

INDIAN AUDIT & ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT



Authority, scope...

The Indian Audit and Accounts Department has a history of over a century. In 1858 when the administration of the East India Company was taken over by the British Government, an independent auditor was appointed. Two years later i.e. in 1860, an Auditor General was appointed to oversee the functions of audit and accounts. He was given statutory status by the Government of India Act of 1919 and re-designated as the Auditor General of India by the Government of India Act, 1935. After independence, the Auditor General of India was renamed as the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) of India and was given an independent status under the Constitution of India.

History of Receipt Audit though goes back to 1913 when audit of customs commenced, audit of Central Excise started in 1959 and regular audit of Income Tax Receipts and Refunds commenced from 01 April 1961.

The Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) of India presently derives his authority and functions mainly from the provisions of Articles 149 to 151 of the Constitution of India. The Parliament passed the C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of service) Act in 1971, which came into effect from 15 December 1971. Section 16 of the DPC Act authorises the C&AG to audit all receipts of the Government of India and of Government of each State and Union Territory having legislative assembly and to satisfy himself that rules and procedures are designed to secure and effective check on assessment, collection, and proper allocation of revenue are being observed.

The C&AG "Regulations of Audit and Accounts, 2007" stipulates compliance audit which is an examination of system and procedures and their efficacy and include examination of integrity of data, information and documents which form the basis of a policy.

The mandate for audit of expenditure is derived from Section 13, 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20 of the C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Services) Act, 1971.