

THIRTEENTH KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
(2014-2016)**

**SIXTY SEVENTH REPORT
(Presented on 9th July, 2014)**



**SECRETARIAT OF THE KERALA LEGISLATURE
THIRUVANANTHAPURM
2014**

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COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
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SIXTY SEVENTH REPORT

On

**Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained
in the 37th Report of the Committee on
Public Accounts (2001-2004)**

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS (2014-2016)

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Smt. A. K. Shaila, Deputy Secretary

Shri G. P. Unnikrishnan, Under Secretary.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on Public Accounts, having been authorised by the Committee to present this Report, on their behalf present the 67th Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the 37th Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2001-2004).

The Committee considered and finalised this Report at the meeting held on 30th June, 2014.

Thiruvananthapuram,
9th July, 2014.

DR. T. M. THOMAS ISAAC,
Chairman,
Committee on Public Accounts.

REPORT

This Report deals with the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 37th Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2001-2004).

The Thirty Seventh Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2001-2004) was presented to the House on 31st January, 2003. The Report contained fourteen recommendations relating to various Departments. Government was addressed on 6th February, 2003 to furnish the statement of Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the Report and the final replies received on 16th November, 2012.

The Committee considered the Action Taken statements at its meetings held on 20-8-2003, 11-6-2008, 8-12-2010, 20-9-2011 and on 2-1-2013.

The Committee was not satisfied with the Action Taken by Government on the recommendation in Sl. Nos. 2, 8 and 11 (Para Nos. 11, 26 and 31) and decided to pursue them further. Such recommendations, replies furnished thereon and further recommendations of the Committee are included in Chapter I of this Report.

The Committee decided not to pursue further action on the remaining recommendations Sl. Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14 (Para Nos. 10, 12, 18, 20, 21, 24, 28, 30, 34, 35 and 36) in the light of the replies furnished by Government. These recommendations of the Committee and the Action Taken by Government are included in Chapter II of this Report.

CHAPTER I

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ARE NOT SATISFACTORY AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

GENERAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT/FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 2, Para No. 11)

1.1 The Committee understands that in a Government Department, a new post can be created only with the concurrence of Finance Department.

In General Education Department, additional posts of teachers were created without financial concurrence or budget provision. The Committee notes with serious concern that as regards the appointments in the teaching category in the General Education Department, the Assistant Educational Officers and District Educational Officers are exercising virtually uncontrolled powers. The Finance Department is quite unaware of the financial commitments undertaken by the General Education Department due to these uncontrolled appointments made in the General Education Department. These improper exercising of powers leads to unnecessary and heavy financial commitment to the State. The Committee opines that the matter should be looked into in detail by the Government and this sad state of financial mismanagement in the General Education Department should be rectified forthwith.

Action Taken

1.2 The Assistant Educational Officers and District Educational Officers make staff fixation every year as per the provisions in KER and as per the orders issued by Government from time to time. There are provisions for reviewing the fixation at higher levels, if there are any mala fides in such fixation. There are also Super Check Cells to attend to the complaints or allegations in the matter. Moreover, considering the practical difficulties involved in the staff fixation at Government level, no change has so far been made in the existing statutory provisions.

Government had imposed a general ban on creation of additional posts from the year 1999-2000 onwards vide G.O. (P) No. 2278/99/Fin. dated 17-11-1999 and G.O. (P) No. 994/2000/Fin. dated 30-6-2000 as part of economy measures. Subsequently, Government decided that no new posts shall be created in Govt./Aided Colleges/Schools in the State as per G.O. (P) No. 817/01/Fin. dated 11-6-2001. Later, considering the practical difficulties in running the schools without adequate staff, Government issued direction to approve all appointments in Govt./Aided Schools up to 14-7-2001 vide G.O. (P) No. 303/01/G.Edn. dated 5-10-2001. It was directed therein that in future no new appointments would be made without prior approval of the Government. In relaxation of the economy orders, Government also allowed additional division/posts and approval of

appointment during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001. As per G.O. (P) No. 80/02/G.Edn. dated 27-4-2002, Government directed approval of all the appointments of teachers of Government/Aided Schools up to 29-10-2001 after revising/reviewing the staff fixation order for the year 2001-02. It was made clear therein that no new vacancies consequent on staff fixation shall be filled up without prior approval of Government.

In G.O. (P) No. 169/04/G.Edn. dated 15-6-2004 Government have ordered to approve all the appointments made in Aided Schools after 29-10-2001 if otherwise eligible as per the provisions in KER. In G.O. (P) No. 317/05/G.Edn. dated 17-8-2005 Government have ordered to approve the appointments of Teaching and Non-teaching staff during the academic year 2004-05 and 2005-06 if otherwise eligible as per the provisions in KER. All the above orders were issued after placing the matter before Council of Ministers.

In short, now there is Government control on creation of additional post in schools and no new vacancies are filled up without the consent of Government.

Further Recommendation

1.3 The Committee recommended that appointment against additional post of teachers should be done only with the concurrence of the Finance Department, after getting necessary sanction, staff fixation, visit of A.E.O./D.E.O. etc. Government should view, all appointments made without such formalities, very seriously and take appropriate action in the matter.

FOREST AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 8, Para No. 26)

1.4 The Committee understands that the payment made during the financial year 1995-1996 which led to excess expenditure in that year was related to the years 1991 to 1994. The Committee finds inordinate delay on the part of the department in making payment even after the court decree, which had no scope for appeal. The Committee observes that the department had to pay extra amount

equal to the decretal amount as interest due to late payment. The Committee could not agree with the argument of the department that the Government had not sustained any loss in this regard. The Committee desires that the recurrence of such unnecessary delay leading to heavy loss to the State exchequer should be avoided.

Action Taken

1.5 The Committee's directions are noted for compliance. Directions have already been issued to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests to avoid such delays in future. So this issue may be got dropped.

Further Recommendation

1.6 The Committee recommended that if there is no scope for appeal, the Department should take necessary steps to effect the payment within the stipulated time.

FINANCE/TOURISM DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 11, Para No. 31)

1.7 The Committee also takes note of irregular expenditure in which new service procedure have not been adopted and the Department had drawn ₹ 10 lakh even before obtaining Administrative Sanction and without even a token provision. The Committee notices that even though adequate precautionary measures are there to avoid such payments, the Treasury Department is not paying any attention to dishonour the bill. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Finance Department should issue necessary guidelines to all Heads of Departments and Controlling Officers to check the recurrence of such irregularities and strictly adhere to the principles and procedures enunciated in the Kerala Budget Manual.

Action Taken

1.8 Finance Department has issued direction to all the Head of Departments/ Chief Controlling Officers to take strict measures to avoid the excess expenditure

over Voted Grant/Charged Appropriation vide Circular No. 86/03/Fin. dated 29-10-2003. Further to this, Circular instructions were issued in Circular No. 89/2003/Fin. dated 17-11-2003 read with Circular No. 94/2003/Fin. dated 9-12-2003 and Circular No. 37/05/Fin. dated 23-6-2005 containing specific directions to all the Heads of Department/Chief Controlling Officers and Treasury Officers to strictly adhere to all relevant rules and procedures in incurring expenditure and to strictly adhere to the principles of appropriation control over expenditure. All the drawing officers are now required to record a certificate on the bills to the effect that the bill presented is within the budgeted amount/allotment. The Treasury Officers will not honour the bills in the absence of such certification in the bills.

Further Recommendation

1.9 The Committee wanted to be informed of the position after the issuance of the Circular dated 23-6-2005.

The Committee further recommended that disciplinary action should be initiated against the officers responsible for the drawal of amount from the treasury in the absence of necessary Head of Account (Finance & Tourism Departments).

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE ACTION IN THE LIGHT OF THE REPLIES FURNISHED BY GOVERNMENT

GENERAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 1, Para No. 10)

2.1 The Committee was not convinced with the explanation for the non-submission of notes on reasons for excess expenditure over Voted Grants/Charged Appropriations incurred by General Education Department during the period from 1983-84 to 1993-94 and the inordinate delay occurred on the part of the Department. The Committee finds same as lame excuses. The department

has not submitted the notes till date. The Committee is of the view that the laxity occurred on the part of the department is unpardonable. The Committee urges the department to furnish 'notes' explaining reasons for excess expenditure stated above without further delay.

Action Taken

2.2 Action completed for the regularization of excess expenditure of the period from 1983-84 to 1991-92 in General Education Department. The excess expenditure for the year 1993-94 (Head of account 4202-04-800-96 and 4202-01-203-99) is not being operated by the General Education Department. This fact has already been informed to the Legislature, Accountant General, Finance (PAC) Department and Higher Education Department. Vide letter No. 21115/P2/02/G.Edn. dated 21-6-2002, 51157/P2/08/G.Edn. dated 5-11-2009 and 72413/P2/11/G.Edn. dated 7-1-2012.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 3, Para No. 12)

2.3 The Committee understands that as per Kerala Education Rules, Director of Public Instruction has been delegated the power to hear appeals regarding the appointments to the teaching category. It has come to the notice of the Committee that this power delegated as per rule has been re-delegated to one Additional Director by the Director of Public Instruction. The Committee opines that it is a clear violation of Kerala Education Rules and the practice should be stopped forthwith. The Committee observes that the powers once delegated to an officer as per rule cannot be re-delegated by him. The Committee reiterates that the Director of Public Instruction should hear the appeals in person or the rules should be amended.

Action Taken

2.4 According to the notification published in the Kerala Gazette dated 9-6-1959 the Government of Kerala appointed the Additional Director of Public Instruction to exercise all the powers of DPI under clause (4) of Rule KER 1959.

As per Rule 4(2) Chapter I of KER ‘Director’ means the Director of Public Instruction, Kerala or such other officer or officers who may from time to time be appointed by the Government to exercise all or any of the powers of the Director of Public Instruction. Further as per notification published in Kerala Gazette dated 9-6-1959, Government of Kerala have delegated powers of Director to Additional Director of Public Instruction and Director of Textbooks and Examination under clause (4) of Rule 2 in Chapter I of the KER. The above facts show that the powers of Director are delegated under proper orders invoking the provision of the Statue and the Additional Director can exercise the powers of the Director accordingly. The Committee may kindly appreciate the above facts and drop the recommendation.

Further Details

2.5 Clause 2(4) Chapter I, KER defines the word “Director” as the Director of Public Instruction or the Director of Higher Secondary Education or such officer or officers who may from time to time be appointed by the Government to exercise all or any of the powers of the Director of the Public Instructor, Director of Higher Secondary Education, as the case may be. Subsequently, the Government as per notification published in Kerala Gazette dated 9-6-1959 appointed such officers mentioned in definition of “Director” in Clause 2(4) Chapter I of KER other than the Director of Public Instruction and the Director of Higher Secondary Education. As per the above notification, the Government of Kerala appointed Additional Director of Public Instruction and Director of Textbooks and Examinations to exercise all the powers of Director of Public Instruction. In the light of the said notification, the Additional Director of Public Instruction should have powers to hear and dispose appeals as provided in Rule 8A Chapter XIVA, KER and hence there is no need for an amendment of the KER for this purpose.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 4, Para No. 18)

2.6 The Committee desires the Kerala Public Service Commission to evolve suitable strategy to monitor the flow of expenditure so as to avoid incurring of excess expenditure over Voted Grants/Charged Appropriations. The Committee also urges the Secretary, Kerala Public Service Commission to take necessary action for the reconciliation of accounts in time and to intimate the same to General Administration Department.

Action Taken

2.7 The Kerala Public Service Commission has taken all arrangements to monitor the flow of expenditure in each month by giving strict instructions to the Self Drawing Officers to encash their bills under intimation to the Accounts Section, so as to avoid incurring of excess expenditure over charged appropriation in future. Arrangements are also being made to reconcile the Departmental figures in time.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 5, Para No. 20)

2.8 The Committee observes that there was inordinate delay, a period of 11 years in getting the excess expenditure regularized by the Department under Article 205 of the constitution and notes on certain cases are yet to be furnished. The Committee deplors the inordinate delay occurred in this regard. The Committee finds that the additional expenditure on account of pay revision, enhancement of Dearness Allowance etc. could have been anticipated reasonably, had the Department made earnest efforts in the matter and excess on this account could have been avoided. The Committee also understands that inadequate provision of funds in the budget for various purpose attributes to incurring excess expenditure in almost all Departments. The Committee desires that adequate provision should be made in the budget so that excess expenditure could be avoided to a certain extent in future.

Action Taken

2.9 The observation regarding the delay in furnishing the regularization of excess expenditure had been taken note. At present, no delay occurs on this account.

Additional expenditure on account of pay revision, enhancement of Dearness Allowance etc. are now anticipated almost reasonably so that no additional authorization could be needed for salary items for the financial year 2002-2003. Earnest efforts will be taken in the matter in future so as to avoid inordinate delay.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 6, Para No. 21)

2.10 The Committee urges the Department to strictly adhere to the rules and regulations relating to budgetary control and flow of expenditure and to avoid incurring excess expenditure.

Action Taken

2.11 Motor Vehicle Department is strictly adhering to the rules and regulations relating to budgetary control and flow of expenditure with a view to avoid incurring of excess expenditure.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 7, Para No. 24)

2.12 Though the Committee wanted the Department to furnish the details such as how the department obtained the fund so expended beyond the budget provision and the officer who authorized to draw such a huge amount without proper sanction and the witness agreed to furnish the same, the required information has not been furnished by the Department till date. The Committee
1059/2014.

deplores the tendency on the part of the Department in not forwarding the required details to the Committee in time and urges the Department to furnish the same without further delay.

Action Taken

2.13 As per the provisions contained in the Kerala Public Accounts Code Vol. III a pro rata amount towards Estt. and T&P is to be charged for the value of work done at the end of the financial year through pro forma account. Normally necessary provision will be provided in the budget for this pro rata amount. But there was not sufficient provision provided for this pro rata during 1991-92 under the head of account 2216-01-106-99 (Estt. Share debit). But in order to comply the codal provisions, this amount is to be transferred. In the circumstances, the amount at the rate of 20% of the expended amount was transferred to the Estt. share by debit through pro forma at the end of the financial year and hence there is no actual drawal of money to incur this expenditure.

The officer who transferred this was the then Finance Officer for and on behalf of the then Chief Engineer, Buildings and Local Works. The Chief Engineer during this period was Shri K. Madhavan Pillai who retired from service long ago.

FOREST AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 9, Para No. 28)

2.14 The Committee is of the view that the excess was solely due to the inaptitude on the part of Forest and Wildlife Department. Instead of obtaining funds by moving supplementary grants, the department had resorted to the easier method, i.e., drawal of excess fund and leaving the matter to Finance Department and the Committee to regularise the overdrawal. The Committee observes that this

is a clear case of lapse on the part of the department and recommends that such lapses should be avoided in future without fail.

Action Taken

2.15 The directions of the Committee have been noted for not repeating such mistake in future. Instructions have already been given to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests not to repeat such violations in future. So, this issue may please be got dropped.

TOURISM DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 10, Para No. 30)

2.16 The Committee was not convinced by the explanation adduced by the departmental witnesses and that given in the Government 'notes'. The Committee is of the view that the reasons adduced by the Department for incurring expenditure reveals the dismal picture of the ineffective or rather inoperative system of budgetary control in the Department. The Committee observes that the Department incurred expenditure violating all the fundamental principles and procedures of budgetary control contemplated in Kerala Budget Manual. The Committee strongly deplore the grave irregularities occurred in dealing with Government money which led to excess expenditure and heavy burden to the State Exchequer.

Action Taken

2.17 Tourism Department had given direction to all implementing agencies under the Administrative Control of General Administration (Tourism) to ensure that hereafter no excess expenditure should be incurred over and above the budget allocation.

LABOUR AND REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT**Recommendation**

(Sl. No. 12, Para No. 34)

2.18 The Committee desires that strict budgetary discipline and monitoring should be observed in future through close watch over of the expenditure and better anticipation and by moving timely for additional provision.

Action Taken

2.19 Necessary instructions has been issued to the Heads of Departments concerned. All the HOD's have been instructed to follow the recommendation strictly in future and also to give necessary direction/guidelines to all subordinates under their control vide Govt. letter No. 25492/D3/08/LBR dated 15-10-2008.

FINANCE AND ALL DEPARTMENTS**Recommendation**

(Sl. No. 13, Para No. 35)

2.20 The Committee desires to point out that the Finance Department should take stern action against the Administrative Departments which have failed to furnish the notes in respect of excesses disclosed in the Appropriation Accounts from the year 1983-1984 onwards, within the prescribed time. Being amazed at the quantum of amount of excesses to be regularized, the Committee feels that it would be better if the Chief Secretary bestows his personal attention in the matter. The Committee urges that the notes showing reasons for excess expenditure in respect of items mentioned in Appendix II should be furnished to them duly vetted by Audit within two months positively.

Action Taken**FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

2.21 Finance Department has issued necessary directions in this regard in Circular No. 27/04/Fin. dated 7-5-2004 to clear the backlog of arrears of pending cases of excess regularization. Government also issued Circular No. 18/2005/Fin. dated 19-4-2005 in this regard. Moreover Finance (PAC) Department is monitoring the speedy disposal of the above case strictly through A.M.C.

Meeting/Apex Committee Meeting etc. Circular No. 13/2005/Fin. dated 4/2005. The A.M.C. Meeting was held in Administrative Department during 2004-05 and 2005-06.

SC/ST DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

2.22 Notes for regularization of excess expenditure for the year 1998-99 and 2000-01 has been forwarded to Social Welfare Department for consolidation.

HOME DEPARTMENT

2.23 Though it was requested for additional funds in anticipation of excess expenditure under “2056-101-99-05—Office Expenses-34—Other Charges and 45POL”, Government was not in a position to authorise additional funds in view of the economy orders in existence. But the inevitable payment such as Telephone Charges, Electricity Charges etc. could not be postponed at any cost in view of the security aspects of jails. Besides some of the additional expenditure comes under “2056-101-99-01—Salaries” also could not be postponed for the next financial year. As per the departmental figures of expenditure, it was noted that a sum of ₹ 13.62 lakh was available as savings. Hence re-appropriation proposals were submitted to Government for ₹ 13.62 lakh and the same was sanctioned by Government. But the drawal of pay and allowance of the trainees of the institutions at the fag end of the financial year resulted in excess expenditure. Even though the total excess is ₹ 34.76 lakh the individual excess under each detailed head is very small. Moreover the particular nature of the department makes it impossible to anticipate excess expenditure. On the basis of the remarks of the Committee on Public Accounts in the 3rd report (2001-2004), notes explaining the reasons for the excess expenditure under Grant No. XIII (Revenue-voted) Jails Appropriation Account 1999-2000 was forwarded to the Legislature Secretariat. The Committee in its meeting held on 27-5-2003 examined the matter and recommended for regularization of excess expenditure in the 64th Report (2001-2004).

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

2.24 This Department noted the views of the Committee seriously and urgent action has already been taken by this Department for finalizing the notes in respect of item No. 15 mentioned in Appendix II of the Report.

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

2.25 As far as Water Resources Department is concerned, there is no proposal pending for Regularization of excess expenditure over Voted Grants/Charged Appropriations. The excess expenditure over Voted Grants/Charged Appropriations for the year 1993-94 to 1994-95 were recommended for regularization. No specific cases which require regularization is pending. Since expenditure is incurred on the strength of Letter of Credit, there is no chance for exceeding expenditure over Budget Provision. When there is lack of fund, Finance Department will authorize additional funds before issuing Letter of Credit and subsequently it will be regularized through Supplementary Demands for Grants for which proposal will be submitted by the controlling officers of concerned Head of Account.

TOURISM DEPARTMENT

2.26 Noted. Earnest efforts are being taken to furnish the pending notes showing reason for excess expenditure (1995-96) to the Committee. Forty copies of notes for regularization of excess expenditure for 1997-98 mentioned in Appendix II duly vetted by Audit has already been furnished to the Accountant General as per Government Letter No. 35351/B3/04/Tsm. Dated 24-9-2005. Thirty-five copies of note duly vetted by Accountant General (Audit) has been forwarded to Legislature Secretary by Principal Accountant General (Audit) as per his Letter No. Report (PAC)/8/Excess/1997-98/91 dated 21-10-2005.

POWER DEPARTMENT

2.27 This Department is making earnest and effective efforts to adhere to the mechanism prevalent for budgetary control in its full sense and spirit. The few instances of excess expenditure mentioned at Appendix II of the 92nd Report and 37th Report of the Committee on Public Accounts occurred due to special circumstances, which are well explained in the Notes for Regularization.

In this connection it may be pointed out that Final copies of Notes for Regularization for the year 1996-97 have been forwarded to Accountant General (Audit) for onward transmission to Legislature Secretariat vide Letter No. 7307/C1/2003/PD dated 27-7-2004. Notes for Regularization of excess for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 have already been furnished to Legislature Secretariat vide Lr. No. 4267/C1/2000/PD dated 28-6-2002 and Lr. No. 6239/C1/2001/PD dated 12-11-2003 respectively. Only one case of Regularization of excess expenditure is pending with this Department, i.e. for the year 1995-96 (in respect of Grant No. XXXIX—Power). Notes for Regularization of excess expenditure for the year 1995-96 have been forwarded to Finance Department for scrutiny and getting them vetted by Audit vide File No. 448/C1/97/PD dated 15-11-2003. The Notes will be furnished to Legislature Secretariat immediately on receipt of the files back from Finance Department.

In most of the cases this Department had taken up proposals for Supplementary Demand to cover the expenditure which had to be incurred under unavoidable circumstances in excess of original grant. The Department will take timely action in future in this direction to avoid incurring expenditure beyond the limit authorized by the House. In this connection it may be noted that no instances of excess expenditure have so far been occurred under the heads of accounts operated by Electrical Inspectorate Department, which is under the administrative control of this Department. Also, maximum effort is being taken by the Electrical Inspectorate Department for timely reconciliation of Departmental figures with the accounts maintained by Accountant General.

FINANCE AND ALL DEPARTMENTS

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 14, Para No. 36)

2.28 Subject to the observation made in paragraph 17 to 35 of 37th Report, the Committee recommended to regularize the excess expenditure over Voted Grant/Charged Appropriation for the years 1989-90 to 1992-93, 1995-96 and 1997-98 to 1999-2000 as detailed in Para 15 of the report in the manner prescribed under Article 205 of the Constitution.

ACTION TAKEN

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

2.29 The Demand for Excess Grant and the connected Appropriation Bills for regularising the excess expenditure over Voted Grant/Charged Appropriation for the years 1989-90 to 1992-93, 1995-96 and 1997-98 to 1999-2000 as recommended in the 37th Report, have been passed by the Legislative Assembly on 30th July, 2003. The connected Appropriation Acts (5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 of 2003) have been published in the Gazette Extraordinary dated 26-8-2003 (vide Gazette No. 1626 dated 26-8-2003).

HOME DEPARTMENT

2.30 In future it would be ensured that excess expenditure, if any will be regularized promptly. The head of Department will be given strict instructions to monitor the expenditure out of voted grant and to take up proposals with Government for additional authorisation well in advance. Any negligence in this respect would be appropriately dealt with. As per Government Circular No. 47249/B3/2005/Home dated 20-5-2008, strict instructions/guidelines have been issued to all the officials concerned in Prisons Department for strict compliance.

SC/ST DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

2.31 Notes for regularisation of excess expenditure for the year 1998-99 and 2000-01 has been forwarded to Social Welfare Department for consolidation.

POWER DEPARTMENT

2.32 This Department is making earnest and effective efforts to adhere to the mechanism prevalent for budgetary control in its full sense and spirit. The few instances of excess expenditure mentioned at Appendix II of the 92nd Report and 37th Report of the Committee on Public Accounts occurred due to special circumstances, which are well explained in the Notes for Regularization.

In this connection it may be pointed out that Final copies of Notes for Regularization for the year 1996-97 have been forwarded to Accountant General (Audit) for onward transmission to Legislature Secretariat vide Letter No. 7307/C1/2003/PD dated 27-7-2004. Notes for Regularization of excess for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 have already been furnished to Legislature Secretariat vide Lr. No. 4267/C1/2000/PD dated 28-6-2002 and Lr. No. 6239/C1/2001/PD dated 12-11-2003 respectively. Only one case of Regularization of excess expenditure is pending with this Department, i.e. for the year 1995-96 (in respect of Grant No. XXXIX—Power). Notes for Regularization of excess expenditure for the year 1995-96 have been forwarded to Finance Department for scrutiny and getting them vetted by Audit vide File No. 448/C1/97/PD dated 15-11-2003. The Notes will be furnished to Legislature Secretariat immediately on receipt of the Files back from Finance Department.

In most of the cases this Department had taken up proposals for Supplementary Demand to cover the expenditure which had to be incurred under unavoidable circumstances in excess of original grant. The Department will take timely action in future in this direction to avoid incurring expenditure beyond the limit authorized by the House. In this connection it may be noted that no instances of excess expenditure have so far occurred under the heads of accounts operated by Electrical Inspectorate Department, which is under the administrative control of this Department. Also, maximum effort is being taken by the Electrical Inspectorate Department for timely reconciliation of Departmental figures with the accounts maintained by Accountant General.

Thiruvananthapuram,
9th July, 2014.

DR. T. M. THOMAS ISAAC,
Chairman,
Committee on Public Accounts.

APPENDIX

SUMMARY OF MAIN CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATION

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Paragraph No.</i>	<i>Department concerned</i>	<i>Conclusion/Recommendation</i>
1	1.3	Finance/General Education	The Committee recommended that appointment against additional post of teachers should be done only with the concurrence of the Finance Department, after getting necessary sanction, staff fixation, visit of A.E.O./D.E.O. etc. Government should view, all appointments made without such formalities, very seriously and take appropriate action in the matter.
2	1.6	Forest & Wildlife	The Committee recommended that if there is no scope for appeal, the Department should taken necessary steps to effect the payment within the stipulated time.
3	1.9	Finance/Tourism	The Committee wanted to be informed of the position after the issuance of the Circular dated 23-6-2005. The Committee further recommended that disciplinary action should be initiated against the officers responsible for the drawal of amount from the treasury in the absence of

necessary Head of Account (Finance and Tourism Departments).