute project: CAG report ([hindustantimes.com](https://www.hindustantimes.com)) September 23, 2022**

LUCKNOW The comptroller and auditor general (CAG) has taken strong exception to the 'avoidable expenses' incurred on the Kalyan Singh Super Speciality Cancer Institute (KSSSCI) project, resulting in excess expenditure of ₹64.60 crore. The CAG report also objected to the work process, wherein services were not procured via the GeM portal.

"There were significant deficiencies and delays in the implementation of the project. The inflated estimate combined with justification statement not being prepared resulted in excess expenditure of ₹64.60 crore. As the construction agency was chosen on the basis of experience in execution of similar works and turnover based

on the estimated cost, an inflated estimate also reduced competition in bidding. UPRNN additionally made excess payment/short recovery/avoidable expenditure of ₹19.75 crore to the construction agency and architect,” stated the CAG report for the year ended March 31, 2020, tabled in the state assembly on Wednesday.

“The construction work is not of my tenure. I joined as director in 2021. However, inquiry would be conducted if directed by the authorities,” said Prof RK Dhiman, SGPGI director and in-charge of the cancer institute.

“Directions of the state government regarding procurement of material and services through GeM portal were not adhered to,” said the report.

In August 2017, the state government had directed that all departments and their subordinate institutions shall procure materials and services listed on Government e-MarketPlace (GeM) through GeM portal only. The reply from UPRNN was not accepted by the auditor.

“The interest recovered on mobilisation advance was not credited to the government account. Audit noticed that UPRNN had recovered ₹13.69 crore from the bills of the construction agency towards interest on mobilisation advance that should have been credited to the government account. In reply, management/government stated that mobilisation advance is given to a sub-contractor to mobilise men and material at site of work for smooth and speedy work. The reply is not acceptable because mobilisation advance was given to the construction agency out of government funds received by UPRNN in its capacity as the executing agency and not out of its own funds,” said the CAG report.

The report said, “Due to incorrect application of power factor for conversion of demand from kw to kva, provision of one transformer, two DG sets and two voltage stabilisers was made in excess of requirement resulting in avoidable expenditure of ₹2.30 crore.”

As per the agreement entered into with the construction agency, the work was to be completed by 22 October, 2017. Audit noticed that even after lapse of over four years from the scheduled date of completion, the work was still incomplete (November 26, 2021), said the report.

The report listed 14 items specifically, for which inflated prices were paid – including light fixtures, steel reinforcement, horizontal bed head panels. <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/lucknow-news/6460-crore-excess-expenditure-on-cancer-institute-project-cag-report-101663871414980.html>

#### 4. CAG

**Report: यूपी परिवहन निगम को लगी 84 करोड़ रुपये की चपत, सीएजी ने दो मामलों में पकड़ी गड़बड़ी ([jagran.com](http://jagran.com)) September 22, 2022**

उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य सड़क परिवहन निगम के अधिकारियों की लापरवाही से 84.02 करोड़ रुपये की चपत लगी है। परिवहन निगम के दो मामलों में ही यह गड़बड़ी पकड़ में आई है। यह खुलासा भारत के नियंत्रक एवं महालेखापरीक्षक (CAG) की रिपोर्ट में हुआ है। यह रिपोर्ट बुधवार को विधानसभा व विधान परिषद दोनों ही जगह रखी गई। इसमें निगम की कार्यप्रणाली पर गंभीर सवाल खड़े किए गए हैं।

परिवहन निगम ने अनुबंध की शर्तों का उल्लंघन कर एक निजी फर्म ट्राइमैक्स को 69.84 करोड़ रुपये अधिक भुगतान कर दिया। इसके अलावा दूसरे मामले में फास्टैग के जरिए टोल टैक्स का भुगतान न करके बैंक से मिलने वाले कैशबैक में 14.18 करोड़ रुपये नुकसान उठाया है।

कैग ने जो आपत्ति की है उसके अनुसार निगम ने फरवरी 2013 में पांच वर्षों की अवधि के लिए निजी फर्म ट्राइमैक्स आइटी इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर एंड सर्विसेज लिमिटेड मुंबई के साथ एक अनुबंध किया था। यह अनुबंध इं टेलिजेंट ट्रांसपोर्ट मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम (आइटीएमएस) की आपूर्ति, स्थापना एवं संचालन के लिए किया गया था। इसके तहत एकीकृत टिकट प्रणाली, वाहन ट्रेकिंग प्रणाली और यात्रियों को सूचना प्रणाली प्रदान किया जाना था।

परिवहन निगम द्वारा ट्राइमैक्स को किए गए भुगतान से संबंधित अभिलेखों की जांच के दौरान कैग को कई कमियां देखने को मिली हैं। आइटीएमएस विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में अप्रैल 2014 से नवंबर 2015 के बीच गो-लाइव हो पाया था। इसके बावजूद परिवहन निगम ने ट्राइमैक्स को गो-लाइव की अवधि से पूर्व का भी भुगतान कर दिया।

कैग ने यह भी पाया कि नेशनल कंपनी ला ट्रिब्यूनल (एनसीएलटी) ने फरवरी 2019 में ट्राइमैक्स के विरुद्ध कारपोरेट दिवाला समाधान प्रक्रिया शुरू की तो परिवहन निगम ने भुगतान करना बंद कर दिया लेकिन ट्राइमैक्स ने नवंबर 2020 तक काम जारी रखा। इस तरह मार्च 2019 से नवंबर 2020 तक की अवधि का बकाया बिल 43.89 करोड़ रुपये था, जबकि नवंबर 2020 तक ट्राइमैक्स से कुल वसूली योग्य धनराशि 69.84 करोड़ रुपये थी।

वहीं, नेशनल इलेक्ट्रॉनिक टोल कलेक्शन प्रोग्राम समय से लागू न कर पाने के कारण परिवहन निगम को टोल टैक्स के भुगतान पर 14.18 करोड़ रुपये का कैशबैक नहीं मिल पाया। परिवहन निगम ने जुलाई 2017 से मार्च 2020 के दौरान कुल 624.33 करोड़ रुपये टोल टैक्स का भुगतान किया। इसमें से मात्र 283.85 करोड़ रुपये का भुगतान ही फास्टैग के जरिए किया गया।

ऐसे में 340.48 करोड़ रुपये के टोल टैक्स का भुगतान बगैर फास्टैग के किया गया। इससे 14.18 करोड़ रुपये का कैशबैक नहीं मिल सका। परिवहन निगम ने अपने स्पष्टीकरण में स्वीकार किया कि जुलाई 2017 से मार्च 2019 के दौरान उनकी बसों में फास्टैग कम लगे थे। निगम ने इसके लिए सेवा प्रदाता बैंकों को जिम्मेदार बताया है। हालांकि, कैग ने इस सफाई को नहीं माना है। <https://www.jagran.com/uttar-pradesh/lucknow-city-up-transport-corporation-lost-rs-84-crore-cag-caught-irregularities-in-two-cases-23088621.html>

## 5. CAG

**Report: स्कूटर और मोपेड से की गई पौधारोपण के लिए गड्डे की खोदाई, यूपी वन विभाग में पकड़ा गया गबन** ([jagran.com](http://jagran.com)) September 22, 2022

लखनऊ: उत्तर प्रदेश पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन विभाग ने पौधारोपण के लिए गड्डे व खाई की खोदाई का काम स्कूटर, मोपेड व मोटरसाइकिल जैसे वाहनों से करा डाला। भारत के नियंत्रक-महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) की रिपोर्ट में यह खुलासा हुआ है। कैग ने पौधारोपण से जुड़े कार्यों के लिए ठेकेदारों व अन्य व्यक्तियों को 1.37 करोड़ रुपये के भुगतान में घपला पकड़ा है और इसे गबन माना है।

दरअसल, कैग ने वर्ष 2016-17 से 2018-

19 के लिए 20 वन प्रभागों में पौधारोपण से जुड़े विभिन्न कार्यों के भुगतान के मासिक वाउचरों का आडिट किया तो यह फर्जीवाड़ा सामने आ गया। जांच में पता चला कि वन प्रभागों ने पौधारोपण और संरक्षण के नाम पर गड्डे और खाइयों की खुदाई, मिट्टी का कार्य, पौधों, गाय के गोबर, ईंट आदि की ढुलाई के कार्य, पौधों को पानी देने के काम ठेके पर ट्रैक्टर और बुलडोजर के जरिए करवाए गए थे।

इसके भुगतान में जो वाउचर लगाए गए हैं उनके वाहनों के नंबर जांच में फर्जी निकल गए। कैग की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि उसने जब 1058 वाउचरों की जांच की तो इसमें ट्रैक्टर/बुलडोजर के जो वाहन पंजीकरण नंबर दिए गए थे वह मोपेड, स्कूटर, मोटरसाइकिल व जीप आदि के निकले।

इस मामले में प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक ने दिसंबर 2020 और मार्च 2021 में कैग को सूचना देकर इन आडिट आपत्तियों को स्वीकार किया और दोषी कार्मिकों के खिलाफ अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई की। सरकार ने अपने उत्तर में बताया कि इस मामले में 14 कर्मचारियों को निलंबित किया गया है जबकि 137 को आरोप पत्र दिया गया है। सरकार ने बताया कि अब तक 44 कार्मिकों की या तो सेवानिवृत्ति हो गई है या फिर उनकी मृत्यु हो चुकी है। बाकी दोषियों के खिलाफ अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई की जा रही है। <https://www.jagran.com/uttar-pradesh/lucknow-city-according-to-cag-report-digging-of-pits-for-plantation-in-up-done-with-vehicles-like-scooters-mopeds-and-motorcycles-23088628.html>

## 6. Air quality is not being monitored in some industrial areas and cities of Gujarat, says CAG

 ([theprint.in](http://theprint.in)) September 22, 2022

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in a report has flagged the lack of enough air quality monitoring stations in Gujarat, especially in urban and industrial belts.

The CAG's 'Performance Audit of Air Pollution Control by Government of Gujarat' report for 2020-2021 was tabled in the state Assembly on Thursday, the last day of the two-day Assembly session.

The national auditor observed that Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) was not being monitored in some major industrial estates including Viramgam, Mandal, Waghodia, Bardoli, Chhatral, Kalol, Sanand and Surendranagar.

The Gujarat Pollution Control Board must have a comprehensive database of all potential polluting areas in the state, it said.

“As of November 2021, GPCB monitors AAQ at 62 stations in 14 cities only whereas AAQ is not being monitored in remaining cities, as well as in industrial and mining areas,” the CAG noted.

Monitoring stations should be set up in areas not covered under the existing system, and the GPCB may take up the issue with the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation too as the GIDC manages industrial estates, the CAG said.

Citing the GPCB’s inspection reports, the auditor noted that the pollution control board did not regularly monitor noise levels in industrial units during 2014-19.

As per section 17 of the Air Act, GPCB is required to prepare a comprehensive programme for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution, said the CAG.

Further, the government “has not prepared any vision document except preparation of Air Action Plan for Ahmedabad and Surat, which were prepared in pursuance of the order of National Green Tribunal (in October 2018),” it noted.

For monitoring AAQ continuously in Critically Polluted Areas (CPAs), the Central Pollution Control Board had in 2016 directed the GPCB to install at least two Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations within a year in each CPA.

Some of these CPAs are Vapi in Valsad district, Ankleshwar in Bharuch district and Vatva-Narol and Naroda-Odhav in Ahmedabad district.

But the GPCB was yet to comply with the direction and some of these critically polluted areas were yet to get pollution monitoring stations, the CAG said.

It also suggested that saw mills and wood-dependent industrial units be brought under the ambit of the Air Act, a policy be framed to encourage the use of fly ash-based bricks, there be strict implementation of PUC norms to control vehicular pollution and a policy should be devised for greening the highways. <https://theprint.in/india/air-quality-is-not-being-monitored-in-some-industrial-areas-and-cities-of-gujarat-says-cag/1138974/>

## **7. 3 power plants dumping fly ash without GPCB approval: CAG report ([indianexpress.com](https://indianexpress.com)) September 23, 2022**

Ahmedabad: Three thermal power plants operated by Torrent Power, Adani Power and Tata Power dumped fly-ash (a by-product generated from coal burnt in a thermal plant) in low-lying areas without permission from the Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB), stated a report by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) tabled in Gujarat Assembly Thursday.

The audit watchdog also pulled up GPCB for not taking any stringent action against the private electricity producers for dumping fly ash—a major pollutant that contains

toxic and heavy metals. The dumping was carried out between 2014 and 2019 in contravention to the regulations of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

In the report titled “Performance Audit of Air Pollution Control by Government of Gujarat”, CAG pointed out that between 2014 and 2019, Torrent Power Ltd, Ahmedabad dumped 1.92 lakh metric tonnes of fly ash at four different sites, including farmlands near Gandhinagar city and Sabarmati riverbanks with the consent of the landowners.

“After being pointed out in audit, GPCB monitored these four sites in September 2019 and observed that at one of these sites, fly ash was dumped in adjoining land towards the riverbank without a protection wall and ash spread towards the riverbank due to rain. At two other sites, fly ash was dumped for levelling land. The remaining site was surrounded by residential and commercial areas and the dumped ash was not covered and levelled,” CAG pointed out adding that GPCB issued a show-cause notice only in January 2020 and no action was taken against the company till June 2021.

Similarly, CAG stated that Adani Power Ltd at Mundra utilised 15.42 lakh metric tonnes of fly ash for filling low-lying areas between 2014 and 2019 without the GPCB approval. The report also pointed out that Coastal Gujarat Power Ltd—a subsidiary of Tata Power in Mundra—dumped 0.79 lakh metric tonnes of fly ash within the plant premises without the GPCB nod. “GPCB had not taken stringent action against these thermal power plants for dumping of fly ash in low-lying areas without its permission,” CAG stated.

The auditor further said that Gujarat has 47 thermal power plants and most of the 35 power plants that are yet to install Flue-gas Desulphurisation technology (for cutting down emissions) in their plants and will subsequently miss the December 2022 deadline.

### **Pollution in Kutch**

Pointing out that Kutch district has 14 coal-based thermal power units that account for 37 per cent (8,620 MW) of total installed capacity of thermal power stations in Gujarat, CAG said “air pollution has increased substantially” due to these power plants. Citing a study, the auditor stated, “Mundra is the worst NOx hotspot contributing hugely to air pollution.”

### **Non-compliance by govt depts.**

With regard to the use of fly ash in construction, CAG noted that state government departments were non-complaint with the directions issued by the Central government. “Fly ash was not being used in government-funded public works except those used in construction of Mahatma Mandir in 2014-16,” the report stated pointing out that the Roads and Building department of the state government has not been able to enforce the use of fly ash due to resistance from contractors.

While NHAI was using fly ash in road projects, R&B department had not made any provision for mandatory use of fly ash in their works, it added. <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/ahmedabad/gujarat-fly-ash-gpcb-cag-report-8168150/>



## **8. Gujarat: 17-30% posts in state pollution control board vacant, says CAG report ([indianexpress.com](https://indianexpress.com)) 23 Sep 2022**

Despite rising pollution levels in the state, 17-30 per cent posts in the Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) are vacant, observed the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in a report tabled in the Gujarat Assembly, Thursday.

Some of these posts have been vacant since 2008 and the shortage of staff is affecting pollution sampling and monitoring activities, it added.

“Starting with a staff of 25 in 1974, the sanctioned strength of GPCB in January 2018 was 728 in 38 categories... Despite the manifold increase in work over the years and increasing pollution in the state, the Gujarat government in February 2018 abolished 223 posts and left GPCB to accomplish its regulatory function through 505 posts only,” CAG stated in a report titled “Performance Audit of Air Pollution Control by Government of Gujarat”.

As on March 1, 2021, the sanctioned strength of the GPCB was 513. Against this, 105 posts were vacant since 2008. “In technical cadres (environment engineers and scientists), there were 17 per cent vacancies, while in other cadres, there were 30 per cent vacancies as on March 2021. Thus, the GPCB is running with inadequate Human Resources. The impact of an acute shortage of staff can be gauged from fewer sampling and monitoring activities,” the CAG stated.

In response, the Gujarat government in January 2022 said “continuous efforts” were being made to tackle the staff crunch.

The GPCB is responsible for monitoring and supervising 30,964 industries, 46,563 health care units, 34 common effluent treatment plants, 21 common bio-medical waste treatment facilities, 32 treatment, storage and disposal facility sites and other landfill sites under the municipal solid waste rules in state.

### **Insufficient monitoring**

The CAG found that the GPCB was monitoring Ambient Air Quality in only 14 cities and was not monitoring major industrial estates prone to air pollution such as Sanand, Mandal, Viramgam, Kalol, Halol and Ranoli among others.

It also found the regulator unable to enforce installation of Online Continuous Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS) in 67 of the 422 highly polluting units, despite a lapse of six years.

The CAG also found that the Gandhinagar Municipal Corporation was dumping solid waste near banks of Sabarmati river in Gandhinagar. <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/gandhinagar/gujarat-pollution-control-board-17-30-percent-posts-vacant-cag-report-8168251/lite/>

## **9. CAG dissatisfied with Gujarat pollution panel's functioning** ([daijiworld.com](https://www.daijiworld.com)) Sep 22, 2022

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), in its audit report on the Gujarat Pollution Control Bureau (GPCB), has pulled it up for failing to discharge its duty and maintain air quality level not only in the industrial belt, but even in cities and but even in the eco-sensitive zone.

As per the report, tabled in the assembly on Thursday, with prohibited establishments like sawmills, industries causing pollution (water, air, soil, noise), and commercial hotels coming up, as well as discharge of untreated effluent and solid waste in natural water bodies or terrestrial area of the eco-sensitive zones like Thol Wildlife Sanctuary, the government has been to set up a mechanism to regularly monitor Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) in the area to maintain its ecology as a potential Ramsar site.

In critical comments, the CAG has pointed out that the GPCB "is slow in utilising the fund received from the habitual defaulters units. Environment audit reports are not in public domain and are not inclusive of emission load and data on stack emission, thus defeating the very purpose of the Environment Audit Scheme. The state lacks policy intervention manifold over time. The human resources have decreased substantially leading to an adverse impact on monitoring."

The report further notes that the GPCB is run with inadequate staff and infrastructure, and as the government abolished 223 posts, as on March 2021, the sanctioned strength is 503 and against that, 105 posts were vacant since 2008. This comes even as the board has the duty to supervise 30,964 industries, 42,563 health care units, 34 common effluent treatment plants, 21 common bio-medical waste treatment facilities, and 32 treatment/storage/disposal facilities under the Hazardous Waste Rules. <https://www.daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay?newsID=1002728>

## **10. Surat, Rajkot and Vadodara added to list of Critically Polluted Areas in Gujarat** ([indianexpress.com](https://www.indianexpress.com)) September 23, 2022

Three new cities — Surat, Rajkot and Vadodara — have been added to the list of Critically Polluted Areas (CPA) in Gujarat while Odhav, Naroda (in Ahmedabad), Bhavnagar and Junagadh have been removed from the list, stated the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in a report tabled in the Gujarat Assembly, Thursday.

“Based on Comprehensive Environment Pollution Index (CEPI), the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had declared (January 2010) six major industrial areas of Gujarat — Vapi, Ankleshwar, Vatva, Ahmedabad (Odhav and Naroda), Bhavnagar and Junagadh — as CPA and imposed moratorium on setting up industries and expansion of existing industries in these areas,” stated the report titled “Performance Audit of Air Pollution Control by Government of Gujarat”.

“As per latest CEPI score submitted (July 2019) by Central Pollution Control Board to National Green Tribunal, three new cities Vadodara, Surat and Rajkot have been

added to CPA list, while Odhav, Naroda, Bhavnagar and Junagadh were removed from the list,” it added.

The audit watchdog stated that CEPI scores of Vadodara was highest in state, followed by Surat. Rajkot turned critically polluted from being a severely polluted area in 2009.

Based on Remedial Action Plans proposed by the Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB), approved by CPCB in September 2010 for the abatement of pollution in these CPAs, the ministry lifted the moratorium from Vapi (October 2010), Bhavnagar (February 2011), Junagadh (March 2011) and Ahmedabad (September 2013).

The moratorium was reimposed in Vapi in September 2013 due to poor CEPI scores. The ministry finally lifted the moratorium on Vapi, Ankleshwar and Vatva in November 2016 based on re-assessed CEPI scores.

The report stated that the GPCB was yet to comply with the 2016 directions of CPCB for installation of at least two Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations in each CPA.

The CAG also rapped GPCB for not developing a system for period review of health impact assessment in critically polluted areas. The audit pointed out that 15 hospitals in industrial areas of Ahmedabad, Vapi and Ankleshwar reported 80,443 patients with asthma, bronchitis and acute respiratory infections between 2012-2017.

“An increasing number of patients during this period depicts severity of the impact of air pollution on health,” the report stated.

While the Gujarat government claimed that health impact assessment in CPAs were done by industries associations, the auditor stated, “Such studies were to be conducted by the GPCB through recognised health institutions once in 4-5 years...”

The report also pointed out that under the National Clean Air Programme launched in January 2019, MoEF&CC had identified 102 cities as “non-attainment” cities that failed to meet the prescribed standards of air pollution.

“Ahmedabad and Surat were among the non-attainment cities in Gujarat,” CAG stated adding that industries, vehicles, domestic fuel, construction and road dust were prominent sources of emission in these two cities. <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/gandhinagar/surat-rajkot-and-vadodara-among-gujarats-critically-polluted-areas-8168207/>

## **11. Assembly Panel Slams GSPC Over Rs 500-Cr Loss In KG Basin Block ([ahmedabadmirror.com](http://ahmedabadmirror.com)) 23 Sep 2022**

The Public Enterprise Committee of Gujarat Assembly has come down heavily on the Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation (GSPC) over a loss of nearly Rs 500 crore in a drilling work in Krishna Godavari (KG) Basin block. Moreover, there were contradictions in the company’s written and oral submissions by the senior officials.

The committee, which includes 14 MLAs both from the ruling BJP and opposition Congress, said the loss could have been avoided if the state government-controlled entity worked in a “responsible manner”.

The panel, which monitors state-run public sector undertakings (PSUs), stated in the report tabled in the House on Wednesday that it reflected GSPC’s “irresponsible approach”. The panel scrutinises observations made by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) on PSUs and makes recommendations to the state government. The CAG’s audit report tabled in the Assembly in 2017 observed that an “operational error” in drilling an offshore gas exploration well had cost Rs 500 crore to GSPC.

The CAG was referring to the faulty drilling work carried out by the GSPC in one well, named KG-21, in the KG Basin (Krishna Godavari Basin). The CAG noted that it happened because the said well was drilled outside the template and the company realised it much later. As per the CAG report, the company had incurred an expenditure of Rs 478.98 crore on the offshore drilling work at the KG-21 offshore well.

The GSPC had to spend an additional Rs 34.37 crore to make adjustments due to the faulty work.

In its written response submitted to the Assembly panel, the company had said commercial production of gas from this well was not possible. However, company officials told the committee orally that the drilling was successful because GSPC found gas in it, the panel noted in its report submitted on Wednesday.

“This contradiction in responses reflects the company’s dishonesty in presenting facts before the panel. According to officials, the well was drilled outside the template because of an error of judgement by a diver (who went in the water for technical work related to fitting template), which had cost the company Rs 500 crore,” the report said.

In the meeting with committee members in August 2021, senior company officials informed that further development of the well will be done by ONGC as the GSPC had given operatorship of KG-21 and five other wells of DDW (Deen Dayal West) region to ONGC in April 2017.

“It is clear that company officials had worked in an irresponsible manner. Because of their minimal monitoring and lack of expertise, the exploration site got changed. Instead of taking the responsibility, they held a diver responsible for this error, which had cost Rs 500 crore. This approach by officials is inappropriate,” the committee said. <https://ahmedabadmirror.com/assembly-panel-slams-gspc-over-rs-500-cr-loss-in-kg-basin-block/81845091.html>

## **12. Rs 58 crore loss to Gujarat due to inappropriate land allotment to Adani firm: PAC report ([indianexpress.com](https://www.indianexpress.com)) September 23, 2022**

In its fifth report tabled before the Gujarat Assembly Wednesday, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has noted that owing to the inappropriate classification of forest land

transferred to Adani Chemicals in Kutch for Mundra Port and SEZ by the forest and environment department, the company paid the state government Rs 58.64 crore less.

The PAC has recommended to recover the full amount from the company in three months and to take action against officials concerned for inappropriate classification of the land, causing loss to the state government and “undue” benefit to the company.

In its report, the PAC — headed by Congress MLA Punja Vansh — has cited an audit report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India that noted the “undue” benefit of Rs 58.64 crore to the company due to the inappropriate classification of land.

As per the PAC report, in connection with a proposal of Adani Chemicals Limited, the Central government had in 2004 given an in-principle approval to allocate 1,840 hectares and 168.42 hectares of land in Mundra and Dhrab villages respectively of Kutch district. The Supreme Court, in a judgment dated March 28, 2008, classified the forests of India in six situational categories while also fixing its net present value (NPV).

The report states that in January 2009, the state government presented a new proposed scheme of Messrs Adani before the central government for its sanction and the Central government had granted an in-principle approval in February 2009.

As per the judgment of the Supreme Court regarding fixing NPV as per six categories of forests, the ones in Kutch were classified under Eco Class II (with NPV of Rs 7.30 lakh per hectare) and Eco Class IV (with NPV of Rs 4.30 lakh per hectare).

In December 2008, the Conservator of Forests, Bhuj, had in his inspection report observed that the land in question was mudflat and the creek area was full of mangroves, the report said. Despite this, it adds that the deputy conservator of forest (Kutch East) had considered this land under Eco Class IV and recovered Rs 87.97 crore as NPV of 208.42 hectare forest land from the company.

The PAC report further noted that the forest & environment department had in a written reply sent to the committee stated that the transferred land indeed comes under Eco Class IV.

The report also notes its meeting dated September 25, 2019, in which a representative of the department had denied that the land in question falls under Eco Class II. It also stated that the NPV of the land, as Eco Class IV classification, was fixed as per the 2008 judgment of the Supreme Court that was recovered from the company after being approved by the Central government.

The PAC records, “The committee believes that instead of recovering NPV as per Eco Class II from Messrs Adani for the change of purpose of forest land for Mundra Port and SEZ, the department has recovered NPV as per Eco Class IV. This decision of the department has resulted in Rs 58.67 crore less recovery to the government.”

It has recommended to take action against responsible officer/officials for inappropriate classification of land, to recover NPV as per Eco Class II from the company within three months and to inform the committee after

recovery. <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/gandhinagar/rs-58-cr-loss-to-gujarat-due-to-inappropriate-land-allotment-to-adani-firm-8167702/>

### 13. कैग की रिपोर्ट: कछुए जैसी चाल तो कैसे बदले सूरत ए हाल, सालों साल बाद पेश हो रही है कैग की रिपोर्ट ([amarujala.com](http://amarujala.com)) September 22, 2022

कैग संबंधित विभाग का गहनता से ऑडिट करता है। फिर अपनी ऑडिट आपत्तियां लगाता है जिस पर संबंधित विभाग को जवाब देना पड़ता है। जवाब के साथ इस रिपोर्ट को शासन को भेजकर टिप्पणी मांगी जाती है। फिर विश्लेषण के बाद निष्कर्ष के साथ यही रिपोर्ट राज्यपाल को भेज दी जाती है।

भारत के नियंत्रक महालेखा परीक्षक (कैग) के अधिकतर ऑडिट में सरकारी सिस्टम में हुए गड़बड़झालों का खुलासा तो हो जाता है पर इस ऑडिट की गति बेहद धीमी होती है। इसकी रिपोर्ट सालों साल बाद सदन में रखी जाती है जिसका परिणाम यह रहता है कि आरोपियों पर अपेक्षित कार्रवाई की उम्मीद कम रह जाती है। उप्र सरकार में महत्वपूर्ण पदों पर रह चुके और वित्त की बारीकियों को महीन ढंग से समझने वाले सेवानिवृत्त अधिकारी भी कहते हैं कि यह ऑडिट तेजी से होना चाहिए और इसकी रिपोर्ट भी समय रहते ही सदन में पेश होनी चाहिए।

31 मार्च 2020 को समाप्त हुए वर्ष के लिए गत दिवस सदन में कैग की रिपोर्ट पेश की गई। अहम बात यह है कि इसमें जहां किसानों को मुफ्त बिजली देने के लिए वर्ष 2017 से 2019 तक की रिपोर्ट पेश की गई तो वहीं यूपीएसआरटीसी के इंटेलिजेंट ट्रांसपोर्ट मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम का वर्ष 2013 से 2015 तक की सर्वे रिपोर्ट रखी गई। वन विभाग में जेसीबी की जगह मोपेड से गड्डे खोदने में हुए भुगतान संबंधी रिपोर्ट वर्ष 2016 से 2019 तक रखी गई रिपोर्ट भी सालों पुरानी थी। अहम यह है कि इतनी पुरानी रिपोर्ट पर कार्रवाई भी कम ही हो पाती है। कई बार जांच के घरे में आए अधिकारी रिटायर हो चुके होते हैं वे योजनाएं ही दम तोड़ रही होती हैं जिनका ऑडिट किया गया था।

#### पोस्टमार्टम जैसी हो गई हैं कैग की रिपोर्ट : आलोक रंजन

उप्र सरकार के पूर्व मुख्य सचिव आलोक रंजन कहते हैं कि ऑडिट जल्दी होना चाहिए। ज्यादा से ज्यादा एक साल बाद रिपोर्ट दे दी जाए। सालों साल बाद रिपोर्ट आती है जिसका कोई औचित्य नहीं रह जाता। यह एक पोस्टमार्टम सरीखी रिपोर्ट होती है जो बाद में होती है। लोक लेखा समिति के समक्ष यदि समय मामले पेश किए जाए तो वहां भी जल्दी ही इस पर निर्णय लिए जा सकते हैं। लेकिन वहां देरी होने से विभिन्न मामलों में आश्वासन, चेतावनी आदि देकर ही मुद्दे को ड्रॉप कर दिया जाता है।

#### टीमों की जिम्मेदारी तय कर एक्शन हो : मुकेश मित्तल

लंबे समय तक सरकार में वित्त सचिव के पद पर रहे रिटायर्ड आईएसएस मुकेश मित्तल कहते हैं कि वास्तव में यह परेशानी है कि यह ऑडिट रिपोर्ट काफी देर से पेश होती हैं। ऐसे में इन पर सार्थक एक्शन नहीं हो पाता। कुछ मामले लोक लेखा समिति के समक्ष जाते हैं। वहां से निर्णय होता है। वास्तव में हर ऑडिट का एक शेड्यूल जारी होता है। इसके बावजूद जो भी अधिकारी देर से काम करते हैं, या सर्वे करने में ज्यादा समय लगाते हैं उसकी जिम्मेदारी तय कर उसके खिलाफ एक्शन होना चाहिए। संबंधित मंत्रालय को इस पर गंभीरता दिखानी चाहिए।

## यह है कैग की प्रक्रिया

भारत के नियंत्रक एवं महालेखापरीक्षक भारतीय संविधान के अध्याय 5

(4) द्वारा स्थापित एक प्राधिकारी है जो भारत सरकार अलावा सभी प्रदेश की सरकारों के सभी तरह के लेखों का अंकेक्षण, परीक्षण करता है। वह ऐसी कंपनियों का भी अंकेक्षण करता है जो वह सरकार के स्वामित्व वाली हैं। सार्वजनिक लेखा समितियाँ इस रिपोर्ट पर ध्यान देती हैं। यह एक स्वतंत्र संस्था के रूप में कार्य करते हैं और इस पर सरकार का नियंत्रण नहीं होता।

कैग संबंधित विभाग का गहनता से ऑडिट करता है। फिर अपनी ऑडिट आपत्तियां लगाता है जिस पर संबंधित विभाग को जवाब देना पड़ता है। जवाब के साथ इस रिपोर्ट को शासन को भेजकर टिप्पणी मांगी जाती है। फिर विश्लेषण के बाद निष्कर्ष के साथ यही रिपोर्ट राज्यपाल को भेज दी जाती है। <https://www.amarujala.com/lucknow/cag-report-how-to-change-the-gait-like-a-turtle-cag-report-is-being-presented-after-years>

## 14. Gujarat Pollution Panel: गुजरात प्रदूषण पैनल की कार्यप्रणाली से CAG असंतुष्ट, जानिए क्या कुछ कहा ([abplive.com](http://abplive.com)) Sep 23, 2022

Comptroller and Auditor General: नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक (कैग) ने गुजरात प्रदूषण नियंत्रण ब्यूरो (जीपीसीबी) पर अपनी ऑडिट रिपोर्ट में, न केवल औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में, बल्कि शहरों में और यहां तक कि पर्यावरण के प्रति संवेदनशील क्षेत्र में भी अपने कर्तव्य का निर्वहन करने और वायु गुणवत्ता स्तर को बनाए रखने में विफल रहने के लिए इसकी खिंचाई की है। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, गुरुवार को विधानसभा में पेश किया गया कि, आरा मिल, प्रदूषण पैदा करने वाले उद्योग (जल, वायु, मिट्टी, शोर) और वाणिज्यिक होटल आने के साथ-साथ प्राकृतिक जल निकायों या स्थलीय क्षेत्र में अनुपचारित अपशिष्ट और ठोस अपशिष्ट का निर्वहन शामिल है।

पर्यावरण के प्रति संवेदनशील क्षेत्र थोल वन्यजीव अभयारण्य की तरह, सरकार को संभावित रामसर स्थल के रूप में अपनी पारिस्थितिकी को बनाए रखने के लिए क्षेत्र में परिवेशी वायु गुणवत्ता (एएक्यू) की नियमित निगरानी के लिए एक तंत्र स्थापित करना है।

सीएजी ने की आलोचनात्मक टिप्पणी

आलोचनात्मक टिप्पणियों में सीएजी ने कहा है कि, जीपीसीबी आदतन चूककर्ता इकाइयों से प्राप्त धन का उपयोग करने में धीमा है। पर्यावरण लेखापरीक्षा रिपोर्ट सार्वजनिक डोमेन में नहीं है और इसमें उत्सर्जन भार और स्टैक उत्सर्जन पर डेटा शामिल नहीं है, इस प्रकार पर्यावरण लेखा परीक्षा योजना के उद्देश्य को विफल कर रहा है। राज्य में समय के साथ कई गुना नीतिगत हस्तक्षेप का अभाव है। मानव संसाधन में काफी कमी आई है जिससे निगरानी पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है।

### रिपोर्ट में क्या है?

रिपोर्ट में आगे कहा गया है कि जीपीसीबी अपर्याप्त कर्मचारियों और बुनियादी ढांचे के साथ चलाया जाता है, और जैसा कि सरकार ने 223 पदों को समाप्त कर दिया, मार्च 2021 तक, स्वीकृत शक्ति 503 है और उसके मुकाबले 2008 से 105 पद खाली थे। यह बोर्ड के रूप में भी आता है। खतरनाक अपशिष्ट नियमों के तहत 30,964 उद्योगों, 42,563 स्वास्थ्य देखभाल इकाइयों, 34 सामान्य अपशिष्ट उपचार संयंत्रों,

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चिकित्सा अपशिष्ट उपचार सुविधाओं और 32 उपचार/भंडारण/निपटान सुविधाओं की निगरानी करने का कर्तव्य है। <https://www.abplive.com/states/gujarat/gujarat-pollution-panel-comptroller-and-auditor-general-dissatisfied-said-this-in-critical-comments-2222418>

## 15. गुजरात प्रदूषण पैनल की कार्यप्रणाली से कैग असंतुष्ट ([jantaserishta.com](http://jantaserishta.com)) Sep 22, 2022

नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (कैग) ने गुजरात प्रदूषण नियंत्रण ब्यूरो (जीपीसीबी) पर अपनी ऑडिट रिपोर्ट में न केवल औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में, बल्कि अपने कर्तव्य का निर्वहन करने और वायु गुणवत्ता स्तर को बनाए रखने में विफल रहने के लिए इसकी खिंचाई की है। यहां तक कि शहरों में और यहां तक कि पर्यावरण के प्रति संवेदनशील क्षेत्र में भी।

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, गुरुवार को विधानसभा में आरा मिल, प्रदूषण फैलाने वाले उद्योगों (जल, वायु, मिट्टी, शोर) और वाणिज्यिक होटलों के साथ-

साथ प्राकृतिक जल में अनुपचारित अपशिष्ट और ठोस अपशिष्ट के निर्वहन के साथ, विधानसभा में पेश किया गया। थोल वन्यजीव अभयारण्य जैसे पर्यावरण-

संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों के निकाय या स्थलीय क्षेत्र, सरकार को संभावित रामसर साइट के रूप में अपनी पारिस्थितिकी को बनाए रखने के लिए क्षेत्र में परिवेशी वायु गुणवत्ता (एएक्यू) की नियमित निगरानी के लिए एक तंत्र स्थापित करना है।

आलोचनात्मक टिप्पणियों में, कैग ने इंगित किया है कि जीपीसीबी "आदतन चूककर्ता इकाइयों से प्राप्त धन का उपयोग करने में धीमा है। पर्यावरण लेखा परीक्षा रिपोर्ट सार्वजनिक डोमेन में नहीं है और इसमें उत्सर्जन भार और स्टैक उत्सर्जन पर डेटा शामिल नहीं है, इस प्रकार इसे हराना पर्यावरण लेखा परीक्षा योजना का उद्देश्य। राज्य में समय के साथ कई गुना नीतिगत हस्तक्षेप का अभाव है। मानव संसाधन में काफी कमी आई है जिससे निगरानी पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है।"

रिपोर्ट में आगे कहा गया है कि GPCB अपर्याप्त कर्मचारियों और बुनियादी ढांचे के साथ चलाया जाता है, और जैसा कि सरकार ने 223 पदों को समाप्त कर दिया है, मार्च 2021 तक स्वीकृत शक्ति 503 है और उसके मुकाबले 2008 से 105 पद खाली थे। यह बोर्ड के रूप में भी आता है। खतरनाक अपशिष्ट नियमों के तहत 30,964 उद्योगों, 42,563 स्वास्थ्य देखभाल इकाइयों, 34 सामान्य अपशिष्ट उपचार संयंत्रों, 21 सामान्य जैव-

चिकित्सा अपशिष्ट उपचार सुविधाओं और 32 उपचार/भंडारण/निपटान सुविधाओं की निगरानी करने का कर्तव्य है। <https://jantaserishta.com/local/gujarat/cag-dissatisfied-with-the-functioning-of-gujarat-pollution-panel-1591351>



## 16. CAG ने की गुजरात प्रदूषण नियंत्रण ब्यूरो की खिंचाई, कार्यप्रणाली से असंतुष्ट ([samacharnama.com](https://samacharnama.com)) Sep 23, 2022

नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (कैग) ने गुजरात प्रदूषण नियंत्रण ब्यूरो (जीपीसीबी) पर अपनी ऑडिट रिपोर्ट में, न केवल औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में, बल्कि शहरों में और यहां तक कि पर्यावरण के प्रति संवेदनशील क्षेत्र में भी अपने कर्तव्य का निर्वहन करने और वायु गुणवत्ता स्तर को बनाए रखने में विफल रहने के लिए इसकी खिंचाई की है। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, गुरुवार को विधानसभा में पेश किया गया कि, आरा मिल, प्रदूषण पैदा करने वाले उद्योग (जल, वायु, मिट्टी, शोर) और वाणिज्यिक होटल आने के साथ-

साथ प्राकृतिक जल निकायों या स्थलीय क्षेत्र में अनुपचारित अपशिष्ट और ठोस अपशिष्ट का निर्वहन शामिल है। पर्यावरण के प्रति संवेदनशील क्षेत्र थोल वन्यजीव अभयारण्य की तरह, सरकार को संभावित रामसर स्थल के रूप में अपनी पारिस्थितिकी को बनाए रखने के लिए क्षेत्र में परिवेशी वायु गुणवत्ता (एएक्यू) की नियमित निगरानी के लिए एक तंत्र स्थापित करना है।

आलोचनात्मक टिप्पणियों में सीएजी ने कहा है कि, जीपीसीबी आदतन चूककर्ता इकाइयों से प्राप्त धन का उपयोग करने में धीमा है। पर्यावरण लेखापरीक्षा रिपोर्ट सार्वजनिक डोमेन में नहीं है और इसमें उत्सर्जन भार और स्टैक उत्सर्जन पर डेटा शामिल नहीं है, इस प्रकार पर्यावरण लेखा परीक्षा योजना के उद्देश्य को विफल कर रहा है। राज्य में समय के साथ कई गुना नीतिगत हस्तक्षेप का अभाव है। मानव संसाधन में काफी कमी आई है जिससे निगरानी पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है।

रिपोर्ट में आगे कहा गया है कि जीपीसीबी अपर्याप्त कर्मचारियों और बुनियादी ढांचे के साथ चलाया जाता है, और जैसा कि सरकार ने 223 पदों को समाप्त कर दिया, मार्च 2021 तक, स्वीकृत शक्ति 503 है और उसके मुकाबले 2008 से 105 पद खाली थे। यह बोर्ड के रूप में भी आता है। खतरनाक अपशिष्ट नियमों के तहत 30,964 उद्योगों, 42,563 स्वास्थ्य देखभाल इकाइयों, 34 सामान्य अपशिष्ट उपचार संयंत्रों, 21 सामान्य जैव-

चिकित्सा अपशिष्ट उपचार सुविधाओं और 32 उपचार/भंडारण/निपटान सुविधाओं की निगरानी करने का कर्तव्य है। <https://samacharnama.com/states/gujarat-news/CAG-pulls-up-Gujarat-Pollution-Control-Bureau-dissatisfied/cid8585401.htm>

## 17. IIM Rohtak fees 'exorbitant'; institute violates non-for-profit motive: CAG report ([news.careers360.com](https://news.careers360.com)) Sep 23, 2022

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Rohtak has been charging "exorbitant fees" from students, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) observed in its audit report of the institute.

IIM Rohtak's records between 2019 and 2021 were audited by the CAG, where it found that the fee structure of the institute is three-four times higher than the expenditure and continues to increase on a year-on-year basis. "The fee structure is so designed that the receipts are 2-3 times the expenditure of the institute and too is on an increasing trend year to year. Instead of being invested in growth of institute and utilised on conducting research work, the funds amounting to ₹ 2,51,96,45,000 were deposited in fixed accounts (term deposits) in banks, on which interest amounting to ₹ 17,68,22,281 was earned," the CAG report stated. The increasing trend of revenue

over expenditure year to year forfeits the “not-for-profit” intent of the institute, the CAG report further stated. In the last three years, IIM Rohtak has earned a surplus of more than 200 percent. In 2020-21, IIM Rohtak spent only Rs 2,691 lakh but earned Rs 7,826 lakh.

### **IIM Rohtak: CAG report on fees**

The report, accessed by Careers360 says that “according to Section 10 (23C) (iiiab) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, any income received by a person on behalf of any university or any educational institution existing solely for educational purposes and not for purposes of profit, and which is wholly or substantially financed by the government, is entitled to exemption.” IIM Rohtak receipt, expenditure audit.

#### **IIM Rohtak receipt, expenditure audit**

Year	Receipts (In Rs lakh)	Expenditure (In Rs lakh)	Surplus (In Rs lakh)	Percentage of surplus to expenditure
2018-19	5,463.61	2,395.90	3,067.71	228.04 %
2019-20	7,613.14	2,873.75	4,739.39	264.92%
2020-21	7,826.15	2,691.33	5,134.83	290.79 %

Careers 360 sent a detailed questionnaire to IIM Rohtak to which the institute has not yet responded. The official spokesperson said that the institute has recently submitted responses to the “draft CAG report” and the final report is yet to come.

In response to the audit, as per the CAG report, the institute replied that IIM Rohtak’s fee structure has been decided with the approval of the apex body of the institute and in line with the fee charged by similar institutes of national importance. “The annual fee is dependent on several factors including annual student intake, yearly institute expenditure, future expansion plans, fee of peer institutes etc. and many others,” IIM Rohtak told the CAG.

However, the CAG rejected this response and said the institute violated the “not-for-profit motive” of the institute as stated in the IIM Act 2017.

“The exorbitant charging of fee results into deprivation of the low income group students from reach of education who, at the time of applying for admission, are apprehensive of affording the payment of the fee on too much higher side, thereby resulting into constricting, circumventing and denial of the equality of opportunity for education and employment,” the report said.

According to the audit report, grants from the government to IIM Rohtak have been below the 50 percent threshold every year from the 2015-16 to the 2018-19 academic session. <https://news.careers360.com/iim-rohtak-fee-admission-cag-report-audit-mba-ipm-indian-institute-of-management>

## **18. Delay in submission of utilisation certificates surges in Nagaland: CAG ([morungexpress.com](http://morungexpress.com)) September 22, 2022**

The delay in submissions of Utilisation Certificates (UCs) for projects and grants, instead of decreasing, is riding in Nagaland, highlighted the 'State Finances Audit Report' of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India relating to the Government of Nagaland for the year ending March 31, 2021.

As per the report tabled on the floor of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly (NLA) on September 22, during the year 2020-21, 78 grants involving Rs 212.60 crore provided to 21 Departments for which UCs were for submission.

The data provided by the CAG informed that it increased from Rs 70.66 in 2019-20. Since 2016-17, the amount of outstanding UCs has been gradually increasing, the year-wise break up data informed.

Overall, till 2020-21, there were a total of 251 grants involving an amount of Rs 609 crore, for which UCs were outstanding.

Top-5 defaulters were Rural Development (Rs 184.35 crore), Planning and Coordination Department (Rs 166.54 crore); Education Department (Rs 73.65 crore); Industries and Commerce (Rs 47.85 crore), and Social Security and Welfare (Rs 32.29).

“Pending UCs violate prescribed financial rules and directives, and reflects poor monitoring mechanism of the State Government, the CAG noted in the report.

Moreover, high pendency is fraught with risk of misappropriation of funds and the State could lose out on central funds for want of UCs, it said. Non-submission of the means that the authorities have not explained as to how funds were spent, it added. “State Government may ensure timely submission of all UCs due by the recipients of grants.”

Among others, the General Financial Rules stipulated that a grantee Organisation or Institution getting non-recurring grants is ‘required to submit a certificate of actual utilisation of the grants received for the purpose for which it was sanctioned within twelve months,’ the report said.

Meanwhile, the report also highlighted that there 373 Abstract Contingent (AC) Bills involving Rs 562.30 crore pending for adjustment by submission of Detailed Countersigned Contingent (DCC) Bills, as of March 2021.

Out of these, 23 AC bills amounting to Rs 243.48 crore pertained to the year 2020-21.

The non-adjustment of AC Bills is fraught with the risk of misappropriation and therefore, requires close monitoring by the respective Drawing and Disbursing Officers for ensuring submission of DCC bills, the CAG noted.

Further, there is no assurance that the expenditure of the State Government reflected in the Finance Accounts is correct or final due to non-receipt of DCC bills to that extent,

it added. <https://morungexpress.com/delay-in-submission-of-utilisation-certificates-surges-in-nagaland-cag>

## 19. Tamil Nadu net borrowings dip this fiscal compared to last year ([thehindu.com](https://www.thehindu.com)) UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 23, 2022

It came down to ₹12,028 crore at the end of July from ₹28,000 crore in the same period last year

Tamil Nadu's net market borrowings (after adjusting for repayments) has been down about 57% to ₹12,028 crore so far in the fiscal 2022-23 (till July), from ₹28,000 crore in the same period last year, according to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

States borrow from the market through issue of bonds known as State Development Loans (SDLs).

Tamil Nadu's gross borrowings were ₹16,000 crore till July this year, compared with ₹32,000 crore in the same period last year. It started borrowing only from May this year because of certain changes in the norms.

In fiscal 2022, Tamil Nadu's net market borrowings were ₹72,500 crore. For 2022-23, the State has budgeted net borrowings of ₹90,116.52 crore, excluding a ₹6,500-crore loan from the Government of India towards a shortfall in the GST compensation.

The lower borrowings also reflect the State's improved revenue.

According to the provisional figures from the Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG), Tamil Nadu's total tax revenue increased 50% to ₹56,109.07 crore till July in fiscal 2023 from ₹37,275.49 crore in the same period in 2022. The components to total tax revenue include the State's Own Tax Revenue, the State's share of the Union taxes and other taxes and duties.

Tamil Nadu's total revenue receipts stood at ₹73,329.21 crore till July this fiscal, 31.69% of the budget estimates of ₹2,31,407.28 crore for this year, the CAG said.

As on July-end 2022, the State's fiscal deficit (the difference between total revenue and expenditure excluding borrowings) stood at ₹15,969.17 crore and the revenue deficit (the difference between the government's revenue receipts and revenue expenditure) stood at ₹7,387.36 crore.

The State government has said it expects to turn revenue surplus in two years and bring down borrowings.

According to ratings firm ICRA, the cumulative issuance of SDLs by 21 States and two Union Territories stood at ₹2.5 trillion from April to September 20, 2022, which is lower than the year ago level of ₹2.9 trillion. This is also 33% lower than the indicated borrowing level of ₹3.7 trillion, it said. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/tamil-nadu-net-borrowings-dip-this-fiscal-compared-to-last-year/article65922990.ece?homepage=true>

## 20. Should 'Action Taken' reports on government audits be made mandatory? ([bengaluru.citizenmatters.in](https://bengaluru.citizenmatters.in)) Updated: Sep 23, 2022

An informed citizenry is the hallmark of a mature democracy. Hence, institutions or mechanisms that empower citizens, by providing feedback on the working of government, are essential pillars of democracy.

Citizen Matters has published a series of explainers by experts from the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), India's statutory watchdog agency. It is responsible for the performance audit of government functions/departments.

CAG reports have covered a wide range of subjects: health, education, road safety, toll, guidance value of property, mining, construction workers' welfare, etc. The articles focus on the performance of overall state finances with respect to State PSUs, Departments, Autonomous Bodies, etc. The receipt of grants from the Government has also been detailed.

**All these reports have been tabled in the assembly and are in the public domain.**

- Which are the reports that are relevant to us, as active citizens of Bengaluru?
- What can we learn from these reports?
- What happens to CAG's recommendations and how to track what happens on the ground through action taken reports?
- To discuss this, Citizen Matters, Bengaluru chapter, is organising a webinar, titled 'How to make governments accountable?', on September 27th, Tuesday, at 5.30 pm. The webinar will be followed by a brief Q&A session open to participants. <https://bengaluru.citizenmatters.in/bengaluru-webinar-government-cag-audit-information-citizens-89583>

## 21. उच्च शिक्षा 2014-

19 में आंध्र प्रदेश के जीएसडीपी के 0.5 प्रतिशत से करती है कम खर्च ([jantaserishta.com](https://jantaserishta.com)) 22 Sep 2022

भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) ने रिपोर्ट दी है कि 2014 से पांच वर्षों के दौरान आंध्र प्रदेश का उच्च शिक्षा पर खर्च सकल राज्य घरेलू उत्पाद (GSDP) के 0.5 प्रतिशत से कम हो गया है।

बुधवार को विधानसभा में 2014-15 और 2018-

19 शैक्षणिक वर्षों के बीच राज्य के प्रदर्शन उच्च शिक्षा पर अपनी रिपोर्ट में, सीएजी ने बताया कि व्यय का प्रतिशत जीएसडीपी के 0.47% से घटकर 0.25% रह गया था, जबकि टीडीपी में था शक्ति।

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि 2014 और 2019 के बीच, आंध्र प्रदेश स्टेट काउंसिल ऑफ हायर एजुकेशन (APSCHE) ने जुलाई 2016 और दिसंबर 2018 के बीच 20 के मुकाबले केवल पांच बैठकें कीं। इसे तिमाही में कम से कम एक बार मिलना आवश्यक था। APSCHE ने समान अवधि के लिए एक संभावित योजना, वार्षिक योजना और वित्तीय कार्य योजना भी तैयार नहीं की।

सीएजी की रिपोर्ट सभी घटक कॉलेजों, तीन विश्वविद्यालयों के तहत 26 संबद्ध कॉलेजों: आंध्र विश्वविद्यालय (एयू), आदिकवि नन्नया विश्वविद्यालय (एकेएनयू) और श्री वेंकटेश्वर विश्वविद्यालय (एसवीयू) के ऑडिट के बाद जारी की गई थी। ऑडिट नवंबर 2019 और मार्च 2020 के बीच किया गया था।

2014-15 की तुलना में 2018-

19 के उत्तीर्ण प्रतिशत का उल्लेख करते हुए, रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि एयू और एकेएनयू में अंतिम वर्ष की स्नातक परीक्षाओं को सफलतापूर्वक उत्तीर्ण करने वाले छात्रों की संख्या उत्साहजनक नहीं थी।

यह बताते हुए कि नमूना-

जांच किए गए संबद्ध कॉलेजों में से 26 और नौ संघटक कॉलेजों में से पांच ने उच्च अध्ययन के लिए छात्रों की प्रगति पर डेटा बनाए रखा, रिपोर्ट ने विश्वविद्यालय और कॉलेज स्तर पर डेटा बनाए रखने के लिए सिस्टम को मजबूत करने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया। इसके अतिरिक्त, उच्च अध्ययन में प्रगति करने वाले छात्रों की संख्या एयू और एसवीयू में गिर गई, जबकि एकेएनयू में मामूली वृद्धि हुई, रिपोर्ट से पता चला।

कैग ने बताया कि AKNU ने पाठ्यक्रम तैयार करने से पहले विभिन्न हितधारकों से कोई प्रतिक्रिया प्राप्त नहीं की। पाठ्यक्रम के संशोधन पर, रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि एयू ने पिछली बार 2015-16 में 73 पीजी पाठ्यक्रमों में से 19 के लिए अपने पाठ्यक्रम को संशोधित किया था, जो कुल पाठ्यक्रमों का केवल 26% था। इस बीच, अन्य दो विश्वविद्यालयों ने 2016-17 में पीजी पाठ्यक्रमों के लिए पूरे पाठ्यक्रम को संशोधित किया।

तीनों विश्वविद्यालयों ने यूजी पाठ्यक्रमों के लिए पाठ्यक्रम में संशोधन किया और इसे 2016-17 से लागू किया। 100% के बजाय केवल 7% कॉलेजों को राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन और प्रत्यायन परिषद (NAA C) द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त थी। नमूना-

जांच किए गए तीन विश्वविद्यालयों के अंतर्गत 676 महाविद्यालयों में से 623 महाविद्यालय अस्थायी संबद्धता पर चल रहे थे।

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि एसवीयू और एकेएनयू ने 2014-

19 के दौरान क्रमशः आठ और 21 नए पीजी पाठ्यक्रम शुरू किए थे, जबकि एकेएनयू ने इसी अवधि में 12 नए पाठ्यक्रम शुरू किए थे। सीएजी की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि एकेएनयू से संबद्ध कॉलेजों ने केवल 14 का उपयोग किया है। शिक्षण-

सीखने की प्रक्रिया में आईसीटी सुविधाओं का%, जबकि एयू और एसवीयू ने क्रमशः 89% और 86% उपयोग की सूचना दी।

यह कहते हुए कि तीन विश्वविद्यालयों में स्थायी शिक्षकों की कमी है, रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि इस बात का कोई आश्वासन नहीं था कि नमूना-

जांच किए गए निजी कॉलेजों में से 19 में यूजी छात्रों को पढ़ाने के लिए संकाय के पास आवश्यक योग्यता थी। यह बताया गया कि 281 शिक्षकों ने स्नातकोत्तर स्तर पर केवल 55% अंक प्राप्त किए और केवल छह शिक्षकों के पास पीएच.डी. इसके अतिरिक्त, शेष 275 शिक्षकों ने नेट (राष्ट्रीय पात्रता परीक्षा) या एसएलईटी (राज्य स्तरीय पात्रता परीक्षा) या एसईटी (राज्य पात्रता परीक्षा) की अपनी योग्यता प्रस्तुत नहीं की।

यह इंगित करते हुए कि नमूना-

जांच किए गए विश्वविद्यालयों की मूल्यांकन प्रणाली परिचालन और निगरानी अपर्याप्तता से पीड़ित थी, सीएजी रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि एयू और एसवीयू में छात्र-

कंप्यूटर अनुपात क्रमशः 20:1 और 13:1 था, जबकि नैक द्वारा सलाह दी गई 10:1 की तुलना में। नमूना-जांच किए गए 26 संबद्ध कॉलेजों में बुनियादी ढांचा भी खराब था, सीएजी की रिपोर्ट से पता चला है। <http://jantaserishta.com/local/andhra-pradesh/higher-education-spend-below-05-percent-of-andhra-pradeshs-gsdp-in-2014-19-1590180>

## 22. एपी ने 2020-

**21 में सबसे कम विकास दर दर्ज की: सीएजी ([jantaserishta.com](http://jantaserishta.com)) 22 Sep 2022**

विजयवाड़ा: मार्च 2021 को समाप्त अवधि के लिए राज्य के वित्त पर भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) के ऑडिट निष्कर्षों के अनुसार, आंध्र प्रदेश ने पिछले पांच वर्षों में 2020-21 के दौरान सबसे कम सकल राज्य घरेलू उत्पाद (GSDP) की वृद्धि दर्ज की।

सीएजी लेखापरीक्षा निष्कर्षों के अनुसार, राज्य सरकार ने राजकोषीय घाटे और बकाया देनदारियों के संबंध में एपीएफआरबीएम अधिनियम में निर्धारित लक्ष्यों का पालन नहीं किया था। राज्य की देनदारियां साल-दर-साल बढ़ती जा रही हैं और वर्ष 2020-

21 के दौरान अधिकांश उधार का उपयोग राज्य में संपत्ति निर्माण को प्रभावित करने वाले राज्य के राजस्व खाते को संतुलित करने के लिए किया गया था।

राज्य के वित्त का उल्लेख करते हुए, सीएजी की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि राज्य ने पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में वर्ष 2020-

21 के दौरान राजस्व प्राप्तियों में 5.50 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि देखी। राज्य को माल और सेवा कर (जीएसटी) के कार्यान्वयन के कारण राजस्व हानि के रूप में 5,838 करोड़ रुपये का मुआवजा मिला, आंशिक रूप से अनुदान के रूप में (3,527 करोड़ रुपये) और आंशिक रूप से भारत सरकार से बैंक टू बैंक ऋण (2311 करोड़ रुपये) के रूप में।

कैग की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि 2020-

21 के दौरान राजस्व व्यय में 11.06 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई। इसके परिणामस्वरूप राज्य के राजस्व घाटे में पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में 34.42 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई।

बजटीय प्रबंधन की बात करें तो रिपोर्ट व्यय निगरानी और नियंत्रण में खामियों की ओर इशारा करती है। पिछले पांच वर्षों के दौरान प्रत्याशित स्तरों से आगे बढ़ने के तरीकों और साधनों की मांग के कारण प्राधिकरण पर लगातार अधिकता रही है।

राज्य सरकार द्वारा विशेष बिलों का उपयोग करते हुए सीएजी रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि वर्ष 2020-

21 के लिए, व्यापक वित्तीय प्रबंधन प्रणाली (सीएफएमएस) के बैंक-

एंड के माध्यम से एपी सेंटर फॉर फाइनेंशियल सिस्टम्स में 54,092 लेखा प्रविष्टियों को केंद्रीय रूप से संसाधित किया गया था, जो एपी ट्रेजरी कोड में एक अधिकृत प्रकार का बिल नहीं है। <https://jantaserishta.com/local/andhra-pradesh/ap-recorded-lowest-growth-rate-in-2020-21-cag-1590858>

## 23. भारत के नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक ने 176 करोड़ रुपए का घोटाला पकड़ा ([jantaserishta.com](http://jantaserishta.com)) 22 Sep 2022

जहांगीरपुर में यमुना प्राधिकरण ने 765 केवीए का बिजली सबस्टेशन बनाने के लिए जरूरत से ज्यादा जमीन खरीद ली, इस जमीन खरीद फर्जीवाड़े का सीएजी (भारत के नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक) ने बड़ा घोटाला पकड़ा है। सीएजी ने इस घोटाले को यूपी विधानसभा में पटल पर रखा है। यह घोटाला सपा सरकार के दौरान यमुना अथॉरिटी में किया गया। 176.73 करोड़ रुपए के इस घोटाले में कई अधिकारियों और नेताओं की मिली भगत सामने आ सकती हैं। इस घोटाले को जांच के लिए विधानसभा की समिति के सामने करवाई करने के लिए सरकार की ओर से भेजा जाएगा।

इस तरह लगाया प्राधिकरण को हजारों करोड़ों रुपए का चूना: जहांगीरपुर की तरह ही बेलाना गांव में भी इस तरह का घोटाला सामने आया है। बेलाना गांव में मास्टरप्लान से बाहर जाकर अधिकारी और नेताओं ने जमीनें खरीदीं, इसके बाद यमुना प्राधिकरण को बेच दी गई। जिसमें प्राधिकरण को हजारों करोड़ों रुपए का चूना लगाया गया। जहांगीरपुर में सबस्टेशन निर्माण के नाम पर जमीन खरीद में बड़ा खेला खेला गया। प्राधिकरण के जमीन खरीदने से पहले इस जमीन को किसानों से औने-पौने दामों में प्राधिकरण के अफसरों और ठेकेदारों ने अपने रिश्तेदारों के नाम करीब एक महीने पहले ही खरीद लिया। इसके बाद प्राधिकरण से मोटा मुहावजा लेकर सीधे बैनामा से प्राधिकरण को जमीन बेच दी गई।

इस तरह किया जमीन का हेर-

फेर: सीएजी की जांच में खुलासा हुआ है कि जहांगीरपुर में बने 765 केवीए के बिजली सबस्टेशन के लिए 3,46,423 वर्ग मीटर जमीन की जरूरत थी जब की प्राधिकरण ने 5,43,650 वर्ग मीटर जमीन खरीद डाली। इस तरह यह जमीन (WUPPCL) को दे दी गई। इसमें 13 हेक्टेयर जमीन पर सबस्टेशन का निर्माण होना था। जब की 14 हेक्टेयर जमीन जरूरत से ज्यादा जो पूरी तरह सबस्टेशन से बाहर है, जिसे खरीद ली गई और 1.4 हेक्टेयर जमीन का मुहावजा बांट दिया गया जब की रजिस्ट्री आज तक नहीं कराई गई। जमीन का रेट 4125.60 रुपए था जबकि 2,560 रुपए की दर से जमीन अलॉट की गई।

कई अफसर और नेताओं की गर्दन फसेंगी: इस तरह समाजवादी पार्टी की सरकार में यमुना प्राधिकरण में 176.73 करोड़ रुपए का घोटाला जहांगीरपुर में किया गया। इसी तर्ज पर प्राधिकरण के मास्टरप्लान से बाहर बेलाना गांव में भी बड़ा खेल खेला गया। कई सौ करोड़ रुपए की जमीन पहले नेता व अफसरों ने भोले-भाले किसानों से बेहद कम कीमत पर खरीदी और बाद में जमीन को प्राधिकरण के अफसरों से सांठ गांठ कर प्राधिकरण को बैनामा के जरिए बेच डाली। इस तरह बेलाना गांव में भी प्राधिकरण को भारी आर्थिक नुकसान पहुंचाया गया। जमीन खरीद मामले में अब कई अफसर और नेताओं की गर्दन फंस सकती है। <https://jantaserishta.com/delhi-ncr/comptroller-and-auditor-general-of-india-caught-a-scam-of-rs-176-crore-1591273>



## **SELECTED NEWS ITEMS/ARTICLES FOR READING**

### **24. Govt on track to meet FY23 monetisation target ([financialexpress.com](https://www.financialexpress.com)) September 23, 2022**

Despite a likely slippage in key sectors like railways and telecom, the Centre is likely to achieve the asset monetisation target of Rs 1.62 trillion for the current financial year, as the mining sector, which is witnessing a flurry of new private-sector projects, is expected to do the heavy lifting, an official source said.

The monetisation value from the mining sector consisting of coal and other minerals is expected to be more than Rs 60,000 crore in FY23, as against a target of just Rs 6,060 crore, the source said.

However, only a little over a third of the railways monetisation target of Rs 57,222 crore is likely to be met, he added. The recent Cabinet decisions to extend the lease tenure for railway land development projects and slash cut the licensing fee may spur asset monetisation in the medium, but the impact will be minimal in the current year.

Even in FY22, mining contributed Rs 58,000 crore or 60% of the monetisation value achieved of Rs 97,000 crore.

The higher mop-up from the mining sector this year will come from annual accruals and private investments from mineral and coal blocks auctioned in FY22 and those being auctioned in FY23.

“The situation is a bit fluid, but the National Asset Monetisation Pipeline target for FY23 will be achieved. There is a bit of struggle as far as the railways is concerned as it has hardly done any work in this regard,” the source said.

New assets are also being identified to monetise to cover some of the shortfalls seen in telecom sector. With only some telecom towers likely to be monetised by BSNL-MTNL, the sector’s target of Rs 20,180 crore for FY23 will also be missed as broadband monetisation plan has not taken off.

A tussle is going on between railways and the finance ministry over the former’s Rs 4,700 crore proposal to redevelop New Delhi Railway Station, which is the largest such project of the national transporter, through budget funding. An earlier plan was to implement this project through public-private partnership (PPP) model. The big plans of allowing private trains and station redevelopment across the country have also not been aggressively pursued by railways, sources said.

The prime minister’s office will likely review the progress on asset monetization shortly with a view to speeding up the process, which is key to investment-led economic growth revival. NMP is also aimed at pulling in private capital which otherwise has not seen a revival, as much as it targets to increase the government’s fiscal heft.

The aggregate asset pipeline under NMP over the four years, FY22-FY25, is indicatively valued at Rs 6 trillion or about 14% of the central share of the National

Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) of Rs 43 trillion (out of total Rs 111 trillion in five years through FY25). This indicative figure refers to the value expected to be realised by the asset owners through the monetisation process, either in form of accruals or by way of private sector investments.

The government transfers revenue rights to private parties for a specified long period and gets upfront payments as revenue share. The monetisation also includes innovative Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models like the Toll Operate Transfer (TOT) projects in the highway sector, and Operations, Maintenance & Development (OMD) model for airports.

The monetisation of road assets, the second biggest component of this year's NMP is on track to achieve about Rs 33,000 crore while the power sector is also seen meeting the target of Rs 15,000-16,000 crore, which includes Power Grid's Infrastructure Investment Trust PGINVIT) to monetise new assets worth Rs 7,500-8,000 crore. Some assets of NTPC and NHPC will also be monetized, sources said.

In the roads sector, around Rs 33,000 crore including up to Rs 10,000 crore is expected by the NHAI through InvITs. NHAI expected to garner the rest from the securitisation of toll receivables from expressways and ToT models.

The monetisation of natural gas and petroleum product pipelines was projected to fetch Rs 9,176 crore in FY23. However, oil and gas companies have been asked to find alternate assets such as storage infrastructure and joint venture businesses for monetisation.

“Vigorous pursuit of asset monetisation at all levels of government will help lower debt stock and hence debt servicing costs. That would cause the risk premium to drop and the credit rating of India to improve. A virtuous circle would set in as the quality of public expenditure increases in its wake, and the private sector enjoys a lower cost of capital,” according to the latest monthly economic review by the finance ministry. <https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/govt-on-track-to-meet-fy23-monetisation-target/2686524/>