

THIRTEENTH KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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

SIXTY EIGHTH REPORT

(Presented on 9th July, 2014)



SECRETARIAT OF THE KERALA LEGISLATURE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
2014

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on

**Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the
43rd Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2001-2004)**

1060/2014.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Composition of the Committee ..	v
Introduction ..	vii
Report ..	1-15
Appendices :	
I. Summary of main Conclusions/Recommendations ..	16-17
II. G O. (Ms.) No. 399/10/Fin. dated 19-7-2010 ..	18-25

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS (2014-2016)

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INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on Public Accounts, having been authorised by the Committee to present this Report, on their behalf present the Sixty Eighth Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the 43rd 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 43rd Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2001-2004).

The 43rd Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2001-2004) was presented to the House on 19th February, 2003. The Report contained 16 recommendations relating to Health and Family Welfare Department and Finance Department. Government was addressed on 5th March, 2003 to furnish the statement of Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the Report and the final replies were received on 6-1-2011.

The Committee considered the Action Taken statements at its meetings held on 14-11-2007, 17-2-2010 and 6-3-2013. The Committee was not satisfied with the Action Taken by the Government on recommendations in serial Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7 & 11 (Paragraph Nos. 18, 19, 21, 22 and 40) and decided to pursue them further. Such recommendations, replies furnished there on 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 vide Serial Nos. 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 (Para Nos. 16, 17, 20, 37, 38, 39, 41, 45, 51, 52 and 54) in the light of the replies furnished by Government. The 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 REQUIRES REITERATION

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 3, Para No. 18)

1.1 The Committee notices that there was negligence on the part of the Departmental Authorities to sanction the proposal of Principal, Medical College, Kottayam for the supply of Radiation Source (Cobalt-60). The Committee reasonably think that when the output of equipment was not up to the designed level it would have created side effects to cancer patients and the long duration in treatment might have limited the number of patients who could be treated. Expressing concern over the matter the Committee desired that the reason for delay and lapses should be examined and appropriate action taken as a deterrent measure against those who shirked from their responsibilities.

Action Taken

1.2 Steps are under way to procure a new Cobalt-60 unit for Medical College, Kottayam through central assistance and Government funds. The delay and lapses on the part of the officers will be examined and appropriate action will be taken as a deterrent measure against those who shirked their responsibilities as per the recommendation of the PAC.

Further Recommendation

1.3 The Committee expressed its displeasure for not establishing a Cobalt-60 unit for Medical College, Kottayam and not taking disciplinary action against the responsible officers for the delay and lapses. The Committee strongly recommend that strict disciplinary action should be initiated against the responsible officers.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 4, Para No. 19)

1.4 Regarding the extra expenditure for the purchase of a Power Laundry in Medical College Hospital, Alappuzha, the Committee opines that the purchase without observing the tender formalities was irregular and that there was no justification for waiting for the clarification from one of the tenderers for a long time. The Committee underlines the need of a competent Technical Committee which is supposed to examine the non medical aspects of Health Institutions in the State.

Action Taken

1.5 As per the recommendation of the PAC a technical Committee is constituted in all Medical Colleges to see that the specification and requirements of a particular machine is in conformity with the requirement. The Government is also thinking the need for a competent technical Committee which is supposed to examine the non medical aspects of the Health Institutions in the State.

Further Recommendation

1.6 As regards the extra expenditure incurred in the matter of purchase of a Power Laundry in Medical College Hospital, Alappuzha, the Committee recommend that action should be taken against the responsible officers.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

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

1.7 Expressing concern over the various irregularities noticed in the stores and stocks of all Medical College, the Committee suggests that in addition to the

surprise verification of stores and stock as required in Article 159 of KFC Vol. I conducted by the Head of the Department, a surprise check of stores and stock by the Finance Inspection Wing should also be conducted in all Medical Colleges.

Action Taken

1.8 PAC has recommended to verify the stock and accounts of Medical Colleges, Alappuzha & TVM and directed to conduct frequent inspection at various Medical Colleges. The inspection at Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram could not be conducted due to the absence of records since the same was under the custody of Vigilance Department. The fact has already been informed to the PAC and the PAC directed to conduct inspection at Medical College, Alappuzha. On the basis of the directions contained in the above para, the Wing conducted inspection at Medical College, Alappuzha and the Report has been forwarded to Administrative Department for necessary follow-up action.

During the course of Inspection, FIW detected certain serious irregularities. Though the limit of local purchase is ` 10,000 and this financial limit was seen violated many times by the authorities and they had made a number of purchases on the same day by splitting each bill amount.

The Stock Register of medicine was not maintained properly. Shortage and excess of certain items were noticed during the course of inspection.

1.9 A large quantity of medical equipments and machines were kept idle for long time. The authority had not taken any commendable steps to rectify the defects of costly machines and instead they purchased new ones. The cost of unserviceable and idling equipments comes to ` 20,48,600. A ventilator purchased on 5-5-2006 costing ` 6,29,039 was also seen idling. Local purchase Register, Stock Register, etc. were not maintained properly.

The Inspection Report has already been forwarded to Health & Family Welfare Department for pursuing further follow-up action. A final Action Taken Report is not received from that Department. Now FIW is conducting inspection on stocks and stores of various Medical Colleges and Major Hospitals and pursuing follow-up actions.

Further Recommendation

1.10 The Committee opines that the Statement furnished by the Department that the inspection at Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram could not be conducted due to the absence of records which was under the custody of Vigilance Department, is not correct because there are instructions that files should be handed over to the Vigilance Department only after keeping its Photostat copies.

Therefore the Committee recommend that action should be taken against the officer who handed over the file to Vigilance Department without keeping its Photostat Copy. In the case of Medical College Alappuzha, the Committee recommend that action should be taken against the concerned if the irregularities found by the Finance inspection wing are correct.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 7, Para No. 22)

1.11 It is distressing to the Committee to note that the Department does not seem to have much bothered about the missing cases of the machines or equipments essential for treatment. The Department file relating to the theft was missing. The Committee urges that strict disciplinary action should be taken against the officers responsible for the loss in such cases so that lapses of this nature should not be repeated in future.

Action Taken

1.12 Instruction will be issued to take disciplinary action against those who are found responsible for the loss.

Further Recommendation

1.13 The Committee found that no disciplinary action was taken against the officers responsible for the loss. The Committee therefore, expressed its displeasure and recommended that urgent steps should be taken in the matter.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 11, Para No. 40)

1.14 During the examination of audit paragraph, the Principals of the Medical Colleges elaborated the list of modern equipments already available there and also those needed for which proposals have been forwarded to Government for sanction. The Committee points out that the Health Department should evolve urgent measures to improve the position of our Medical Colleges so that ordinary citizens can avoid over dependence on Private Hospitals. For achieving this goal, the Committee recommends that the Government should, interalia, consider the proposals submitted by Medical Colleges regarding the purchase of modern equipments like MRI Scan, C.T. Scan etc. The Committee desires that the Government should take adequate steps to equip all the Medical College Hospitals with the facilities now available in certain private medical institutions, with a view to give medical care to poor patients who cannot afford the expenses in such institutions in Private Sector.

Action Taken

1.15 The Government is making all efforts to provide sophisticated machines and equipments to all Medical Colleges. Efforts are also being made to provide the facilities like MRI and C.T. Scan now available in private institutions to Government Medical Colleges either from the Government funds, Hospital Development Society or KHRWS funds.

Further Recommendation

1.16 The Committee opines that the maintenance of existing equipments is more important than the purchase of new one. Urgent steps should be taken to implement the recommendations of the Committee.

CHAPTER II

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

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 1, Para No. 16)

2.1 The Committee understands that the financial powers of Heads of Departments in the Health Sector were determined by the Government in 1984 and hence remain unrealistic in the present circumstances. The Committee stresses the need for periodic revision of limit of expenses incurred due to the increase in cost of equipments and medicines. Therefore the Committee recommends that Government should evolve suitable action to raise the financial powers of the different levels of officers of the Health and Family Welfare Department in a realistic manner to meet the urgent requirements of the hospitals, without any delay. The Committee also urges the Government to initiate action to make suitable amendments in the concerned Rules accordingly.

Action Taken

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

2.2 Delegation of financial powers of Director of Health Services has been revised vide G.O. (Ms.) 399/10/Fin. dated 19-7-2010. Since the authority to issue the delegation of powers of subordinate officers is the concerned Administrative Department, Health and Family Welfare Department has been directed to issue the delegation of financial powers of subordinate officers in the Directorate of Health Services subject to the condition that the powers issued to subordinate officers should not supercede the powers issued to Director of Health Service vide G. O. (Ms.) 399/10/Fin. dated 19-7-2010 (Appendix II).

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

2.3 The Government have issued orders enhancing the financial powers of Heads of Departments up to ₹ 10 lakh vide G.O.(Ms.) No. 8/03/SPD dated 17-11-2003. The Heads of Departments like Director of Medical Education and Director of Health Services can purchase stores up to ₹ 10 lakh. Accordingly the Principals of Medical Colleges can purchase stores up to ₹ 3 lakh. Also as per G.O. (Ms.)No. 299/02/Fin. dated 15-5-2002 Government has enhanced financial powers of the Administrative Department of the Secretariat and officers in Heads of Departments on the basis of third report of Kerala Administrative reforms. The Superintendents of Collegiate Hospitals now purchase medicines locally for ₹ 10,000 at a time and in an emergency situations like calamities and accidents can purchase medicines for ₹ 20,000. Action will be taken to further enhance the financial powers of officers of Health Services Department.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 2, Para No. 17)

2.4 The Committee feels that Health and Family Welfare Department moved simultaneously for obtaining NMIC and customs duty exemption with regard to the purchase of Mobile Image Intensifier for Urology Department in Medical College, Kozhikode, inordinate delay as well as extra expenditure to the tune of ₹ 12.23 lakh could have been avoided. The Committee urges the Government to take steps to curb this type of avoidable spending of public money.

Action Taken

2.5 Now equipments are not imported directly and payments are made in Indian Currency. Steps have been taken to curb this type of avoidable expenditure (noted in the recommendation).

Recommendation

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

2.6 The Committee understands that the stock verification of stores in Medical Colleges is conducted by the officers of the same institutions authorised by concerned Superintendent or Principal. The Committee is of the view that this is contravention to the stipulation of Kerala Financial Code. Therefore the Committee urges that the Health Department should make urgent arrangements to conduct annual physical verification of stores in all Medical College as stipulated in Article 158 of KFC Vol. I at regular intervals effectively.

Action Taken

2.7 PAC recommendation is implemented. At present stores and stocks are verified by the stores verification team of Director of Health Services along with other agencies.

Recommendation

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

2.8 Expressing concern over the various irregularities noticed in the stores and stock of all Medical Colleges, the Committee suggests that in addition to the surprise verification of stores and stock as required in Article 159 of KFC Vol. I conducted by the Head of the Department a surprise check of stores and stock by the Finance Inspection Wing should also be conducted on all Medical Colleges.

Action Taken

2.9 Now Finance Inspection Wing is periodically inspecting stock and stores of Medical Colleges. In addition stores verification team of Director of Health Services is also inspecting the Collegiate Hospitals as per PAC recommendations.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 8, Para No. 37)

2.10 The Committee is quite displeased to note that medical appliances like X-ray Units and life-saving devices have been kept idle in various hospitals in the State for want of infrastructure facilities for their installation, timely repairs or replacement. The Committee is of the view that there should be a permanent arrangement in Health Department to repair the faulty equipments so that the machines costing lakhs of rupees are not kept idle. The Committee also urges the Department to proceed for simultaneous action for providing installation facilities and for procurement of equipment and appliances.

Action Taken

2.11 Now a days for all the sophisticated equipments, Annual maintenance contract would be entered into with the supplier firm for the immediate repair of the equipments. The Government also takes care to provide installation facilities before procurement of equipments and appliances.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 9, Para No. 38)

2.12 The Committee understands that the Hospitals including Medical Colleges are purchasing many sophisticated life-saving equipments which are functioning with the aid of modern technology. The Committee suggests that

equipments needed for the various health institutions should be purchased only from reputed firms which guarantee repair/maintenance contract. Strict vigil should be taken to shun the offer of letterhead companies which pose serious difficulties for the institutions to which they supply the equipments.

Action Taken

2.13 The equipments are purchased only from reputed firms which guarantee repair/maintenance contract. Strict vigil is also taken to shun the offer of letterhead companies which pose serious difficulties for the institutions to which they supply equipments.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 10, Para No. 39)

2.14 The Committee underlines the necessity of a permanent set-up in the Health and Family Welfare Department to ensure the purchases of appropriate life-saving devices and modern equipments in Medical Colleges and other Hospitals in the State. The Committee suggests that there should essentially be a technical expert who has a sound knowledge of the quality and technical feasibility of the machines to be purchased in those institutions. Therefore, the Committee recommends to constitute a Biomedical Engineering wing under the Director of Medical Education to ensure the purchase of quality equipments for medical institutions in the State and to look after their maintenance and servicing.

Action Taken

2.15 Recommendation of the PAC is noted. A post of Biomedical Engineer has already been sanctioned in Medical Education Service. Steps are being taken to determine the qualification and method of appointment for the post. Meanwhile a person was appointed on contract basis to look after the day-to-day function.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 12, Para No. 41)

2.16 The Committee observes that Medical Officers in-charge of Hospitals have at present very limited powers to purchase an essential medicine locally for the immediate use of poor patients. The Committee recommends the Government to ensure the provision for local purchase by the doctor concerned of medicines which are not stocked in the hospital, but are required for immediate use to the most deserving poor patients who have no other way to buy that medicine.

Action Taken

2.17 There is provision for local purchase by the Doctor concerned of medicines which are not stocked in the hospitals, but are required for immediate use to the most deserving poor patients who have no other way to buy the medicine. The Superintendents of Medical Colleges are empowered to make local purchase of medicines at time of emergency. The Superintendent of Collegiate hospitals are empowered to purchase medicines locally for ₹ 10,000 and when mass calamity or accidents occur, the financial limit is ₹ 20,000.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 13, Para No. 45)

2.18 The Committee observe that, had the department furnished facts required by the audit at the stage of draft para, the audit objection in this regard could have been avoided.

Action Taken

2.19 Noted for future guidance.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 14, Para No. 51)

2.20 The Committee cannot agree with the argument that the excess purchase of alcohol happened due to a clerical error. The Committee also disagree with the trivial argument that the Principal effected the payment of ₹ 9.89 lakh for the purchase in two installments where one installment did not exceed ₹ 5 lakh. The Committee urges the Health Secretary to look into this serious unauthorised action as well as financial indiscipline and to intimate the action so taken to the Committee, as early as possible. The Committee recommends that the Health Department should take precautionary measures against such lapses in future.

Action Taken

2.21 When the audit party of the Accountant General in their local audit brought to the notice that the indent for the supply of absolute alcohol for Medical College, Thrissur for the year 1996-97 was far above the actual requirement. The Principal, Medical College, Thrissur requested M/s Bengal Chemicals, Calcutta to stop further supply of the item. In the meantime the firm supplied 4500 litres of

alcohol. The orders for the supply of balance quantity was cancelled by the Principal and requested to refund the balance amount. Accordingly the firm stopped further supply and refunded the money by the firm as detailed below:

Cheque No. 174659	..	₹ 2,00,000
Cheque No. 190691	..	₹ 1,00,000
Cheque No. 492723	..	₹ 50,000
Cheque No. 491756	..	₹ 1,62,294
Total	..	₹ 5,12,294

As per Government letter No. 62489/K3/97/H&FWD dated 13-8-1998 direction was given to the Director of Medical Education to distribute excess quantity of alcohol to other Medical Colleges. An enquiry was conducted by the Administrative Officer, Directorate of Medical Education and the inquiry revealed that the total requirement of absolute alcohol was noted as 972.5 litres where the actual requirement was only 1447 litres. While requesting for indent from the firm, the requirement was erroneously written as 9725 litres. This mistake resulted in the excess purchase of absolute alcohol. Three Officers viz., Smt. E. V. Saleena, L. D. Clerk, Medical College, Thrissur, Sri T. Raveendran and the then Superintendent Sri S. Sreenivasan, Accounts Officer, Medical College, Thrissur were found responsible for the lapse. Disciplinary action was initiated against the officers and the same was finalized by awarding a penalty of barring future increment of the officers without cumulative effect for one year. Strict instructions will be issued to the concerned to estimate the actual requirement of absolute alcohol before placing the supply orders based on the consumption during the previous 3 or 5 years. When this Action Taken Report was presented before the Committee on 30-1-2002, the Committee directed the Government to take disciplinary action against the then Principal, who placed supply orders for absolute alcohol. When the Director of Medical Education was requested to initiate disciplinary action against him, it was informed by the Director of Medical Education that the Principal had informed that the Principal had retired from service on 30-4-1998. As such disciplinary action cannot be taken against a retired Government employee. The only other course of action is to reduce the pension under Rule 59(b), Part-III KSR. But in this context, it may be noted that there was no monetary loss to Government in this regard. The Government decided to drop further action against him. The PAC may kindly agree to the decision by Government to drop further proceedings against the then Principal, Medical College, Thrissur during 1997-1998 and the audit objection may kindly be dropped.

Recommendation*(Sl. No. 15, Para No. 52)*

2.22 The witness stated that the alcohol purchased in excess had been distributed to other Medical Colleges in the State. The Committee desired to be furnished with the details of the distribution viz., the quantity so distributed, when it was distributed the institution for which it was distributed and quantity consumed by the Thrissur Medical College so far. The required details have not been intimated to the Committee. The Committee expresses to displeasure on the action of the witness and assert that the details called for by the Committee should be furnished immediately.

Action Taken

2.23

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name of Department</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Balance</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
10-11-1997	Pathology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	100 bottles	9900
13-3-1998	Pathology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	20 bottles	9880
16-4-1998	Pathology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	500 bottles	9380
22-5-1998	Medical College Chest Hospital, M.G. Kavu, Thrissur	333 bottles	9047
18-9-1998	Medical College Chest Hospital, M.G. Kavu, Thrissur	20 bottles	9027
20-1-1999	Principal, Medical College, Alappuzha	875 bottles	8152
3-6-1999	Principal, Medical College, Kozhikode	968 bottles	7184
14-7-1999	Anatomy Department, Medical College, Thrissur	50 bottles	7134
28-7-1999	Principal, Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram	3175 bottles	3959

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
10-8-1999	Biochemistry Department, Medical College, Thrissur	25 bottles	3934
17-9-1999	Pathology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	500 bottles	3434
5-11-1999	Principal, Medical College, Kottayam	245 bottles	3189
10-12-1999	Physiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	20 bottles	3169
19-2-2000	Principal, Medical College, Alappuzha	900 bottles	2269
27-6-2000	Physiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	50 bottles	2219
18-7-2000	Biochemistry Department, Medical College, Thrissur	50 bottles	2169
7-9-2000	Superintendent, Medical College Chest Hospital, M.G. Kavu, Thrissur	6 bottles	2163
8-9-2000	Superintendent, Medical College Hospital, Thrissur	100 bottles	2063
18-11-2000	Microbiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	20 bottles	2043
14-12-2000	Biochemistry Department, Medical College, Thrissur	50 bottles	1993
6-1-2001	Pathology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	500 bottles	1493
25-1-2001	Microbiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	22 bottles	1471
13-3-2001	Microbiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	20 bottles	1451
20-3-2001	Cytology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	100 bottles	1351

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
30-5-2001	Microbiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	20 bottles	1281
22-8-2001	Microbiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	20 bottles	1261
26-9-2001	Pharmacology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	25 bottles	1236
6-11-2001	Physiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	20 bottles	1216
13-11-2001	Forensic Medicine, Medical College, Thrissur	100 bottles	1116
15-11-2001	Microbiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	100 bottles	1016
24-11-2001	Biochemistry Department, Medical College, Thrissur	250 bottles	766
4-1-2002	Pathology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	500 bottles	266
16-4-2002	Cytology Department, Medical College Hospital, Thrissur	50 bottles	216
19-8-2002	Stores, Superintendent, Medical College Chest Hospital, M. G. Kavu	2 bottles	214
12-9-2002	Physiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	50 bottles	164
29-10-2002	Microbiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	50 bottles	114
29-10-2002	Pathology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	50 bottles	64
29-10-2002	Physiology Department, Medical College, Thrissur	25 bottles	39
2-11-2002	Superintendent, Medical College, Thrissur	39 bottles	Nil

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 16, Para No. 54)

2.24 The Committee notices that the district-wise details of the amount transferred to the accounts of HDCs from the accounts of Friends of Hospital Committee have not been obtained till date. The Committee urges the Government to furnish the aforesaid details at the earliest.

Action Taken

2.25 The district-wise details of the amount transferred to the accounts of HDCs from the accounts of Friends of Hospital Committees are the following:

Directorate of Health Services

<i>District</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1. Thiruvananthapuram	2,01,282
2. Pathanamthitta	1,50,000
3. Ernakulam	2,09,443
4. Kottayam	1,65,800
5. Palakkad	5,62,644
6. Kannur	88,196
7. Malappuram	3,33,784
8. Alappuzha	17,838
9. Kollam	4,38,045
10. Thrissur	2,09,492
11. Idukki	8,61,300
12. Kozhikode	7,170
13. Kasargode	3,80,399

In Wayanad District ₹ 1,44,064 has been spent and the balance amount has been freed. So the same has not been transferred to the Hospital Development Committee.

Directorate of Medical Education*Amount Transferred*

MCH, Thiruvananthapuram	.. Nil
MCH, Alappuzha	.. ` 59,486
MCH, Kottayam	.. Nil
MCH, Kozhikode	.. Nil

DISM

	<i>District</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	Nil
2.	Kollam	2,102
3.	Alappuzha	47,374
4.	Pathanamthitta	Nil
5.	Idukki	100
6.	Kottayam	Nil
7.	Ernakulam	1,608
8.	Thrissur	41
9.	Malappuram	Nil
10.	Kozhikode	Nil
11.	Wayanad	10,355
12.	Kannur	4,317
13.	Kasargode	29,932
14.	Palakkad	Nil
	Total	95,829

Only HDCs are functioning in Government College Hospitals under DAME and hence no 'Friends of Hospital' Committees were constituted. An amount of ` 155 was transferred to HDC of Government Homoeo Dispensary, Thayyil, Kannur District under Homoeopathy Directorate.

Thiruvananthapuram,
9th July, 2014.

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

APPENDIX I

SUMMARY OF MAIN CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Paragraph No.</i>	<i>Department concerned</i>	<i>Conclusions/Recommendations</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	1.3	Health and Family Welfare	The Committee expressed its displeasure for not establishing a Cobalt-60 unit for Medical College, Kottayam and not taking disciplinary action against the responsible officers for the delay and lapses. The Committee strongly recommend that strict disciplinary action should be initiated against the responsible officers.
2	1.6	„	As regards the extra expenditure incurred in the matter of purchase of a Power Laundry in Medical College Hospital, Alappuzha, the Committee recommend that action should be taken against the responsible officers.
3	1.10	Finance	The Committee opines that the Statement furnished by the Department that the inspection at Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram could not be conducted due to the absence of records which was under the custody of Vigilance Department,

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			<p>is not correct because there are instruction that files should be handed over to the vigilance Department only after keeping its photostat copies. Therefore the Committee recommend that action should be taken against the officer who handed over the file to Vigilance Department without keeping its Photostat Copy. In the case of Medical College, Alappuzha, the Committee recommend that action should be taken against the concerned if the irregularities found by the Finance Inspection Wing are correct.</p>
4	1.13	Health and Family Welfare	<p>The Committee found that no disciplinary action was taken against the officers responsible for the loss. The Committee therefore, expressed its displeasure and recommend that urgent steps should be taken in the matter.</p>
5	1.16	„	<p>The Committee opines that the maintenance of existing equipments is more important than the purchase of new one. Urgent steps should be taken to implement the recommendations of the Committee.</p>

APPENDIX II

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

FINANCE DEPARTMENT—DELEGATION OF FINANCIAL POWER TO
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES—ORDERS ISSUED

FINANCE (EXPENDITURE-B) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms.)No. 399/10/Fin.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 19th July, 2010.

- Read:—*1. COPA(2001-04)—Implementation of recommendation of 43rd report
2. G.O. (P) No. 271/95/Fin. dated 29-3-1995
3. G.O. (P) No. 350/08/Fin. dated 6-8-2008
4. Recommendations Empowered Committee dated 1-3-2010.

ORDER

In the Government Order 3rd cited, orders were issued delegating/enhancing financial powers of Administrative Department and Heads of Department.

In the 43rd report of Committee of Public Accounts (2001-04) it was observed that financial powers of various officers of Health Services Department have to be enhanced. Accordingly Government have examined the matter with respect to the recommendations of Empowered Committee and are pleased to enhance the delegation of financial power of Director of Health Services as detailed in the Annexure to the Government Order.

By order of the Governor,

G. S. PADMAKUMARI AMMA,
Additional Secretary,

For Additional Chief Secretary (Finance).

To

The Principal Accountant General (Audit), Kerala,
Thiruvananthapuram (with C/L).

The Accountant General (A&E) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram (with C/L).

All Departments in Secretariat.

All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries to Government.

The Director of Health Services.

The Director of Public Relations.

The Director of Treasuries, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Nodal Officer, www.financekerala.gov.in

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ANNEXURE

DELEGATION OF FINANCIAL POWERS OF
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Financial Powers as per Existing Delegation</i>	<i>Revised Power</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Agreement	
	(i) Agreements in respect of all purchase made and contracts into on behalf of the Departments.	No Change
	(ii) Agreements with Medical Officers, Nurses, Pupils, Midwives etc.	No Change
	(iii) Agreements regarding the sale proceedings of auction sale right of collecting fee from Government markets, car stand, landing places.	No Change
	(iv) Agreements from private parties surrendering sites for constructions of Maternity of Child Health Centres.	(iv) Agreements from Private Parties surrendering sites for construction of Maternity Child Health Centres and other Health Institutions etc.
	(v) Agreement of loan in respect of the vehicles supplied by the UNICEF.	(v) Agreement of loan in respect of the vehicles supplied by the UNICEF, GOI and other external agencies
2	Acceptance of Gifts	
	To accept on behalf of Government all gifts offered unconditionally, like medicines, equipments, supplies, vehicles, consumable etc. useful to the functioning of the medical institutions.	No Change
3	Grants	
	To Sanction grants except lump sum grants monthly and yearly to all private	To sanction grants except lump sum grants monthly and

(1)	(2)	(3)
	<p>medical and public health institutions run by local bodies except in cases where a reference to Government is necessary.</p>	<p>yearly to all private medical and public health institutions run by local bodies and voluntary organisations engaged in family welfare activities, except in cases where a reference to Government is necessary.</p>
4	<p>Late Supply Acceptance</p> <p>To accept late supply of articles if they are received within 2 months from the expiry of the date stipulated for execution of order, if the delay was unavoidable.</p>	<p>To accept late supply of articles if they are received within 3 months from the expiry of the date stipulated for execution of order, if the delay was unavoidable</p>
5	<p>Materials</p> <p>To accept late supply of materials up to 4 months after recording the reasons therefore provided that no loss on account of such extension of time is incurred by Government.</p>	<p>No Change</p>
6	<p>Petty constructions, repairs and maintenance</p> <p>To sanction petty and minor constructions works and repairs costing not more than ₹ 1,00,000 in each case provided that the estimate for the work has been technically approved by PWD and funds have been provided in the budget.</p>	<p>To sanction petty and minor construction works and repairs costing not more than ₹ 2,00,000 in each case provided that the estimate for the work has been technically approved by PWD and funds have been provided in the budget.</p>
7	<p>Special sanitary arrangements</p> <p>To sanction special sanitary arrangements up to ₹ 25,000 in each case, (festivals like Sabarimala, Maramoan Convention etc., for Sanitary Arrangements) subject to an annual limit of ₹ 3 lakh.</p>	<p>To sanction special sanitary arrangements up to ₹ 3,00,000 in each case (festivals like Sabarimala, Maramoan Convention etc., for Sanitary Arrangements) subject to an annual limit of ₹ 6 lakh.</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)
8	Tenders	
	Nil	Nil
9	Purchase	
	(i) To purchase chemicals and apparatus required for public Health Laboratory, Analytical Laboratory and Laboratories attached to hospital subject to budget provision.	No Change
	(ii) To sanction purchase of refrigerators, microscope, photographic equipments, audio visual equipments, hospital instruments and equipments and spare parts up to a limit of ₹ 3,00,000(Three Lakhs) subject to budget provision and after observing Stores Purchase Rules.	To sanction purchase of refrigerators, microscope, photographic equipments, audio visual equipments, and spare parts up to a limit of ₹ 6,00,000(Six Lakh) subject to budget provision and after observing Stores Purchase Rules.
	(iii) To purchase medicines up to a limit of 1% of the total budget provision observing Store Purchase Rules.	To purchase medicines up to a limit of 5% of the total budget provision observing Store Purchase Rules.
	(iv) Unlimited powers to purchase medical books and periodicals subject to budget provision.	No Change
10	Contingencies and No recurring	
	To incur non-recurring contingent expenditure up to ₹ 10,000 in each case subject to budget provision.	To incur non-recurring contingent expenditure up to ₹ 25,000 in each case subject to budget provision
11	Refreshment Charges	
	To sanction refreshment charges in connection with meetings, Conferences	To sanction refreshment charges in connection with

(1)	(2)	(3)
	<p>etc., convened by the Director subject to the following conditions :</p> <p>(i) The total number of person present shall not be less than 5</p> <p>(ii) The decision to provide the refreshment should be taken by the Director of Health Services</p> <p>(iii) The expenditure shall be restricted to ₹ 5 per head subject to a maximum of ₹ 250 on any one occasion and the claim supported by proper vouchers.</p>	<p>meetings, Conferences etc., convened by the Director subject to the following conditions :</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>The expenditure shall be restricted to ₹ 10 per head subject to a maximum of ₹ 2,000 on any one occasion and annually ₹ 10,000 Subject to production of proper vouchers.</p>
12	<p>Removal of Patients</p> <p>To sanction expenditure for the removal of patients to referral hospital, isolation hospital, subject to budget provision and rules approved by Government.</p>	<p>No Change</p>
13	<p>Schemes</p> <p>To give administrative sanction to schemes costing not more than ₹ 3 lakh, subject to budget provision.</p>	<p>The power may be withdrawn since even Administrative Department in Government is not delegated with this power. All plan schemes are to be placed before Working Group/ Special Working Group based on the limit (up to 3 crore Working Group and above 3 crore Special Working Group) as envisaged in G.O.(P) 351/08/Fin. dated 6-8-2008.</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)
14	Works	
	To award administrative sanction for works included in the project estimates and for which provision has been made in the budget subject to limit of ₹ 2 lakh in each case.	As already provided in G.O.(P) 350/08/Fin. dated 6-8-2008.
15	Write-off	
	(i) To sanction write off breakages and leakages taking place in transit when supplies are made from Departmental Stores to institutions subject to the conditions that only the quantity that is actually lost during transit is written off.	No Change
	(ii) To write off irrecoverable arrears to revenue and other irrecoverable amounts up to ₹ 10,000 at a time subject to annual limit of ₹ 2 lakh.	No change. As in G.O. (P) 350/08/Fin. dated 6-8-2008.
	(iii) To write off the cost of date expired medicines up to ₹ 10,000 at a time subject to an annual limit of ₹ 2 lakh if the loss to Government is not due to negligence on the part of Departmental officers.	
16	Disposal in Auction	
	To dispose off all the unserviceable Stores, tools and plants, other furniture materials at site of work, dismantled materials etc.	No Change

(1)	(2)	(3)
17	Medical Reimbursement Claims	
	To sanction request for medical reimbursement claims exceeding ₹ 10,000	To sanction requests for medical reimbursement claims exceeding ₹ 50,000.
18	Printing	
	To sanction printing charges up to ₹ 20,000 in Government presses and ₹ 50 to 500 in private presses at a time subject to an annual limit of ₹ 5,000.	As per G.O(P) No. 350/08/Fin. dated 6-8-2008

Note:—As per G.O. (Ms.) No. 299/2002/Fin. dated 15-6-2002.