

**PRESENTED TO THE**

**HOUSE ON / 03 / 2012**

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

**2011 - 2012**

**111<sup>TH</sup> REPORT**

**ON**

**(ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS  
OF THE COMMITTEE CONTAINED IN ITS 105<sup>TH</sup> REPORT)**



**TRIPURA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
SECRETARIAT  
2012**

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(i)

**COMPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**  
**2011-2012**

**CHAIRMAN**

**Shri Sudip Roy Barman**

**MEMBERS**

1. **Shri Sahid Choudhury**
2. **Shri Prasanta Deb Barma**
3. **Shri Sukumar Barman**
4. **Shri Sudhan Das**
5. **Shri Basudev Majumder**
6. **Shri Manoranjan Acharjee**
7. **Shri Sankar Prasad Datta**
8. **Shri Partha Das**
9. **Smt. Rita Kar (Majumder)**
10. **Shri Asish Kumar Saha**

**ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**

1. **Shri Subhas Bhattacharjee - Secretary**
2. **Shrimati L. Deb Barma - U.S.(C )**

**NB:** *Shri Sahid Choudhury ceased to be a member of the Committee on being appointed as a Minister w.e.f. 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 under rule 240(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Tripura Legislative Assembly.*

(ii)

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts for the year 2009-2010 having been authorized by the Committee do present on its behalf, this 111<sup>th</sup> Report on the Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 105<sup>th</sup> Report Committee on Public Accounts.

2. The Committee for the year 2011-12 took evidence of the Representatives of the Health & Family Welfare, Education (Higher) and Industries & Commerce Departments on the Paragraphs relating to their Departments in its meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2011 and 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2012. The Committee considered and finalized this Report by circulation on 16 / 03 / 2012.

3. The Committee places on record its appreciation for the commendable works done by the Committee on Public Accounts for the year 2011-12 for recording oral evidences of the representatives of the Departments and in obtaining information for this Report .

4. The Committee thankfully expresses its appreciation of the co-operation and assistance rendered by the Representatives of the Departments in furnishing information and also to the Accountant General (Audit), Tripura and his officials in compilation of this Report.

5. The Committee also places on record its appreciation of sincerity and devotion to duty of the Officers and Staff of the Assembly Secretariat in connection with examination, compilation and presentation of this Report

Dated, Agartala ,

The 16 / 03 / 2012

Sudip Roy Barman  
Chairman  
Public Accounts Committee  
Tripura Legislative Assembly

# **CHAPTER – I**

## **REPORT**

This Report of the Committee deals with the Action taken by the Government on the recommendations and observations of the Committee contained in its 105<sup>th</sup> Report based on the various paragraphs of the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 2008-2009.

The 105<sup>th</sup> Report which had been presented to the House on the 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2011 . The Follow-up-Action Report is prepared on Health & Family Welfare, Education (Higher) & Industries & Commerce Departments. The Action taken Notes have been broadly categorized as follows :-

i) Recommendations / Observations which have been accepted by the Government Sl.No. 1 & 2(Para 37 & 38)

ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee does not desire to pursue in the light of the replies received from the Government:-

Sl.No.4 and 17( Para No. 70 & 125)

iii) Recommendations/Observations replies to which have not been accepted Sl.No.3, 6, 10, 12 & 14 ( Paras No. 53,81,97,108 & 115)

The Committee will now deal with the Action taken by the Government on some of its recommendations /observations in the succeeding paragraphs and the Action Taken Notes furnished by the Departments on various recommendations /observations of the committee contained in its 105<sup>th</sup> Report has been reproduced in the relevant Chapters of this Report.

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## **I. HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

( Sl. No. 3 of the Appendix and Para No.53 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee )

### **(i) Suspected misappropriation**

Rule 77-A of the Central Treasury Rules (CTRs)(Volume-I)states that all Government Officers who receive Government dues and handle cash and perform the functions of Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) should observe that all monetary transactions are entered in the Cash Book as soon as they occur and attested as a token of check, the Cash Book is closed regularly after verifying the totals at the end of each month ; cash balance in the Cash Book is verified and a certificate recorded to satisfy that money paid into treasury/bank are actually credited through checking of treasury/bank receipts. Rule 3 and Government of Indian decision below Rule 6 of General Financial Rules also requires strict enforcement of financial rules/orders while managing public moneys.

Scrutiny(January ,2009) of records of Medical Superintendent ,Cancer Hospital ,Agartala revealed that receipts and payments were not regularly entered in the Cash Book, analysis of cash balances at the end of each month and physical verification of cash balances were not done for months at time .Besides, neither the treasury challans/schedules nor the bank counterfoils/scrolls were verified to ascertain the correctness of the entries in the Cash Book , Audit of the Hospital revealed suspected misappropriation as detailed below .

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The Cashier received Rs. 9,54,350 through the daily collection registers, from various collection counters on account of the charges/fees for tests (thyroid ,X-ray, mammography etc.) during 1<sup>st</sup> November,2005 to 26<sup>th</sup> September,2008. However, only Rs.9,15,750 was accounted for in the Cash Book resulting in short account of Rs.38,600.

Rupees 3,17,800 shown in the Cash Book as remitted into Treasury during 1<sup>st</sup> November,2005 to 26<sup>th</sup> September,2008 , were not found in the Treasury receipt schedules. The actual remittance of these amounts is doubtful, as the relevant Treasury challans could not be produced to audit team.

The Cash Book entries on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2008 recorded Rs.14, 400 and Rs.13, 600 as remitted into Treasury. The corresponding challans and entries in the Treasury receipt schedules were only for Rs.4,400 and Rs.3,600 , resulting in short remittance of Rs.20,000 .Meanwhile ,Rs.2,17,800 remitted into Treasury in 16 challans between 29<sup>th</sup> April,2006 and 22<sup>nd</sup> August,2008,were not routed through the Cash Book.

Closing balance as on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 was Rs. 21,200. A further amount of Rs. 1,01,350 was collected during 27<sup>th</sup> September,2008 to 14<sup>th</sup> January,2009 out of which Rs. 59,200 was remitted into the Treasury .Physical verification of cash conducted at the instance of audit on 14<sup>th</sup> January,2009 showed a balance of only Rs.1,973 in the cash chest as against Rs.63,350.

Thus, violation of provisions of financial rules regarding handling of Government money and poor maintenance of Cash Book led to suspected misappropriation of Rs.4, 37,777 and unaccounted deposit of Rs.2, 17,800.

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The Director stated (July and September,2009) that the misappropriation occurred due to manipulation and oversight of the cashier and a warning has been issued to the cashier .He further stated that the cashier has already deposited Rs.1,57,000 through challan in June,2009 and the DDO had also been instructed to verify the cash regularly.

The Deputy Medical Superintendent, Cancer Hospital informed that the cashier had been directed (6<sup>th</sup> October, 2009) to deposit the balance amount of Rs.62, 977 by 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2009.

The fact however, remains that the erring officials are still being allowed to handle cash in the hospital even after manipulation and mis-appropriation of Government cash. Besides, in spite of specific query, action taken if any, against the erring officials has not been intimated to audit (October, 2009).

In regard to the facts as revealed, the Committee, would like to suggest that Department should take appropriate action against the person involved as per prevalent law and prevalent rule. The step taken in this regard should be furnished to the Committee within 2(two) month from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

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## **II. EDUCATION (HIGHER) DEPARTMENT**

**( Sl. No. 6 of the Appendix and Para N0o. 81 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee )**

During the years 2004-09 , 11 projects under Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for Rs. 58.90 crore and four projects under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources(NLCPR) FOR Rs. 47.58 crore were sanctioned by the GOI for undertaking new construction works as well as for strengthening the existing infrastructure of the Institutions of Education(Higher) Department in the State .

The Finance Department did not release Rs. 10.79 crore (24 per cent) against the funds of Rs.45.82 crore released by GOI under ACA and Rs. 9.25 crore (54 per cent) against the fund of Rs.17.18 crore released by GOI under NLCPR till June, 2009. Further, utilization certificates for only Rs. 11.23 crore and Rs. 3.18 crore out of Rs. 45.82 crore and Rs. 17.18 crore respectively had been submitted by the State Government under Test check of records revealed that:

i) Rupees five crore rreleased by the Finance Departmet in October, 2007 for construction of Academic wing of Bir Bikram Memorial College, Agartala was not transferred to the construction Agency (THCB) by the Directorate. Instead, the amount (Rs. 5 crore) was invested in term deposit at State Co-operative Bank and the interest earned (Rs. 35.44 lakh) was deposited in Government account in May, 2009.

The funds were transferred to the THCB in two spells, in July ,2008 (Rs. 50 lakh) and March , 2009(Rs. 4.50 crore),out of which, an amount of Rs.75 lakh (15 per cent ) was spent by THCB as of June,2009 resulting in delay of 21 months as of June ,2009 since receipt of the funds .The College was yet to be completed(September,2009).

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(ii) During July, 2005 to August, 2008 Rs.5.25 crore of NLCPR funds was placed with Bhavan's Tripura College authority (a private college) for construction of a College of Science and Technology. The entire funds were placed with the private college without specifying any terms and conditions. In view of allegations of mismanagement of the funds, the Government constituted a committee (February, 2009) of State PWD Engineers to conduct physical inspection report has not been received by the Department. Besides Rs. 3.53 crore has been reported to have been spent up to March, 2008 and utilization certificates for Rs. 3.18 crore have been submitted to MoDONER by the State in March, 2008.

(iii) For development of infrastructure in Tripura Engineering College (now NIT) Rs. 12.24 crore was approved under NLCPR and Rs. 2.68 crore was released(December,2006) by the GOI. The project is scheduled to be completed by 2010.The entire amount was released by the State Government to the College authority who in turn placed Rs. 2.28 crore with the THCB in 2006-07.The THCB took up the work and sought (January, 2008) additional amount of Rs. 6.22 crore being the total value of work (Rs. 8.50 crore) taken up as of January, 2008.No further development on physical progress of work or transfer of funds could be made available to audit as of June, 2009. Though the project was taken up in 2006-07, the Department could not furnish to audit the present status of the work. In the meantime, the institution has been converted into a National Institute of Technology.

The Department did not maintain any record of major and minor works with project-wise details of Implementing Agency, date of commencement, scheduled that a monitoring cell has been set up in the Directorate recently. After careful date of completion and other terms and conditions governing the execution of works, present status of work and expected date of completion. No mechanism exists to monitor the physical and financial progress of the funds received for various infrastructure projects. The relevant copies of the project proposals, cost estimates, copies of agreements with

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the executing agency could not be produced to audit even on specific requisitions followed by reminder.

The Government in the exit conference (September, 2009) stated that though documentation was not done properly, capital works are monitored regularly and that a monitoring cell has been set up in the Directorate recently.

After careful consideration of the issue the Committee recommend that latest position of inspection report should be furnished by the department within 1(one) month from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

### **III. INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT**

**(Sl.No.10 of the Appendix and Para No.97 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee)**

- (i) Loss of revenue due to arbitrary quantification of allowable utilization of Natural Gas in mining operation.

As per the legal provisions, no Royalty shall be payable in respect of any crude oil, casing-head condensate or natural gas, which is used for drilling or other operations ,relating to the production of petroleum or natural gas. The Rules as well as the PML agreements did not, however specify any standard quantum of such utilization, the scrutiny indicated that there are wide variations in the internal utilization from year to year and from field to field.

In the absence of any specified standard for use of natural gas in mining operations, excess utilization, if any, is not quantifiable. However, taking the average trend of operational as use in Rokhia Gas Field, it is seen that there has been excess ga utilization to the extent of ` 10.13 lakh SCM involving royalty of about ` 16.05 lakh during the period 2004-2005 to 2008-09.

In this regard, the Committee desires to know the views of Ministry of Petroleum. This information should be furnished to the Committee within two months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

**( Sl.No. 12 of the Appendix and Para No. 108 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee )**

(ii) Non-levy of interest and penalty on account of delayed payment of royalty

Rule 14(1)(a)(ii) of PNG Rules ,1959 , as amended from time to time, stipulates that a lessee shall pay to the State Government a royalty in respect of any mineral mined, excavated or collected by him from the leased area at the rates specified from time to time .The royalty shall be payable on monthly basis , as may be provided in the lease (clause 4(ii) of Part VI) and shall be paid by the last day of the month succeeding the month in respect f which it is payable .Rule 23(1) of the PNG Rules as amended from 1<sup>st</sup> April,2003,further provided that all license fees, royalties and other payments under these rules shall. If not paid to the government within the time specified for such payment, be increased by a penal rate of 200 basis points over the prime lending rate of the State Bank of India during which such fees, royalties or other payments remain unpaid.

Audit scrutiny (June, 2009) indicated that in 15 cases pertaining to the period between April, 2004 and January, 2009, ONGC paid royalty of ` 8.30 crore on the mining of natural gas with delay ranging between six to 85 days .The Department neither served any notice nor levied the interest with due penalty on the delayed amount of royalty payment beyond the due date. This resulted in non-levy of penal interest of ` 12.57 lakh.

The Committee could not be satisfied with the oral reply of the Principal Secretary of the Department. The Committee pointed out that Rule 14(1) (a) (ii) of PNG Rules, 1959 has been amended. It is clearly stated, a royalty payable in respect of any mineral mined, excavated, or collected by him from leased area at the rates specified from time to time. It is indicating that the royalty will be charged on monthly basis.  
Royalty

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shall be payable on monthly basis as per rule. Therefore, the Committee would like to be apprised of detailed information on the views of the Government on the provision of monthly payment specified in the extant rules and the lease agreement. The reply to the query should be furnished to the Committee within two months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

**(Sl.No. 14 of the Appendix and Para No. 115 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Committee on Public Accounts)**

(iii) Short payment of royalty on Casing head Condensates

Rule 14(1)(a)(ii) of PNG Rules,1959 stipulates that a lessee shall pay to the State Government a royalty on crude oil and casing-head condensates obtained from mining operations at the rates fixed by the Central Government from time to time .

The ORD Act.1948 and Rules framed there under stipulate that the royalty on casing-head condensates obtained in mining operation is to be paid at a fixed amount per MT as specified by the Central Government from time to time, similar to crude oil. ONGC, Tripura Asset, however, maintained that for condensates formed out of natural gas, the royalty is applicable at the rate of 10 per cent of gas price of ` 1,920 per 1,000 cubic metre as against ` 481 per M.T.for crude oil and condensates. ONGC, however, agreed (January, 2008)to pursue with the MoPNG for notification of the rate actually applicable to condensates or assessing the royalty as per the practice followed in other regions. As of now (June, 2009), neither has the ONGC communicated the outcome of their efforts, nor have the State Government taken any step to obtain clarification on the issue. Consequently, ONGC continues to pay royalty on condensates at the gas price.

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Annual Accounts of ONGC ,Tripura Asset for the years 2005-06 to 2008-09 reveals that the sale price received by the unit on the crude oil condensates during the four years was ` 3.43 crore. The total royalty due to the State Government form ONGC at 10 per cent of the price of condensates was ` 34.26 lakh. Scrutiny of the royalty payment statement, however, indicated that ONGC had paid ` 6.19 lakh as royalty on condensates during the 4 years (2005-06 to 2008-09) adopting a calculation formula of 10 per cent of the gas price at ` 1,920 per 1,000 SCM at 10,000 K.Cal calorific value instead of the actual sale price of the condensates. This resulted in short payment of the royalty amounting to ` 28.07 lakh.

The Committee has already been convinced during its examination on the Audit Paragraph 4.3.13 that the Department had been facing difficulty for shortage of Geologist. The Committee suggests that Geologist may be engaged by the Department and State Government at an earliest.

## **CHAPTER – II**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT**

#### **I. HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

##### **I. RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee strongly observed that the Department have not been acted with due sense of responsibility. The Committee, therefore, recommends that this event not being a small thing the department will look after the matter so that such thing would not recur again and would like to know as and when some development takes place regarding the investigation or departmental Proceedings or criminal case.

A comprehensive report on all the above matters should be submitted to the Committee within two months from the date of presentation of this report to the Assembly.

(Sl.No. 1 & 2 of the Appendix and Para No. 37 & 38 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee)

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### **Action Taken by the Government**

The Department enforces all rules and regulations but such enforcement may be violated for personal gains by certain officials /staff with malafide intentions. When lapse has been come to notice, all necessary steps have been taken.

After detection misappropriation of Government money and forgery of Cash transaction, the Department maintained strict financial discipline, so that such incident of misappropriation does not recur in future. Necessary corrective measures have been taken by the Department for prevention of such recurrence in future as suggested by Audit team deputed from A.G., Tripura . Cash of this Directorate is now maintaining the following registers.

- a) Cash Book Register of Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO).
- b) Cash Book Register of Director of Health Services(DHS).
- c) Cheque issue register of DDO at State Bank of India (SBI),Agartala Branch
- d) Cheque issue register of DHS at United Bank of India (UBI) ,Agartala Branch
- e) Cheque Book receipt Register of SBI, Agartala Branch.
- f) Cheque Book receipt Register of UBI ,Agartala Branch
- g) Cheque Book receipt Register of Gramin Bank, Gurkhabasti Branch.
- h) Valuable Register of DHS.
- i) Budget control Register of DHS.
- j) Bill Register of DHS.
- k) Income Tax deduction Registers of DHS.
- l) VAT deducted Register of DHS.
- m) Bill receipt Register.
- n) Acquaintance Roll register (General-I, Stipend-I).
- o) Treasury Transit Register.
- p) Cash Analysis Register of State illness Assistance Fund.
- q) Despatch Register(Cheque and others)

All necessary steps have been taken as remedy of wrong through criminal and departmental proceedings. It is to be mentioned here that in this case 2(two) Lawyers have been appointed by the Law Department to conduct the case.

In regards disciplinary proceeding drawn up against Dr. S.L.Das, Ex.Jt.DHS and Head of Office , the Charge Sheet has already been issued by the GA (AR)Department vide their memo. dated 30-11-2010. The said Charge Sheet has already been forwarded to the Commissioner of Departmental Inquiries, Government of Tripura and said Inquiry is going on .Dr. S.L.Das, Ex. Jt. DHS and Head of Office have appeared before the Inquiring Authority on several dates.

In respect of disciplinary proceeding drawn up against Shri Krishnendu Kar,LDC (acting Cashier) (now under suspension) and Sri Subhash Ch. Debbarma, Ex.DDO,the Charge Sheet has already been issued to both of them and they have submitted their defense statement in due course. In these disciplinary proceedings, Shri Kishore Ambuly , IAS ,Secretary to the Government of Tripura ,Higher Education Department have been appointed as Inquiring Authority by the Government and in all the D.Ps , P.O. is also appointed by the Department .

The copies of the Charge Sheet with all relevant documents have been sent to the Inquiring Authority for next course of action.

The Representative of the Department stated in his oral evidence that no cash was recovered.

***The Committee recommends that internal audit may be strengthened by the Department on regular basis so as to check such recurrence in future.***



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## **II. EDUCATION( HIGHER) DEPARTMENT**

**N I L**

## **III. INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT**

**N I L**

### **CHAPTER – III**

**RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DOES NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN THE LIGHT OF REPLIES RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT**

#### **I. HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

##### **I RECOMMENDATION**

After detailed discussion the Committee recommends that (a) some quota in the Medical Colleges should be there to be filled from the students who have successfully secured their ranking in the Joint Entrance Examination(b)The Committee also wants to know the latest position of Assets and liabilities of Medical Colleges. This information should be furnished to the Committee within 2(two) months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

(Sl.No. 4 of the Appendix and Para No. 70 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee)

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**Action taken by the Government**

(a) It has been decided that out of 100 seats, 55 seats for admission of Student of Tripura domicile as per reservation policy of State Government , 30 seats for All India student as per reservation policy of Government of India and 15 seats are offered to Central pool 85 ( 55 + 30 ) candidates will be selected through Common Entrance Test ( CET).

(b) The Report of assets and liabilities of GENET is under examination of the Government.

**II. EDUCATION (HIGHER) DEPARTMENT**

**N I L**

**III. INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT**

**(i) RECOMMENDATION**

After careful examination by the Committee, the Committee would like to be apprised of step taken by the Department for regular inspection. A detailed report should be furnished to the Committee within 3(three) months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

**(Sl.No.17 of the Appendix and Para No.125 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee)**

### **Action taken by the Government**

To ensure the mineral surveillance effectively with a view to systematic development and regulation of minerals in the State and the mineral are explored in lawful manner with adequate protection of the environment as per the terms and conditions of the lease deed executed for issue of Petroleum Exploration License and Petroleum Mining Lease, a committee under the Chairmanship of Director, Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura has been constituted vide Memorandum No. GEO/DI/AUDIT/2009/6397-05 dated 27th April, 2011.

## **CHAPTER – IV**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS/REPLIES TO WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION**

#### **I. HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

##### **(i) RECOMMENDATION**

In regard to the facts as revealed, the Committee, would like to suggest that Department should take appropriate action against the person involved as per prevalent law and prevalent rule. The step taken in this regard should be furnished to the Committee within 2(two) month from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

( Sl.No. 3 of the Appendix and Para No. 53 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee )

### **Action taken by the Government**

In fact, as per provision of Financial Rules, lack of supervisions has occurred over the functioning of Cash and Accounts by the DDO and Head of Office. The misappropriation of Government money has been occurred by the Cashier (Shri Nutan Dey) .After deposition of the misappropriated money into the Government account by the Cashier ,he was withdrawn from the cash section and one new person is placed in the cash section to function as Cashier and the DDO O/o the M.S.Cancer Hospital is instructed to spend more time in Cash & accounts matter to maintain as per provision of Financial Rules to prevent recurrence of such irregularities in future.

The Department has examined the amount of misappropriation of Government money as mentioned in the Audit Report and it was found less deposited to Government account by the Cashier. The fact, even after manipulation and misappropriation of Government money by the Cashier, he was allowed to handle Cash of the Hospital to regularize the irregularities and improper maintenance of Cash book regarding revenue collection and other cash related matters which was raised objection by the Audit during the period between 1.11.2005 to 31.12.2008 (Audit covered period). Then he was instructed to deposit the misappropriated Government money into the Government account. After the money was deposited by the Cashier (Shri Nutan Dey), he was withdrawn from the Cash Section and another person assigned to function in the Cash Section of the Hospital as Cashier.

The matter of irregular maintenances of Cash Book and non-maintenance of Cash Book which was raised objection by the Audit. The erring official (Shri Nutan Dey acting cashier) has been placed under suspension on 12-12-2010 and disciplinary proceeding has been drawn up.

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Disciplinary Proceedings drawn against Dr.Dulal Ch.Das,DDO of the M.S.Cancer Hospital and letter sent to GA(AR) Department for issue of charge sheet.

The Department has examined all the relevant papers/documents regarding the incident of the Misappropriation of Government Money O/o the Medical Superintendent, Cancer Hospital, Agartala. It was observed from the relevant documents that sustainable charge can not be framed against Head of Office, O/o the Medical Superintendent, Cancer Hospital. Hence action has not been taken.

### **COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE**

*The Committee would like to know the latest position of this case? This information should be furnished to the Committee within 6(six) months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.*

## **II. EDUCATION (HIGHER) DEPARTMENT**

### **I. RECOMMENDATION**

After careful consideration of the issue the Committee recommend that latest position of inspection report should be furnished by the department within 1(one) month from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

(Sl.No.6 of the Appendix and Para No. 81 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee)

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### **Action Taken by the Government**

Consequent upon sanction of the project for Rs.598.00 lakh and release of fund by Finance Department an amount of Rs. 525.51 lakh was placed with Bhavan's Tripura authority in three installments on 27-04-2005,17-04-2007 and 30-08-2008 . The agency for construction of the college was selected by Bhavan's authority and executed the work under their own supervision.

Utilization Certificate for Rs. 318.76 lakhs has been furnished by Bhavan's authority in respect of the above project.

While construction of the project was in progress, the work was kept suspended consequent upon a complain regarding quality and value of work. Government of Tripura, Public Works Department vide Memo.No.F.21(3)-PWD(W)/2003(P-1) dated 23-03-2009 constituted a Task Force of five PWD Engineers to inspect and report as to(1) assess quality and extent of work done ,(2) determine approximate value of works done ,(3) approximate fund required for the remaining part of the abandoned project and (4) suggest measures against the contractor and others responsible.

The Task Force submitted their report after physical inspection of the building pointing out the defects noticed with suggestion of remedial measure in both Ph.1 and Ph.II of the project. A copy of the Inspection Report was sent to the Director, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on 26.02.2011 to comply with direction given in the report with time frame. In response to above, Bhavan's authority desired a meeting on the inspection report and accordingly a meeting was held on 10.05.2011 at Agartala with the S. E. Project Circle, Joint Director, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan and the Director , Higher Education. Thereafter, the point wise observations given by the S.E. Project Circle, PWD on 10.06.2011 was again sent to the Director, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on 18.06.2011 with direction to take necessary action as suggested in the report dated 10.06.2011 within three months .

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The Bhavan's authority then visited the site again on 10.08.2011 along with their expert (Engineers) and informed vide their letter dated 11.08.2011 that their experts will carry out a detailed study in next few days and would suggest remedial measures in their report .The report of the Bhavan's experts stated above is yet awaited.

### ***COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE***

*What is the latest position of College of Science and Technology under the Bhavan's Tripura College authority? Whether Department received any Report from the Bhavan's Tripura College Authority?*

*What is the latest position of Development of infrastructure in Tripura Engineering College (now NIT)?*

*What is the latest position of construction of Academic Wing of Bir Bikram Memorial College, Agartala ?*

*These information should be furnished to the Committee within 7(seven) days from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly?*

## **III. INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT**

### **I. RECOMMENDATION**

In this regard, the Committee desires to know the views of Ministry of Petroleum. This information should be furnished to the Committee within two months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

(Sl.No.10 of the Appendix and Para No.97 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee)

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**Action Taken by the Government**

The matter has already been taken up with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG), New Delhi vide D.O. letter No.GEO/DI/AUDIT/2009/4960 dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2011.

The Committee will be further apprised on receipt of reply from MoPNG, New Delhi.

The Representative of the Department stated in his oral evidence on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011 ,that no response from Petroleum Ministry, Government of India.

**COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE**

*The Committee would like to know the views of Ministry of Petroleum. Department will sent a fresh “Reminder letter ” to the Petroleum Ministry. Replies of this reminder should be furnished to the Committee within 3(three) days from the date of receive of letter .*

**( ii ) RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee could not be satisfied with the oral reply of the Principal Secretary of the Department. The Committee pointed out that Rule 14(1) (a) (ii) of PNG Rules, 1959 has been amended. It is clearly stated that a royalty payable in respect of any mineral, mine, excavated or collected by him from leased area at the rates specified from time to time. It is indicating that the royalty will be charged on monthly basis. Royalty shall be payable on monthly basis as per rule. Therefore, the Committee would like to be apprised of detailed information on the views of the Government on the provision of monthly payment specified in the rules and the lease agreement. The reply to the query should be furnished to the Committee within two months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.

(Sl.No.12 of the Appendix and Para No.108 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee)

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**Action Taken by the Government**

The matter has already been taken up with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG), New Delhi vide D.O. letter No. GEO/DI/AUDIT/2009/4960 dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2011.

The Committee will be further apprised on receipt of reply from MoPNG, New Delhi.

**COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE**

*In this regard, the Committee would like to recommend that the Department should examine the process from the States of Assam and Gujarat.*

*The Committee also would like to know the latest position in this regard.*

*This information should be furnished to the Committee within 2 (two) months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.*

**IV. RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee has already been convinced during its examination on the Audit Paragraph 4.3.13 that the Department had been facing difficulty for shortage of Geologist. The Committee suggests that Geologist may be engaged by the Department and State Government at an earliest.

(Sl.No.14 of the Appendix and Para No.115 of the 105<sup>th</sup> Report of the Public Accounts Committee)

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**ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT**

The matter has already been taken up with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG), New Delhi vide D.O. letter No. GEO/DI/AUDIT/2009/4960 dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2011.

The Committee will be further apprised on receipt of reply from MoPNG, New Delhi.

***COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE***

*The Representative of the Department in his oral evidence on 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2011 stated that this post is already lapsed. Now, process is continuing for revive the post through Finance Department. The Representative assured the Committee that within two month Department will fill up this post.*

*What is the latest position of in this case? Replies should be furnished to the Committee within 3(three) months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Assembly.*

**SUDIP ROY BARMAN  
CHAIRMAN  
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**