

Press Brief

The Compliance Audit Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31 March 2020 - Government of Tamil Nadu was placed in the State Legislature on 24 March 2022.

The Compliance Audit Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) relates to matters arising from the Audit by Accountant General (Audit-II), Tamil Nadu and Puducherry relating to 14 Government Departments including Public Sector Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies and Urban Local Bodies under the control of these Departments.

The report has been prepared in three parts. **Part-I** of this Report contains significant results of Compliance Audit of the Government Departments which included the Departments of Highways and Minor Ports; Law; Public Works (Buildings); and Tourism, Culture and Religious Endowments. **Part II** of this Report contains significant results of the Compliance Audit of Urban Local Bodies under the control of Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department. **Part III** of this Report contains significant results of Compliance Audit of Government Companies and Statutory Corporation, referred to in this Report as Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

This Report contains a Compliance Audit on the preservation and conservation of monuments and antiquities by the Archaeology Department and 14 Compliance Audit Paragraphs.

Compliance Audit on the preservation and conservation of monuments and antiquities by the Archaeology Department

Department of Archaeology was established with the objective to identify, conserve and preserve ancient monuments in the State and to conduct archaeological exploration and excavation at the historically important places. Compliance Audit revealed the following:

- Department could not undertake comprehensive survey to identify historical monuments for protecting and conserving them.

(Paragraph No. 2.1.7.1)

- There was inordinate delay in declaring the identified monuments as protected monuments. Department failed to acquire ownership of the 99 *per cent* of the declared protected monuments.

(Paragraph Nos. 2.1.7.2 and 2.1.9.1)

- Joint inspection revealed various deficiencies *viz.*, human vandalism, oil accretion, soot formation, vegetative growth and lack of physical protection and absence of basic amenities.

(Paragraph No. 2.1.10 and 2.1.11)

- There were delays in completion of research activities *viz.*, exploration, excavation, epigraphy and publication of excavation reports.

(Paragraph No. 2.1.12)

Compliance Audit Paragraphs

Some of the Compliance Audit Paragraphs highlighted in the Report are as follows:

- Construction of hostel without assessing the requirement of Law College students led to unfruitful expenditure of ₹ 2.76 crore.

(Paragraph No. 2.2)

- Non-adherence to Codal provisions and delay in approval of revised lease rent resulted in short collection of lease rent of ₹ 1.49 crore.

(Paragraph No. 2.3)

- Commencement of works without acquiring land led to foreclosure of bridge works despite an expenditure of ₹ 14.74 crore.

(Paragraph No. 2.4)

- Handing over of online collection of taxes and revenue to a private contractor without agreement resulted in unauthorised retention of the collected revenue besides arbitrary levy of maintenance charges.

(Paragraph No. 3.2)

- Integrated solid waste management facility was not implemented even after lapse of 12 years which resulted in accumulation of solid waste.

(Paragraph No. 3.3)

- Excess usage of Sodium hypochlorite solution by the Tiruchirappalli City Municipal Corporation resulted in wasteful expenditure of ₹ 1.53 crore and also exposed the general public to the health hazards.

(Paragraph No. 3.4)

- Decision to purchase a centralised waste processing plant despite modified rules for processing the waste through micro processing units resulted in idling of plant purchased at a cost of ₹ 1.10 crore.

(Paragraph No. 3.5)

- Incorrect site selection for construction of Municipality office building resulted in blockage of fund of ₹ 75 lakh for the past 10 years.

(Paragraph No. 3.6)

- Non-provision of allied facilities for three slaughter houses resulted in non-usage for more than seven years besides blockage of fund of ₹ 60.00 lakh.

(Paragraph No. 3.6)

- **Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited failed to:**
 - factor the transmission loss in the Energy Purchase Agreements with Solar Power Generators which resulted in additional expenditure of ₹ 245.27 crore.
(Paragraph No. 4.2.1)
 - revise the quantum of power allotted based on the outage of Open Access Generators and to restrict the adjustment to entitled quantum which resulted in excess adjustment of power to consumers leading to loss of ₹ 53.05 crore.
(Paragraph No. 4.2.2)
- **Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation Limited** failed to assess the demand before developing new industrial estates which resulted in unproductive investment of ₹ 28.47 crore.
(Paragraph No. 4.2.4)
- **Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation Limited** failed to inspect the actual receipt of machineries at the factory site before disbursement which resulted in non-realisation of dues of ₹ 1.18 crore.
(Paragraph No. 4.2.5)