

**REVIEWING TIMELY SUBMISSION OF ACTION TAKEN
NOTES (ATNs) ON C&AG PARAS/REPORTS
(COMMERCIAL) BY THE MINISTRIES/DEPARTMENTS**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
(MINISTRY OF FINANCE)**

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS
(2025-26)**

**TWENTY-SEVENTH REPORT
(EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA)**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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(MINISTRY OF FINANCE)**

[Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report (18th Lok Sabha) on Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/Departments]

Presented to Lok Sabha on 11 December, 2025

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 11 December, 2025



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS (2025-26)

Shri Baijayant Panda - Chairperson

Members

LOK SABHA

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3. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
4. Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi
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SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Anjani Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Ms. Mriganka Achal - Director
3. Ms. Smita Khade - Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on Public Undertakings (2025-26) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twenty-Seventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (18th Lok Sabha) on 'Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/Departments'.

2. The Eleventh Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (18th Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 27 March, 2025. The Action taken Replies to all the 07 recommendations contained in the Report were received from the Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises on 30 October, 2025.

3. The Committee considered and adopted the Draft Report at their sitting held on 05th December, 2025. The Minutes of the sitting are given in Appendix-I.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee (18th Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix -II.

New Delhi:
08 December, 2025
17 Agrahayana, 1947(S)

Baijayant Panda
Chairperson
Committee on Public Undertakings

REPORT

CHAPTER I

This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the **Eleventh Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha)** of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2024-25) on "**Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/Departments**" relating to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Public Enterprises) was presented to Parliament on **27 March, 2025**. It contained **Seven** observations/recommendations.

2. Action Taken Notes have been received from the Government in respect of all the Seven (07) observations/recommendations contained in the Report. Since the Government has accepted all seven recommendations, the action taken notes have been categorized as follows::

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government (*Chapter II*)
Sl. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 **(Total 07)**
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies (*Chapter III*)

- NIL - **(Total 00)**
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration (*Chapter IV*)

- NIL - **(Total 00)**
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations to which the Government have furnished interim replies and final replies are still awaited (*Chapter V*)

- NIL - **(Total 00)**

3. The Committee's Eleventh Report on " Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/Departments" and the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) comprehensive acceptance of all seven recommendations by the Government symbolise a **watershed moment** in strengthening parliamentary oversight and governance of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs). This decisive and streamlined response, marked by the DPE's issuance of the Office Memorandum dated 29-10-2025 issuing directions to the Ministries/Departments to take immediate steps within 30 days, has set a powerful governance precedent for effective Parliamentary-Executive collaboration and ushers in an era of real-time accountability and unprecedented transparency.

4. Albeit having cent percent acceptance, below are the observation/recommendation-wise submission highlighting the actions taken by the DPE to streamline the outcome and Committee's further views on them in entirety. **The Committee desire that the Department of Public Enterprises (Ministry of Finance) to furnish Action Taken Notes/Replies in respect of further Observations/Recommendations (Paras @ Sl.Nos. 6 and 7) contained in Chapter I of the Report.**

Obs/Rec No.	Gist of the Observation/ Recommendation	Gist of Action Taken Reply (DPE)
1	<p><u>Overview</u></p> <p>Need for urgent reforms, including a digital monitoring system – Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS) for real-time tracking of ATNs, strict deadlines for non-compliant Ministries/ Departments of the concerned CPSUs, inter-ministerial coordination and periodic reporting to the Committee of Secretaries (CoS).</p>	<p>The Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has accepted all the overarching recommendations and has called for a systemic overhaul through a Digital Mandate (Audit Para Monitoring System - APMS), Inter-ministerial Coordination and annual reporting to track ATNs. The DPE's full acceptance paves the way for a detailed, streamlined procedure outlined in succeeding recommendations.</p>

2	<p><u>Delayed Submission of ATNs</u></p> <p>Ministries/Departments to invariably submit ATNs within six months, with non-compliance requiring an explanation within 30 days to DPE and DoE for placing before the Committee of Secretaries (CoS). Additionally, Financial Advisors (FAs) should submit quarterly reports and Secretaries of the Ministries/Departments acting as Chief Accounting Authority (CAA) should be held accountable for recurring non-compliance and delayed ATN submission.</p>	<p>The DPE has accepted the recommendation, following up through a review meeting in July 2025 (with representatives of O/o C&AG present) to mandate remedial actions (Internal Monitoring Committees (IMCs) and Departmental Audit Committees (DACs)) by Ministries. The APMS pilot portal has been prepared by the O/o Controller General of Accounts, Dept. of Expenditure in consultation with DPE and User Acceptance Testing (UAT) completed. The Portal shall go-live by January 2026. Further, the DPE has officially communicated all accepted recommendations and timelines to concerned Ministries <i>vide OM dated 29-10-2025</i>, committing to annual progress reporting to CoPU.</p>
3	<p><u>Lack of a Centralized Monitoring System</u></p> <p>Immediate action on implementation and operationalization of an Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS) involving all stakeholders by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) within six months. This system should include real-time tracking, automated alerts, digital ATN submissions and a discontinuation of hard copy communication between stakeholders.</p>	<p>The DPE has accepted the recommendation, noting that the Department of Expenditure provided inputs for the Action Taken Replies. The dashboard for Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS) pilot portal is ready (UAT completed) and shall go-live by January 2026 with enhanced functionalities like real-time tracking and automated alerts. The DPE has formally communicated the portal's functionalities and outlined expected roles to all concerned Ministries/ Departments/ O/o C&AG <i>vide OM dated 29-10-2025</i>. In the OM, DPE has directed them to take immediate steps ensuring setting up of the</p>

		required mechanism within 30 days of issuance of the OM.
4	<p><u>High Pendency in Specific Ministries</u></p> <p>Accountability of Financial Advisors (FAs) of high-pendency Ministries with stricter scrutiny for Ministries with over 20 pending ATNs, escalation of unresolved cases to the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) and Cabinet Secretariat, classification of pending cases, establishment of a legal advisory panel for cases involving legal dispute and seeking explanation from non-compliant Ministries on APMS Portal.</p>	<p>The DPE has accepted the recommendation, noting the APMS pilot portal shall go-live by January 2026. This digital platform will feature full functionalities, including age wise pendency, classification of paras as DPE Guidelines, AMRCD, Court/Arbitration, Systemic and Other categories. The DPE will use the portal data to monitor high pendency Ministries/Departments and <i>vide OM dated 29-10-2025</i>, has informed them about the need to establish legal advisory panels for ATNs delayed due to legal proceedings in consultation with Dept. of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law.</p>
5	<p><u>Number of Journeys and Turnaround Time</u></p> <p>Regular inter-departmental meetings to streamline the process limiting the review process to two rounds and ensuring a maximum of 30 days for vetting. Further, the Committee have desired for Internal Monitoring Committees, Departmental Audit Committees and structured workflows should be established to expedite ATNs submission within six months timeline.</p>	<p>The DPE has accepted the recommendation and held a meeting on 04-07-2025 (with C&AG present) to sensitize high-pendency Ministries about remedial actions, including establishing Internal Monitoring Committees (IMCs) and Departmental Audit Committees (DACs) for reviewing/expediting the processing/finalisation of ATNs, regular follow-ups/joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office. The DPE subsequently formalized these requirements, along with adherence to timelines, <i>vide OM dated 29-10-2025</i>.</p>

6	<p><u>Need for a Stronger Enforcement Mechanism</u></p> <p>Linking ATN compliance to the Performance Appraisal (PA) of Financial Advisors of the Ministry/Department, including ATN data in CPSU Annual Reports and a two-tier accountability structure (Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) & Department of Expenditure (DoE) followed by Committee of Secretaries (CoS)). Further, persistent non-compliance should require concerned Secretaries to appear before CoPU and their Annual Performance Reviews should reflect ATN compliance as a metric.</p>	<p>The DPE accepted the recommendation. Crucially, the DPE <i>vide OM dated 29-10-2025</i> has informed the concerned Ministries/Departments about their specific role in ensuring ATN compliance.</p>
7	<p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>Emphasised that delayed ATNs hinder transparency, financial discipline and governance in CPSUs, therefore, have strongly recommended the immediate adoption of a centralized digital monitoring system (APMS-CoPU) and strict enforcement measures to ensure accountability in CPSUs</p>	<p>The DPE has accepted the recommendation and confirmed that APMS pilot portal has been made ready (UAT completed) to go-live by January 2026 with all necessary functionalities to ensure timeliness of ATNs and lower pendency, thereby directly addressing the Committee's call for a centralized digital monitoring system and strict compliance measures.</p>

5. The Committee place on record its sincere appreciation for the prompt and comprehensive action taken by the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), Ministry of Finance, in accepting all recommendations. This marks a significant milestone, as the Committee's focused intervention has acted as the catalyst for institutional transformation paving way for establishing a systemic, digital and administratively enforced framework to address the critical, long-standing

deficit in timely compliance of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on the C&AG Audit Paras/Reports.

6. While accepting the replies, the Committee underscores that the true success lies in the robust, time-bound and uncompromising implementation of the accepted recommendations. The Committee, therefore, desire the following noteworthy mandates to ensure the intended objective is fully achieved:

- i. ***Real-Time Digital Mandate (Recommendation Nos. 1 to 5):*** The assured go-live date of January 2026 for the Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS) must be treated as sacrosanct. The Committee expect the DPE to allocate all required resources to ensure a successful system debut. Following the official launch, the Committee shall continue its active oversight on the Software (APMS-CoPU) and desire DPE to furnish compliance report within three months on system's full technical functionality confirming widespread pan-user adoption across all CPSUs and concerned Ministries.
- ii. ***Top-Down Administrative Mandate (Recommendation No. 6 – Part I and 7):*** As recommended by the Committee, the commitment to include data on settled and pending ATNs in CPSUs Annual Reports and ATN compliance as a metric in the Performance Review of the Financial Advisor and Secretary is the most impactful governance reform in the direction of streamlining the process of ATNs. The Committee desire that the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) and Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) should ensure that this parameter is formally notified and enforced, cementing the link between governance efficiency and top-level accountability. For this, DPE may impress upon the DoPT to include prompt disposal and zero pendency of ATNs on C&AG Paras/Reports pertaining to the CPSUs in the Annual Performance Appraisal Report (APAR) appraisal of the Financial Advisors, acting as Nodal Officer and Annual Performance Review of the concerned Secretaries.

- iii. ***Consequence-Driven Enforcement Mandate (Recommendation Nos 6 – Part II)***: The Committee hope that as recommended in the Original Report, the DPE to ensure mandatory graded enforcement mechanism, requiring the involvement of the DPE/DoE at first level and Committee of Secretaries (CoS) at second level, before non-compliant Ministries/Departments are finally brought before CoPU. This two-tier mechanism must remain a live and operational tool for expeditious settlement of C&AG Reports/Paras. Thereafter, the Committee will take-up the matter and may call upon the Secretaries of non-compliant Ministries/Departments alongwith the Heads of the established two-tier graded enforcement mechanism to address the pendency in respect of final settlement of the C&AG Reports/Paras and fulfill the spirit of Recommendation No. 6 (i.e. Graded Escalation and Institutionalising Accountability of FAs & Secretaries).

7. The Committee hope that the full implementation of these accepted recommendations will decisively improve the parliamentary oversight, fundamentally enhancing the transparency in functioning and financial prudence of CPSUs. The Committee are of the view that the Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Finance to consider the Eleventh Report as 'The Charter of Accountability', a rulebook that systematically upholds three primary standards: the *Digital Mandate* (eliminating the archaic, paper-based submission process), the *Administrative Mandate* (linking top-level (Financial Advisor/Secretary) efficiency directly to their APAR/Annual Performance Review respectively) and the *Enforcement Mandate* (providing graded escalation from the DPE/DoE to the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) and finally, appearance before the CoPU). To conclude, the Committee hope that the observations/recommendations of the Committee will be enforced in letter and spirit and serve as landmark achievement in strengthening parliamentary oversight, driving fundamental reforms in settling C&AG Reports/Paras across all CPSUs and establishing new standards of full accountability and efficiency in its deliverance.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

OVERVIEW

Recommendation (Sl. No.1)

1. The Committee on Public Undertakings (CoPU) under Rule 312A of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha is entrusted to examine the functioning of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and scrutinize reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) regarding their performance. The C&AG, under Sections 19 of C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 audits Government Companies and Corporations in accordance with the provisions of Section 143(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Audit reports thereon are subsequently presented to Parliament.

The administrative Ministries/Departments of the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) are required to submit Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on audit observations within six months of the presentation of C&AG Reports (Commercial) in Parliament in accordance with Section 19-A of C&AG's (DPC) Act, 1971. However, widespread delays and non-compliance by Ministries/Departments have rendered audit scrutiny ineffective, leading to unresolved governance and accountability issues in CPSUs. Failure to comply also results in a backlog of unsettled audit paras, delaying parliamentary oversight and remedial actions thereon.

As per the Regulations on Audit and Accounts, 2020, Secretaries of concerned Ministries/Departments are responsible for timely submission of ATNs, duly vetted by the Audit before the settled Audit Para/Report is finally sent to the Committee on Public Undertakings (CoPU). Despite clear regulations, the Committee have repeatedly observed non-submission or delayed submission of ATNs, with some cases spanning multiple years. An analysis of details of pendency of Audit Reports/Paras revealed that from the 967 Reports/Paras involving 141 CPSUs across 28 Ministries, 313 Reports/Paras remained pending with 76 Reports/Paras awaiting first ATNs and 237 Reports/Paras requiring revised ATNs. Ministries such as Petroleum & Natural Gas, Finance (Dept. of Financial Services), Steel, Defence, Civil Aviation, Power and Road Transport & Highways have the highest number of pending audit paras, reflecting a significant compliance gap.

The Committee observed that a major challenge contributing to this issue is the lack of a centralized monitoring system for tracking ATN submissions related to CPSUs. Unlike the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), which benefits from the Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS), similar platform for CoPU is yet to be made

functional for monitoring CPSUs related Audit Paras, resulting in inefficient manual tracking and difficulty in record-keeping.

Further, past recommendations (including those in 49th Report of 7th Lok Sabha, 2nd Report of 12th Lok Sabha and 1st Report of 13th Lok Sabha) had emphasized the need for Monitoring Cells (MCs) in Ministries and a Centralised Monitoring Cell (CMC) in the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) to oversee timely compliance with ATN submission. However, these measures did not seem to have yielded the desired improvements and as stated by C&AG and DPE officials, several Ministries have failed to establish robust internal tracking systems for compliance.

The delayed or non-submission of ATNs is a major hurdle in ensuring effective parliamentary oversight, transparency and financial discipline in CPSUs. Given the magnitude of the issue and to address this systemic issue at its root cause, the Committee strongly felt a dire need for urgent reforms, including the development of an APMS-like digital platform under the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Department of Expenditure, for real-time tracking of ATNs. Further, prompt action and setting of strict deadlines have to be enforced for non-compliant CPSUs and reviewing them through their administrative Ministry/Department. Also regular inter-ministerial coordination meetings should be convened between C&AG & CPSUs Administrative Ministries/Departments; Department of Public Enterprises; and Department of Expenditure to monitor progress. Since Government holds majority share in these CPSUs, to enhance governance, ensure strict enforcement mechanism and accountability across all Ministries and CPSUs, the Committee desired that a structured system of reporting delayed submissions may be brought forth periodically, on annual basis by the Department of Public Enterprises and Department of Expenditure (DoE) before the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) headed by Cabinet Secretary so that the seriousness of the matter can be impressed upon the concerned Secretaries. Details of streamlining the procedure for submission of ATNs and working towards achievement of zero pendency has been illustrated in succeeding paragraphs.

Reply of the Government

2. This Paragraph of Recommendation/observations contain overview of the subject matter involving development of digital platform for real-time tracking of ATNs. Regular Inter-ministerial coordination meeting and structured system of reporting of delayed submissions on annual basis. Each of the above recommendation has been accepted by DPE and details of streamlining procedure have been stated in the replies to succeeding specific recommendation(s).

Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises
[OM NO S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 30-10-2025 (Comp. No.: 14345)]

Comments of the Committee (Please see para 6 (i) of Chapter 1 of the Report)

**DELAYED SUBMISSION OF ATNS BEYOND THE STIPULATED
SIX-MONTHS PERIOD
Recommendation (Sl. No.2)**

3. The Committee noted that despite clear guidelines under Regulations on Audit and Accounts, 2020, several Ministries and Departments have failed to submit ATNs within the stipulated six months from the date of the presentation of the Audit Report to Parliament. As per data provided by C&AG as of December 31, 2022, reveal that out of 313 pending Audit Paras, 76 first ATNs were awaited, while 237 revised ATNs were yet to be submitted. The delay in ATN submission results in prolonged audit scrutiny and ineffective corrective action, ultimately undermining financial accountability.

The information furnished by C&AG has highlighted that many Ministries do not submit ATNs unless the concerned Audit Paras are selected for examination by the CoPU. This results in large-scale pendency and failure to implement corrective actions. The DPE while acknowledging the issue has stated that despite regular reminders, several Ministries/Departments have either submitted incomplete information or have not responded at all. To this, Controller General of Accounts (CGA) has suggested that an automated tracking system for ATNs (Audit Para Monitoring System - APMS) may be implemented to ensure real-time monitoring of submission timelines.

The Committee while dealing with the issue in detail found that mandatory compliance with ATNs submission deadlines is need of the hour and every administrative Ministry/Department of the CPSUs should have been adhered to promptly long back. (i) Henceforth, with no exception, complete action on furnishing of ATNs, with number of journeys not exceeding two between the concerned Ministry/Department followed by vetting comments of Audit, must be adhered to within six months of the presentation of the Audit Report to Parliament; (ii) Any Ministry/Department failing to comply should be required to submit an explanation within 30 days after the six-month deadline to the DPE and DoE for placing it before the Committee of Secretaries (CoS). In this regard, DPE may prepare the list of non-compliant Ministries/Department annually (as on 31st December) for placing before CoS. While placing the compliance data before CoS, DPE may classify the Ministries/Departments under three categories viz., Low pendency, Medium pendency and High pendency depending on the pendency percentage of ATNs as more than 0-25 %, 25-50 % and more than 50% respectively. The final compliance on progress made after placing the data before CoS may be sent by DPE to the Committee Secretariat for perusal of the Committee along with the annual information sought with regard to various CPSUs for being considered by the Committee at their first sitting held for Selection of Subjects for examination; and (iii) The Financial Advisors (FAs) of concerned Ministry/Department, made as Nodal Officer for collation of all data must submit quarterly reports on ATN status to DPE; and (iv) In addition to this, the

accountability of Secretary of the Ministry/Department, who also acts as Chief Accounting Authority (CAA), should be upheld in case of recurring non-compliance with ATN submission timelines, as well.

Reply of the Government

4. DPE accepts the recommendation of the COPU. The Department of Public Enterprises has rigorously followed-up the matter with the Concerned Ministries/Departments through email/OM etc. DPE has given the updated status on 21-02-2025, which is also a part of the Eleventh Report of 2024-25 of COPU which is reproduced below:

B. Summary of status of ATNs replies regarding pending paras of CPSUs
(As per DPE OM dt. 21.02.2025)

Status as on 9 th June 2023			Remarks of DPE Monitoring Cell as on 21.02.2025		
Total No. of Audit Reports/ Paras	No. of settled Audit Reports/ Paras	No. of unsettled Audit Reports/ Paras	Number of Paras on which ATN has been sent to CoPU/C&AG # (out of Col.3)	Number of Paras on which reply is awaited from Ministry/ Department (Out of Col.3)	Number of Paras Reported by Ministry/ Department as settled # (out of Col.3)
Col (1)	Col (2)	Col (3)	Col (4)	Col (5)	Col (6)
1015	692	323	195	87	41

as per replies submitted by Ministries/Departments.

DPE has further conducted meeting on 04-07-2025 with Ministries/Departments having large number of Audit Paras (i.e. more than 5 audit paras), The O/o C&AG was also represented in the meeting. Ministries/Departments were sensitised about various recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report including remedial actions to be taken by them like establishment of Internal Monitoring Committees (IMCs), Departmental Audit Committee (DAC) for reviewing/expediting the processing/finalisation of ATNs, regular follow-ups/joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office. The minutes of meeting is enclosed herewith as Annexure -I. After the meeting, improved coordination between O/o C&AG and Ministries/Departments has been observed.

The Office of Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure have prepared the pilot Portal in consultation with DPE. UAT has been completed. It is likely that the portal shall be live by January 2026. DPE vide Office Memorandum F.No.DPE-S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 29-10-2025 to concerned Ministries/Departments incorporating all the above recommendations including

adherence to timelines. DPE shall also submit the progress report on final compliance to CoPU Secretariat on annual basis as recommended.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises
[OM NO S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 30-10-2025 (Comp. No.: 14345)]

Comments of the Committee
(Please see para 6 (i) of Chapter 1 of the Report)

LACK OF A CENTRALIZED MONITORING SYSTEM FOR ATN SUBMISSION
Recommendation (Sl. No.3)

5. The Committee found that the existing process for ATN submission is largely manual, leading to delays, inefficiencies and difficulty in tracking pending ATNs. The absence of a centralized monitoring system has resulted in a lack of real-time data on ATN submission across Ministries/Departments. The DPE and the Committee Secretariat manually tracks the status of pending ATNs, leading to difficulties in tracing records and updating the status of settlement.

The C&AG during deliberation on various occasions have expressed concerns over the absence of a dedicated digital system to track ATNs, leading to ineffective follow-ups. The DPE has also affirmatively agreed with the need for an integrated digital monitoring system and suggested that ATN compliance be monitored in coordination with CGA under DoE and finally to CoPU. The CGA supporting the proposal has shown their preparedness to immediately make provisions for operationalization of the Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS), on the directions of the Committee, which would allow Ministries/Departments, C&AG, DPE, DoE and CoPU to track ATN submission status in real time.

To give effect to this, the Committee desired (i) Immediate action on implementation and operationalization of the APMS Portal by CGA within next six months, in consultation with the stakeholders viz., CPSUs through their concerned Ministry/Department, C&AG and DPE to make audit system for CPSUs more efficacious. The CGA should develop a customized APMS Portal involving the stakeholders and maintain the same under the Department of Expenditure. The portal should invariably include real-time tracking, automated alerts and a dashboard to display ATN submission status across all Ministries/Department. The portal should also generate automatic reminders for pending ATNs to the concerned Ministries and their Secretaries, in case of breach of any submission timeline; and (ii) The Portal should invariably have mandatory digital submission of ATNs by the Ministries/Departments and vetting remarks by C&AG through the APMS to eliminate inefficiencies in manual record-keeping. Hard copy submissions should immediately be discontinued and a digital acknowledgment receipt may be generated for tracking purposes.

Reply of the Government

6. DPE accepts the recommendation of the COPU. Department of Expenditure has also furnished the inputs for framing ATR vide OM dated 28.08.2025 (copy enclosed). The Office of Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure have prepared the pilot Portal in consultation with DPE. UAT has been completed. It is likely that the portal shall be live by January 2026 with additional functionalities like real-time tracking, automated alerts and a dashboard. DPE has issued Office Memorandum vide F.No.DPE-S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 29-10-2025 to concerned Ministries/Departments/O/o C&AG informing their expected roles and various functionalities of the portal.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises
[OM NO S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 30-10-2025 (Comp. No.: 14345)]

Comments of the Committee (Please see para 6 (i) of Chapter 1 of the Report)

HIGH PENDENCY IN SPECIFIC MINISTRIES WITH LARGE NUMBER OF AUDIT PARAS

Recommendation (Sl. No.4)

7. The Committee noted that certain key Ministries, including Ministries such as Petroleum & Natural Gas, Finance (Dept. of Financial Services), Steel, Defence, Civil Aviation, Power and Road Transport & Highways, have disproportionately high numbers of pending ATNs. Ministries fail to submit ATNs even after multiple reminders, delaying corrective actions and undermining financial discipline. Further, as submitted by DPE before the Committee, two kinds of paras, one is related to the operation of CPSUs and the second related to financial irregularities or violations of DPE guidelines are the majority where timely settlement of ATNs could not be achieved.

The Committee noted that those Ministries that have a history of non-compliance in ATN submission, urge stricter monitoring mechanisms. The DPE has stated that while reminders were issued, Ministries often cite resource constraints or pending legal proceedings as reasons for delays. To arrive at amicable resolution of the matter, the Committee find that it would be a wise step to have accountability of the Financial Advisors (FAs) of high-pendency Ministries under the ambit and supervision of the DPE and DoE.

To meet the intended objective, the Committee found that time has come where (i) Priority on monitoring of high-pendency Ministries should be taken-up by DPE where Ministries with over 20 pending ATNs should be placed under stricter scrutiny and their Financial Advisors (FAs) should present a compliance action plan, detailing steps taken to clear the backlog; (ii) Escalation mechanism for long-pending ATNs be made functional if ATNs remain pending beyond one year and the matter should be

escalated to the Cabinet Secretariat through CoS; (iii) The cases involving unsettled Audit Paras may be classified under the sub-heads - DPE Guidelines, AMRCD, Court/Arbitration, Systemic and Other categories; (iv) For such cases where Ministries/Departments have cited ongoing legal proceedings as a reason for delayed ATNs, the Committee recommend the establishment of a legal advisory panel in consultation with Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law to review such cases and recommend appropriate legal reforms, if necessary; and (v) Further, non-compliant Ministries should be required to submit a written explanation on the APMS Portal for being viewed by the Secretaries of DPE and DoE with final responsibility to CoPU.

Reply of the Government

8. DPE accepts the recommendation of the COPU. The Office of Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure have prepared the pilot Portal in consultation with DPE. UAT has been completed. It is likely that the portal shall be live by January 2026 with all functionalities like age wise pendency, classification of paras as DPE Guidelines, AMRCD, Court/Arbitration, Systemic and Other categories. DPE shall monitor the high pendency Ministries/Department as per information available with the portal. Further, DPE vide F.No.DPE-S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 29-10-2025 has inter-alia informed concerned Ministries/Department about the need of establishment of a legal advisory panel in cases where legal proceedings have been cited as reason for delayed ATN in consultation with Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises
[OM NO S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 30-10-2025 (Comp. No.: 14345)]

Comments of the Committee (Please see para 6 (i) of Chapter 1 of the Report)

NUMBER OF JOURNEYS AND TURNAROUND TIME FOR FINALIZATION OF ATNs Recommendation (Sl. No.5)

9. The Committee noted inconsistent time taken and coordination issues between the Ministries/Departments and C&AG in furnishing the ATNs and vetting remarks respectively. There are hardly any cases where the timeline of six months has been adhered to for sending the final ATNs to CoPU for settlement/dropping of Audit para in view of no further comments by the Audit. Many Ministries/Departments delay final ATN submission due to long turnaround times in the vetting process. In several instances, ATNs were returned by CAG with comments, but Ministries failed to provide revised ATNs in a timely manner. The C&AG time and again have also brought to the

notice of Committee that some Ministries take excessive time to resubmit revised ATNs after receiving initial audit observations. It has been found that the overall process sometimes takes years with several rounds of journey between the Ministry/Department and C&AG before reaching settlement on the matter.

The Committee are of the view that regular inter-departmental meetings should be held to streamline the vetting process. To streamlining the vetting process, the Ministry and C&AG each should set a maximum timeline of 30 days for reviewing and providing ATNs and vetting comments on them.

To give effect to this, (i) the Ministries/Departments may establish Internal Monitoring Committees to oversee the timely preparation and submission of ATNs. These Committees can meet at regular intervals, chaired by senior officials such as the Additional Secretary or Financial Advisor; (ii) The Ministry/Department should also have Departmental Audit Committee (DAC), chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry/Department that may hold review meetings to expedite the processing and finalization of ATNs before submission to C&AG for vetting; and (iii) Finally, structured workflow and timeline for the ATN submission process alongwith regular follow-ups and joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office may also take place to facilitate vetting and resolve queries at an early stage. Such meetings should help to reduce delays due to repeated revisions of ATNs.

The measures suggested above and reducing number of journeys to two between the Ministries/Departments should be able to meet the intended purpose of completion of action on ATNs submission within six months timeline.

Reply of the Government

10. DPE accepts the recommendation of the COPU. The Office of Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure have prepared the pilot Portal in consultation with DPE. UAT has been completed. It is likely that the portal shall be live by January 2026.

DPE has conducted meeting on 04-07-2025 with Ministries/Departments having large number of Audit Paras (i.e. more than 5 audit paras), The O/o C&AG was also represented in the meeting. Ministries/Department were sensitised about various recommendation contained in the Eleventh Report including remedial actions to be taken by them like establishment of Internal Monitoring Committees (IMCs), Departmental Audit Committee (DAC) for reviewing/expediting the processing/finalisation of ATNs, regular follow-ups/joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office. The minutes of meeting is enclosed herewith as Annexure - I.

DPE vide Office Memorandum F.No.DPE-S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 29-10-2025 informed concerned Ministries/Departments about the need of various committees like Departmental Audit Committee (DAC), Internal Monitoring

Committees, Joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office as well as adherence to timelines.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises
[OM NO S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 30-10-2025 (Comp. No.: 14345)]

Comments of the Committee
(Please see para 6 (i) of Chapter 1 of the Report)

NEED FOR A STRONGER ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM
Recommendation (Sl. No.6)

11. The Committee observed that existing mechanisms lack strict penalties for non-compliance with ATN submission deadlines. Ministries/Departments often delay ATNs without facing any consequences, leading to continued inefficiency. The C&AG, also in agreement that Ministries failing to submit ATNs should be subject to stricter Parliamentary scrutiny, the Committee were of the view that (i) ATN compliance may be included as part of Performance Appraisal (PA) system of the Financial Advisors of the Ministry/Department, being the Nodal Officer nominated by DPE in this regard. Further, each CPSU while bringing their Annual Report should include information on data pertaining to settled and pending ATNs that should help bring enhanced transparency and compliance in public domain; (ii) The Committee further desired for layers of answerability at first level, to DPE and DoE and second level of CoS should act as deterrence for the non-compliant Ministries/Departments before being brought finally to CoPU. Failure at first and second level, the Secretaries of flagged non-compliant Ministries should be required to appear before CoPU for an explanation. Further, Annual Performance Reviews of Secretaries should include ATN compliance as a metric.

Reply of the Government

12. DPE accepts the recommendation of the COPU. The Office of Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure have prepared the pilot Portal in consultation with DPE. UAT has been completed. It is likely that the portal shall be live by January 2026.

DPE vide F.No.DPE-S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 29-10-2025 informed concerned Ministries/Department about the role of Ministries/Departments in ensuring ATN compliance.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises
[OM NO S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 30-10-2025 (Comp. No.: 14345)]

Comments of the Committee
(Please see para 6 (ii) and (iii) of Chapter 1 of the Report)

CONCLUSION
Recommendation (Sl. No.7)

13. The issue of delayed and non-submission of ATNs is a critical gap in the parliamentary oversight of CPSUs. Without timely submission, key audit observations remain unresolved, affecting the transparency, financial discipline, and governance of CPSUs. The Committee strongly recommended immediate implementation of a centralized digital monitoring system [APMS(CoPU)] and strict compliance measures to ensure effective oversight and accountability in Central Public Sector Undertakings.

Reply of the Government

14. DPE accepts the recommendation of the COPU. The Office of Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure have prepared the pilot Portal in consultation with DPE. UAT has been completed. It is likely that the portal shall be live by January 2026 with all functionalities necessary for ensuring timeliness of ATNs and lower pendency.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises
[OM NO S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division dated 30-10-2025 (Comp. No.: 14345)]

Comments of the Committee
(Please see para 6 (ii) and 7 of Chapter 1 of the Report)

CHAPTER III

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

- NIL -

CHAPTER IV

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAD NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

- NIL -

CHAPTER V

**OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE
GOVERNMENT HAS FURNISHED INTERIM REPLIES AND FINAL REPLIES ARE
STILL AWAITED**

- NIL -

**New Delhi;
08 December, 2025
17 Agrahayana, 1947(S)**

**Baijayant Panda
Chairperson
Committee on Public Undertakings**

ANNEXURE-I

No.DPE/ 4(2)/2023-Survey
भारत सरकार/ Government of India
वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
लोक उद्यम विभाग / Department Public Enterprises

Block14, CGO Complex,
Delhi -110003
dated 30-Jul-2025
21

Office Memorandum

Subject: Status of ATNs of C&AGs Audit Reports/Paras of CPSEs of various Ministries reg.

I am directed to forward herewith the Minutes of Meeting held on 4-07-2025 under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Admn. &Parl.), DPE to review the status of ATNs of C&AG Paras /Reports (Commercial) of CPSEs of 7 Ministries / Departments along with Officers from O/o C&AG.


(Baljit Singh)
Joint Director

To,

1. Deputy C&AG O/o C&AG,
2. Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy
3. Secretary, Ministry of Communication
4. Secretary, Ministry of Defence
5. Secretary, Department of Financial Services
6. Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries
7. Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
8. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
9. Concerned Representative of Minsitry/Department

Cc:

- i. Sr. PPS to Secretary, DPE
- ii. PPs to Joint Secretary(Adm. & Parl.)
- iii. PPS to DDG(Survey)

Minutes of the meeting held on 04.07.2025 in Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) to review the status of ATNs of C&AG Paras of CPSEs of various Ministries/Departments

A review meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Admn. &Parl.), DPE on 04-07-2025 to review the status of ATNs of C&AG Paras /Reports (Commercial) of CPSEs of 7 Ministries / Departments along with Officers from O/o C&AG. The list of participants is at **Annexure – I.**

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the representatives from various Ministries/ Departments and Officers from O/o C&AG. He highlighted the objectives of the meeting and informed that Committee on Public Undertakings (CoPU) has nominated DPE for monitoring of ATNs on C&AG Paras pertaining to CPSUs by concerned Administrative Ministries/ Departments. DPE has been regularly following up with different Ministries/Departments for updated status of ATNs of C&AG Paras/Reports pertaining to CPSEs. Status of all ATNs regarding C&AG Paras/Reports of CPSEs, as received from concerned Ministries/Departments at various stages in DPE, are also sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat (PU Branch) from time to time. Updated Ministry/Department-wise Summary status of ATNs of C&AG Paras/Reports (for the period 2010-11 to 2021-22) is also part of Eleventh Report of CoPU (18th Lok Sabha). Seven Ministries/Departments, which still have 5 or more pending ATNs have been called for the meeting in the first phase viz. D/o Atomic Energy, M/o Communications, M/o Defence, D/o Financial Services, M/o Heavy Industries, M/o Petroleum and Natural Gas and M/o Road Transport and Highways.

3. DDG (Survey) sensitized the representatives from various Ministries/Departments regarding various recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of CoPU (18th Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/Departments'. These include remedial actions to be taken by Ministries/Departments like establishment of Internal Monitoring Committees (IMCs), Departmental Audit Committee (DAC) for reviewing/expediting the processing/finalization of ATNs, regular follow-ups/joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office as well as stricter Parliamentary scrutiny of Ministries failing to submit ATNs.

4. Status of ATNs of C&AG Paras of CPSEs pertaining to each of the 6 present Ministries/Departments was presented and discussed in detail. It was observed that some Ministries/Departments have already sent ATNs for certain Paras to CoPU after completion of specified number of journeys. While matter was sub- judice for some Paras and vetting remarks on revised ATNs were also awaited for some paras. Ministry of Communication and Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) stated that they will provide the updated status to DPE and O/o C&AG. The representative from MHI also informed that status of C&AG Para no 1.7 Report no. 21/2015 pertaining to Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited had been updated to DPE vide OM dated 24-08-2023 and provided the related documents. Updated status of remaining C&AG Paras/Reports were sought from participating Ministries/Departments.

5. Officers of the C&AG also agreed for DPE for sharing the contact details of Nodal Officers of the O/o C&AG with concerned Ministries/Departments to facilitate faster coordination. The O/o C&AG also requested Ministries/Departments to keep DPE informed whenever ATNs/Final ATNs are sent to O/o C&AG/CoPU so that status of such C&AG Paras/Reports can be updated by O/o C&AG as well as DPE. The details of Ministry-wise nodal officer of O/o C&AG are at

Annexure II. Officers of the C&AG suggested that each Ministry/Department may hold meetings with C&AG Officers for faster resolution of long-pending Paras.

6. After detailed discussions, the following decisions were taken:

- i. (a) Since the monitoring of ATNs of C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) of CPSEs is expected to take place in online mode in near future for the subsequent period, it is important that all pending ATNs/revised ATNs for the period 2010-11 to 2021-22 and thereafter, are expedited by concerned Ministries/Departments in consultation with O/o C&AG;
- (b) Ministries/Departments are to keep both DPE and O/o C&AG informed, whenever first/revised ATNs are forwarded to O/o C&AG for vetting as well as when final ATNs are sent to CoPU; and
- (c) O/o C&AG will also keep DPE in the loop while forwarding vetting remarks to the concerned Ministries/Departments. This will help in updating the status of ATNs by all stakeholders concurrently.

(Action: Ministries/Departments and O/o C&AG)

- ii. DPE had worked out updated status in coordination with Ministries/Departments w.r.t. list provided by Lok Sabha Secretariat (PU Branch) vide letter dated 09-06-2023. Details of present status of ATNs of C&AG Paras/Reports arisen after above cited letter was issued till 2024-25, which remain unsettled may be updated on the online system (to be operationalised shortly) by C&AG, as DPE does not have complete list of such Paras/Reports as some C&AG Paras/Reports are Ministry/Department specific.

(Action: Ministries/Departments and O/o C&AG)

- iii. As recommended by CoPU in its Eleventh Report, complete action on furnishing of ATNs, with number of journeys not exceeding two between the concerned Ministry/Department followed by vetting comments of Audit, must be adhered to within six (6) months of the presentation of the Audit Report to Parliament. Any Ministry/Department failing to comply would be required to submit an explanation within 30 days after the six-month deadline to the DPE and DoE.

(Action: Ministries/Departments)

- iv. Remedial actions are to be taken by Ministries/Departments like establishment of Internal Monitoring Committees (IMCs), Departmental Audit Committee (DAC) for reviewing and expediting the processing/finalization of ATNs. Regular follow-ups/joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office be held as recommended by CoPU in its Eleventh Report.

(Action: Ministries/Departments)

- v. Some ministries raised informed that though ATNs have already been provided long back, vetting remarks from O/o C&AG are yet to be received. Further, a representative from one Ministry stated that O/o C&AG sent 'no further comments' on some of their ATNs, however, there was no follow up communication from O/o C&AG. In response, representatives from O/o C&AG stated that some ATNs are not traceable at O/o C&AG, probably due to multiple

mediums of receiving ATNs from Ministries/Departments (like receiving through email on C&AG's secretariat, directly to desk officers/concerned field offices of O/o C&AG as well as through posts etc.). With regards to subsequent communications after 'no further comments', it was clarified by the representatives from O/o C&AG that after 'no further comments' from O/o C&AG, the concerned Ministries/Departments are required to forward the particular C&AG Audit Para/Report, along with ATNs with audit vetting remarks to CoPU, under intimation to C&AG and DPE. Accordingly, the following modalities were agreed upon:

(a). The Ministries/Departments mentioned in Sl. no. 1 to 7 (**Refer. Ann. -II**) will forward their ATNs to concerned Ministry-wise nodal officers in O/o C&AG, with copy to DPE (i.e. **psurvey@nic.in, ddg-survey-dpe@gov.in**) and newly created email id in O/o C&AG (i.e., **copu.cag@cag.gov.in**) and also they will receive the audit vetting remarks from the respective Nodal Officers from O/o C&AG, and send a copy to DPE (i.e., **psurvey@nic.in** and **ddg-survey-dpe@gov.in**) as well as the newly created email id **copu.cag@cag.gov.in**.

(b). The Ministries/Departments mentioned in Sl. no. 8 to 17 (**Refer. Ann. -II**) will forward their ATNs to concerned Ministry-wise nodal officers in O/o C&AG, with a copy to DPE (i.e. **psurvey@nic.in, ddg-survey-dpe@gov.in**) and also they will receive the audit vetting remarks from the respective Nodal Officers from O/o C&AG, and send a copy to DPE (i.e. **psurvey@nic.in** and **ddg-survey-dpe@gov.in**).

(Action: Ministries/Departments, O/o C&AG and DPE).

(c) All the Desk Officers in O/o C&AG will be instructed that when vetting remarks on Final ATN is sent they should clearly mention (in the forwarding letter addressed to the concerned Ministries/Departments) that particular C&AG Audit Para/Report, along with ATNs duly vetted by Audit may be forwarded to CoPU by the concerned Ministries/Departments under intimation to O/o C&AG and DPE.

(Action: O/o C&AG)

Annexure I

List of Participants

Meeting on Status of ATNs of C&AGs Audit Reports/Paras of CPSEs of Various Ministries
Venue: Conference Hall, DPE, Block 14, CGO Complex, Delhi on dated 04-07-2025

Sl No	Name and Designation
Office of Comptroller and Auditor General	
1	Shri K.M. Jaipuria , Sr.A.O. O/o C&AG New Delhi
2	Shri Aditya Kumar Mishra, SAO (Commercial)/ C&AG office, New Delhi
3	Ms Manjeet Dhamija, Sr. Audit Officer
4	Shri Saurav Ganguly, Assistant Audit Officer
Department of Atomic Energy	
1	Shri Padmakar Kushwaha, Dy. Secretary (Power and I&M)
2	Ms Richa Sinha AGM(F&A)
3	Ms Padmini Zende DGM (F&A)
Ministry of Communication	
1	Ms Nandini Palat Director (Accounts)
2	Ms Ravija Prashar, ADG (Audit Coordination)
Ministry of Defence	
1	Shri Abhay Kumar Sharan, Director
2	Shri Piyush Kumar, Under Secretary
Department of Financial Services	
1	NIL
Ministry of Heavy Industries	
1	Shri Joseph Atul T. Barla, Director
2	Shri Naresh Kumar, Director
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	
1	Shri Arun Kumar, Director
2	Shri A.K. Sinha , Under Secretary (Fin-II)
3	Shri K.D. Verma, Under Secretary (LPG)
4	Shri Sagar Singh Kalsi, Director
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways	
1	Shri Ashish Kumar Singh, CGM(Fin), NHAI
2	Shri Mridul Dubey ,CGM(R) NHAI
3	Shri Mayank Tyagi, Deputy Secretary
4	Shri Yerva Ajay, Assistance Director
Department of Public Enterprises (Central Monitoring Cell)	
1	Ms Bindu Sreedathan, DDG(Survey)
2	Shri Baljit Singh, Joint Director

Annexure II

List of Nodal Officers of Office of C&AG for ATN of

Sl. No.	Name	Email	Ministry allocated	Complete Office Address
1	Shri Pankaj Singhal Sr. Administrative Officer	saoca4@cag.gov.in	Commerce and Industry (MoCI) Corporate Affairs (MCA) Heavy Industries Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Textiles Tourism Chemicals and Fertilizers - Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals Finance (MoF) - Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) - Department of Financial Services (DFS) - Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM)	O/o CAG of India, 9, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi-110124
2	Shri Sunil Yadav Sr. Administrative Officer	sao8ca3@cag.gov.in	Civil Aviation (MoCA) Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)	
3	Ms. Meera Madhusudan Sr. Administrative Officer	meeram.cag@cag.gov.in	Steel (MoS)	
4	Shri Tarun Kumar Sr. Administrative Officer	saoshopping.ca3.cag@cag.gov.in	Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW)	
5	Shri Umesh Goel Sr. Administrative Officer	goelu.comm@cag.gov.in	Mines	

6	Shri Nitin Gupta Sr. Administrative Officer	aoca3@cag.gov.in	Coal (MoC)	
7	Shri Vinod Kumar Sr. Administrative Officer	sao10ca3@cag.gov.in	Power (MoP) Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG)	
8	Shri Vijay Koul Sr. Administrative Officer	saorlycomm.cag@cag.gov.in	Railways	
9	Ms. Meenakshi Yadav Sr. Audit Officer	yadavm.comm@cag.gov.in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication - Department of Telecommunication (DoT) Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) 	O/o Director General of Audit (Finance & Communication), Shamnath Marg, Civil Lines, New Delhi - 110054
10	Shri Rajesh Kumar Sr. Audit Officer	rajeshkr.pnt@cag.gov.in	Communication - Department of Post (DoP)	
11	Ms. G. Kokila Sr. Audit Officer	Kokilag.pnt@cag.gov.in	Finance (MoF) - Department of Expenditure (DoE) - Department of Economic Affairs (DEA)	
12	Arpan Kumar Mandal Sr. Audit Officer	mandalak.def@cag.gov.in	Defence	O/o Principal Director of Audit (OF) Kolkata
13	T. Suranjan Acharya Sr. Audit Officer	suranjana.comm@cag.gov.in		O/o Principal Director of Audit, Defence- Commercial, Bengaluru.
14	Shri Vikram Nirwan Sr. Audit Officer	saodefence@cag.gov.in		Defence Wing, O/o the Comptroller and Audit General of India, New Delhi

15	Shri Anoop Tandon Sr. Audit Officer	tandona@cag.gov.in	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chemicals and Fertilizers ➤ D/o Fertilizers 2. Consumer Affairs and Food and Public Distribution ➤ D/o Food & Public Distribution 3. Agriculture and Farmers Welfare 4. Jal Shakti ➤ D/o WR, RD & GR 5. Cooperation 	O/o DGA, CE (AF&WR) 8 th & 9 th Floor, Annexe Building, 10 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi- 110002
16	Shri Anand Sharma Sr. Audit Officer	sharmaa.del.cca@cag.gov.in	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of Northeast Region, 2. Minority Affairs, 3. D/o Personnel and Training 4. Tribal Affairs, 5. Home Affairs, 6. Education, 7. D/o Pharmaceuticals, 8. AYUSH, 9. Health and Family Welfare, 10. Information & Broadcasting, 11. Social Justice and Empowerment, 12. Child and Women Development, 	O/o DGA (CE), New Delhi, Audit Bhawan, IP Estate, New Delhi-110002
17	Shri Avinash Dhawan Assistant Audit Officer	avinashd.del.esm@cag.gov.in	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New and Renewable Energy 2. Atomic Energy 3. D/o Biotechnology 4. D/o Scientific & Industrial Research 5. Space 6. Environment, Forest & Climate Change 	O/o the Director General of Audit, Central Expenditure, Environment & Scientific Department, AGCR Building, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002

ANNEXURE-II

No. 11(7)/E.Coord/2025
Government of India (भारत सरकार)
Ministry of Finance (वित्त मंत्रालय)
Department of Expenditure (व्यय विभाग)

North Block, New Delhi
Dated the 28th August, 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: 11th Report of Committee of Public Undertakings (18th Lok Sabha) on "Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/ Departments- Input of Department of Expenditure – reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith Department of Expenditure's O.M. No. 303/1/2025-EMC-CGA/1399 dated 23.07.2025 on the above mentioned subject along with Para-wise inputs/ comments (copy enclosed) for further necessary action.

Encl: As above



(Amit Kumar Sharma)
Section Officer
Tel No: 2309 5655

To

Department of Public Enterprises
[Kind Attn: Ms. Bindu Sreedathan, DDG (Survey Division)]
Room No. 310, Block 14, CGO Complex, New Delhi
Tel (o): 011-2436 0624

No. 303/1/2025-EMC-CGA/1399
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
Office of Controller General of Accounts
(Monitoring Cell)

Mahalekha Niyantrak Bhawan,
GPO Complex, E-Block, INA,
New Delhi
Dated: 23.07.2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: 11th Report of Committee of Public Undertakings (18th Lok Sabha) on "Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/Departments-Input of Department of Expenditure-reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to Department of Expenditure (E-Coord Branch) Email dated 17.07.2025 seeking para wise comments on 11th Report of CoPU (18th Lok Sabha) from Monitoring Cell, Office of Controller General of Accounts (O/o CGA).

3. Para wise comments are given in Annexure-I.
4. This is issued with the approval of Joint Controller General of Accounts.

Digitally signed by
Vishwa Nath Dwivedi
Date: 23-07-2025
(Vishwa Nath Dwivedi)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel:011-24665520

Department of Expenditure (E. Coord Branch)
[Kind attention: Shri Pradeed Kumar, JS (E. Coord)]
74-B, North Block, New Delhi

Shrih
25.8.2025

JSCE-Coord

JSCE/Coord

26/08/25
JSO(AS)

ANNEXURE-I

Para wise input/reply as on date 21.07.2025 on Observations/Recommendations of the Report No 11 of CoPU (Part II of the report) from Monitoring Cell, O/o CGA, Department of Expenditure:

Para no. /Observation/Recommendations	Reply/Input
1. <u>Overview</u>	
1(i) The Committee on Public Undertakings (CoPU) under Rule 312A of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha is entrusted to examine the functioning of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and scrutinize reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) regarding their performance. The C&AG, under Sections 19 of C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 audits Government Companies and Corporations in accordance with the provisions of Section 143(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Audit reports thereon are subsequently presented to Parliament.	No Comments
1(ii) The administrative Ministries/ Departments of the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) are required to submit Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on audit observations within six months of the presentation of C&AG Reports (Commercial) in Parliament in accordance with Section 19-A of C&AG's (DPC) Act, 1971. However, widespread delays and non-compliance by Ministries/Departments have rendered audit scrutiny ineffective, leading to unresolved governance and accountability issues in CPSUs. Failure to comply also results in a backlog of unsettled audit paras, delaying parliamentary oversight and remedial actions thereon.	No Comments
1(iii) As per the Regulations on Audit and Accounts, 2020, Secretaries of concerned Ministries/Departments are responsible for timely	No Comments

<p>submission of ATNs, duly vetted by the Audit before the settled Audit Para/Report is finally sent to the Committee on Public Undertakings (CoPU). Despite clear regulations, the Committee have repeatedly observed non-submission or delayed submission of ATNs, with some cases spanning multiple years. An analysis of details of pendency of Audit Reports/Paras revealed that from the 967 Reports/Paras involving 141 CPSUs across 28 Ministries, 313 Reports/Paras remained pending with 76 Reports/Paras awaiting first ATNs and 237 Reports/Paras requiring revised ATNs. Ministries such as Petroleum & Natural Gas, Finance (Dept. of Financial Services), Steel, Defence, Civil Aviation, Power and Road Transport & Highways have the highest number of pending audit paras, reflecting a significant compliance gap.</p>	
<p>1(iv) The Committee observe that a major challenge contributing to this issue is the lack of a centralized monitoring system for tracking ATN submissions related to CPSUs. Unlike the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), which benefits from the Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS), similar platform for CoPU is yet to be made functional for monitoring CPSUs related Audit Paras, resulting in inefficient manual tracking and difficulty in record-keeping.</p>	<p>Office of CGA, Department of Expenditure has completed development of portal. DPE, vide OM No 303/1/2022-EMC-CGA dated 04.04.2025 has been requested to do user acceptance test (UAT) and to complete formalities for deployment.</p>
<p>1(v) Further, past recommendations (including those in 49th Report of 7th Lok Sabha, 2nd Report of 12th Lok Sabha and 1st Report of 13th Lok Sabha) had emphasized the need for Monitoring Cells (MCs) in Ministries and a Centralised Monitoring Cell (CMC) in the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) to oversee timely compliance with ATN submission. However, these measures did not seem to have yielded the desired improvements and as stated by C&AG and DPE officials, several Ministries have failed to establish robust internal tracking systems for compliance.</p>	<p>No comments as does not pertain to DoE</p>
<p>1(vi) The delayed or non-submission of ATNs is a major hurdle in ensuring effective parliamentary oversight, transparency and financial discipline in</p>	<p>On request of DPE, a portal incorporating requirements of DPE for</p>

<p>CPSUs. Given the magnitude of the issue and to address this systemic issue at its root cause, the Committee strongly feel a dire need for urgent reforms, including the development of an APMS-like digital platform under the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Department of Expenditure, for real-time tracking of ATNs. Further, prompt action and setting of strict deadlines have to be enforced for non-compliant CPSUs and reviewing them through their administrative Ministry/Department. Also regular inter-ministerial coordination meetings should be convened between C&AG & CPSUs Administrative Ministries/Departments; Department of Public Enterprises; and Department of Expenditure to monitor progress. Since Government holds majority share in these CPSUs, to enhance governance, ensure strict enforcement mechanism and accountability across all Ministries and CPSUs, the Committee desire that a structured system of reporting delayed submissions may be brought forth periodically, on annual basis by the Department of Public Enterprises and Department of Expenditure (DoE) before the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) headed by Cabinet Secretary so that the seriousness of the matter can be impressed upon the concerned Secretaries. Details of streamlining the procedure for submission of ATNs and working towards achievement of zero pendency has been illustrated in succeeding paragraphs.</p>	<p>monitoring/submission of ATNs on Commercial C&AG paras/reports pertaining to CPSEs have been developed, pending for UAT and deployment by DPE. DPE has been informed regarding completion of development vide OM no. 303/1/2022-EMC-CGA dated 04.04.2025 and requested to complete UAT and Deployment of portal. Role of DoE (O/o CGA) is limited to helping DPE in development and deployment of portal. DoE will not have any role after deployment of portal.</p> <p>DPE is nodal department for monitoring submission of ATNs on Commercial C&AG paras/reports pertaining to CPSEs. Hence, DPE to take action on recommendations/observations.</p>
<p><u>2. Delayed Submission of ATNs beyond the stipulated six-months period</u></p>	
<p>2(i) The Committee note that despite clear guidelines under Regulations on Audit and Accounts, 2020, several Ministries and Departments have failed to submit ATNs within the stipulated six months from the date of the presentation of the Audit Report to Parliament. As per data provided by C&AG as of December 31, 2022, reveal that out of 313 pending Audit Paras, 76 first ATNs were awaited, while 237 revised ATNs were yet to be submitted. The delay in ATN submission results in prolonged audit scrutiny and ineffective corrective action,</p>	<p>No Comments</p>

ultimately undermining financial accountability.	
2(ii) The information furnished by C&AG has highlighted that many Ministries do not submit ATNs unless the concerned Audit Paras are selected for examination by the CoPU. This results in large-scale pendency and failure to implement corrective actions. The DPE while acknowledging the issue has stated that despite regular reminders, several Ministries/Departments have either submitted incomplete information or have not responded at all. To this, Controller General of Accounts (CGA) has suggested that an automated tracking system for ATNs (Audit Para Monitoring System - APMS) may be implemented to ensure real-time monitoring of submission timelines.	No Comments
2(iii) The Committee while dealing with the issue in detail find that mandatory compliance with ATNs submission deadlines is need of the hour and every administrative Ministry/Department of the CPSUs should have been adhered to promptly long back. (i) Henceforth, with no exception, complete action on furnishing of ATNs, with number of journeys not exceeding two between the concerned Ministry/Department followed by vetting comments of Audit, must be adhered to within six months of the presentation of the Audit Report to Parliament; (ii) Any Ministry/Department failing to comply should be required to submit an explanation within 30 days after the six-month deadline to the DPE and DoE for placing it before the Committee of Secretaries (CoS). In this regard, DPE may prepare the list of non-compliant Ministries/Department annually (as on 31st December) for placing before CoS. While placing the compliance data before CoS, DPE may classify the Ministries/Departments under three categories viz., Low pendency, Medium pendency and High pendency depending on the pendency percentage of ATNs as more than 0-25 %, 25-50 % and more than 50% respectively. The final compliance on progress made after placing the data before CoS may be sent by DPE to the Committee Secretariat for	DPE is nodal department for monitoring submission of ATNs on Commercial C&AG paras/reports pertaining to CPSEs. Hence, DPE to take action on recommendations/observations.

<p>perusal of the Committee along with the annual information sought with regard to various CPSUs for being considered by the Committee at their first sitting held for Selection of Subjects for examination; and (iii) The Financial Advisors (FAs) of concerned Ministry/Department, made as Nodal Officer for collation of all data must submit quarterly reports on ATN status to DPE; and (iv) In addition to this, the accountability of Secretary of the Ministry/Department, who also acts as Chief Accounting Authority (CAA), should be upheld in case of recurring non-compliance with ATN submission timelines, as well.</p>	
<p><u>3. Lack of a Centralized Monitoring System for ATN Submission</u></p>	
<p>3(i) The Committee find that the existing process for ATN submission is largely manual, leading to delays, inefficiencies and difficulty in tracking pending ATNs. The absence of a centralized monitoring system has resulted in a lack of real-time data on ATN submission across Ministries/Departments. The DPE and the Committee Secretariat manually tracks the status of pending ATNs, leading to difficulties in tracing records and updating the status of settlement.</p>	
<p>3(ii) The C&AG during deliberation on various occasions have expressed concerns over the absence of a dedicated digital system to track ATNs, leading to ineffective follow-ups. The DPE has also affirmatively agreed with the need for an integrated digital monitoring system and suggested that ATN compliance be monitored in coordination with CGA under DoE and finally to CoPU. The CGA supporting the proposal has shown their preparedness to immediately make provisions for operationalization of the Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS), on the directions of the Committee, which would allow Ministries/Departments, C&AG, DPE, DoE and CoPU to track ATN submission status in real time.</p>	
<p>3(iii) To give effect to this, the Committee desire (i) Immediate action on implementation and</p>	<p>Development of portal has been completed as informed</p>

<p>operationalization of the APMS Portal by CGA within next six months, in consultation with the stakeholders viz., CPSUs through their concerned Ministry/Department, C&AG and DPE to make audit system for CPSUs more efficacious. The CGA should develop a customized APMS Portal involving the stakeholders and maintain the same under the Department of Expenditure. The portal should invariably include real-time tracking, automated alerts and a dashboard to display ATN submission status across all Ministries/Department. The portal should also generate automatic reminders for pending ATNs to the concerned Ministries and their Secretaries, in case of breach of any submission timeline; and</p> <p>(ii) The Portal should invariably have mandatory digital submission of ATNs by the Ministries/Departments and vetting remarks by C&AG through the APMS to eliminate inefficiencies in manual record-keeping. Hard copy submissions should immediately be discontinued and a digital acknowledgment receipt may be generated for tracking purposes.</p>	<p>to DPE vide OM no. 303/1/2022-EMC-CGA dated 04.04.2025, pending for Users Acceptance Test (UAT) and Deployment. As agreed in the meeting held on 14.07.2025, jointly chaired by CGA and Secretary, DPE, the portal will be hosted by Office of CGA temporarily for six months i.e upto January, 2026 as an interim arrangement in compliance of recommendations of the COPU reports till the time DPE will complete the preparatory work for taking over the operationalization of portal. The portal has facility of online submission of ATNs and real time tracking, automated alerts through email on uploading ATNs and vetting comments. Facility of automatic reminder is not available in the portal, which may be enhanced by DPE once the portal is operationalise with DPE.</p>
<p>4. High Pendency in Specific Ministries with Large Number of Audit Paras</p>	
<p>4(i) The Committee note that certain key Ministries, including Ministries such as Petroleum & Natural Gas, Finance (Dept. of Financial Services), Steel, Defence, Civil Aviation, Power and Road Transport & Highways, have disproportionately high numbers of pending ATNs. Ministries fail to submit ATNs even after multiple reminders, delaying corrective actions and undermining financial discipline. Further, as submitted by DPE before the Committee, two kinds of paras, one is related to the operation of CPSUs and the second related to financial irregularities or violations of DPE guidelines are the majority where timely settlement of ATNs could not be achieved.</p>	<p>No comments</p>

<p>4(ii) The Committee note that those Ministries that have a history of non-compliance in ATN submission, urge stricter monitoring mechanisms. The DPE has stated that while reminders were issued, Ministries often cite resource constraints or pending legal proceedings as reasons for delays. To arrive at amicable resolution of the matter, the Committee find that it would be a wise step to have accountability of the Financial Advisors (FAs) of high-pendency Ministries under the ambit and supervision of the DPE and DoE.</p>	
<p>4(iii) To meet the intended objective, the Committee find that time has come where (i) Priority on monitoring of high-pendency Ministries should be taken-up by DPE where Ministries with over 20 pending ATNs should be placed under stricter scrutiny and their Financial Advisors (FAs) should present a compliance action plan, detailing steps taken to clear the backlog; (ii) Escalation mechanism for long-pending ATNs be made functional if ATNs remain pending beyond one year and the matter should be escalated to the Cabinet Secretariat through CoS; (iii) The cases involving unsettled Audit Paras may be classified under the sub-heads - DPE Guidelines, AMRCD, Court/Arbitration, Systemic and Other categories; (iv) For such cases where Ministries/Departments have cited ongoing legal proceedings as a reason for delayed ATNs, the Committee recommend the establishment of a legal advisory panel in consultation with Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law to review such cases and recommend appropriate legal reforms, if necessary; and (v) Further, non-compliant Ministries should be required to submit a written explanation on the APMS Portal for being viewed by the Secretaries of DPE and DoE with final responsibility to CoPU.</p>	<p>DPE is nodal department for monitoring submission of ATNs on Commercial C&AG paras/reports pertaining to CPSEs. Hence, DPE to take action on recommendations/observations. In response to point (v), it is stated that at present, APMS portal have no facility/link for uploading/submission of written explanation on paras/reports. DPE may make such provision after deployment of portal at their end as an enhancement.</p>
<p><u>5. Number of Journeys and turnaround time for finalisation of ATNs</u></p>	
<p>5(i) The Committee note inconsistent time taken and coordination issues between the</p>	

<p>Ministries/Departments and C&AG in furnishing the ATNs and vetting remarks respectively. There are hardly any cases where the timeline of six months has been adhered to for sending the final ATNs to CoPU for settlement/dropping of Audit para in view of no further comments by the Audit. Many Ministries/Departments delay final ATN submission due to long turnaround times in the vetting process. In several instances, ATNs were returned by CAG with comments, but Ministries failed to provide revised ATNs in a timely manner. The C&AG time and again have also brought to the notice of Committee that some Ministries take excessive time to resubmit revised ATNs after receiving initial audit observations. It has been found that the overall process sometimes takes years with several rounds of journey between the Ministry/Department and C&AG before reaching settlement on the matter.</p>	
<p>5(ii) The Committee are of the view that regular inter-departmental meetings should be held to streamline the vetting process. To streamlining the vetting process, the Ministry and C&AG each should set a maximum timeline of 30 days for reviewing and providing ATNs and vetting comments on them.</p>	
<p>5(iii) To give effect to this, (i) the Ministries/Departments may establish Internal Monitoring Committees to oversee the timely preparation and submission of ATNs. These Committees can meet at regular intervals, chaired by senior officials such as the Additional Secretary or Financial Advisor; (ii) The Ministry/Department should also have Departmental Audit Committee (DAC), chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry/Department that may hold review meetings to expedite the processing and finalization of ATNs before submission to C&AG for vetting; and (iii) Finally, structured workflow and timeline for the ATN submission process alongwith regular follow-ups and joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office may also take place to facilitate vetting and resolve queries at an early stage. Such meetings should help to reduce delays</p>	<p>DPE is nodal department for monitoring submission of ATNs on Commercial C&AG paras/reports pertaining to CPSEs. Hence, DPE to take action on recommendations/ observations</p>

due to repeated revisions of ATNs.	
(iv) The measures suggested above and reducing number of journeys to two between the Ministries/Departments should be able to meet the intended purpose of completion of action on ATNs submission within six months timeline.	
6. Need for stronger Enforcement Mechanism	
<p>The Committee observed that existing mechanisms lack strict penalties for non-compliance with ATN submission deadlines. Ministries/Departments often delay ATNs without facing any consequences, leading to continued inefficiency.</p> <p>The C&AG, also in agreement that Ministries failing to submit ATNs should be subject to stricter Parliamentary scrutiny, the Committee are of the view that (i) ATN compliance may be included as part of Performance Appraisal (PA) system of the Financial Advisors of the Ministry/Department, being the Nodal Officer nominated by DPE in this regard. Further, each CPSU while bringing their Annual Report should include information on data pertaining to settled and pending ATNs that should help bring enhanced transparency and compliance in public domain; (ii) The Committee further desire for layers of answerability at first level, to DPE and DoE and second level of CoS should act as deterrence for the non-compliant Ministries/Departments before being brought finally to CoPU. Failure at first and second level, the Secretaries of flagged non-compliant Ministries should be required to appear before CoPU for an explanation. Further, Annual Performance Reviews of Secretaries should include ATN compliance as a metric.</p>	<p>DPE is nodal department for monitoring submission of ATNs on Commercial C&AG paras/reports pertaining to CPSEs. Hence, DPE to take action on recommendations/observations.</p>
7. Conclusion	
The issue of delayed and non-submission of ATNs is a critical gap in the parliamentary	Development of portal has been completed as informed

oversight of CPSUs. Without timely submission, key audit observations remain unresolved, affecting the transparency, financial discipline, and governance of CPSUs. The Committee strongly recommend immediate implementation of a centralized digital monitoring system [APMS(CoPU)] and strict compliance measures to ensure effective oversight and accountability in Central Public Sector Undertakings.	to DPE vide OM no. 303/1/2022-EMC-CGA dated 04.04.2025, pending for Users Acceptance Test (UAT) and Deployment. As agreed in the meeting held on 14.07.2025, jointly chaired by CGA and Secretary, DPE, the portal will be hosted by Office of CGA temporarily for six months i.e upto January, 2026 as an interim arrangement in compliance of recommendations of the COPU reports till the time DPE will complete the preparatory work for taking over the operationalization of portal.
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No. DPE - S-04/0002/2025-Survey Division
भारत सरकार/ Government of India
वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
लोक उद्यम विभाग / Department Public Enterprises
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

Block No.14, CGO Complex
Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated 29-10-2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/ Departments.

The Committee on Public Undertakings (18th Lok Sabha) in their 11th Report (2024-25) on 'Reviewing Timely Submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/ Departments' noted widespread delays and non-compliance by Ministries/Departments regarding Action Taken Notes on Audit Paras(s) of CPSUs. The Committee also observed that failure to comply also results in a backlog of unsettled Audit Paras, delaying Parliamentary oversight and remedial actions thereon.

2. Keeping in view the huge pendency of follow-up action on audit paragraphs, the Committee has recommended specific steps to be taken by the Government. These recommendations have been considered and accepted by the Government and action needs to be taken as follows:

Recommendation No.	Recommendation	Action by
2	Automated tracking system for ATNs (Audit Para Monitoring System - APMS) may be implemented to ensure real-time monitoring of submission timelines.	DPE and DoE
2	(i) Henceforth, with no exception, complete action on furnishing of ATNs, with number of journeys not exceeding two between the concerned Ministry/Department followed by vetting comments of Audit, must be adhered to within six months of the presentation of the Audit Report to Parliament;	Ministry/ Department
	(ii) Any Ministry/Department failing to comply should be required to submit an explanation within 30 days after the six-month deadline to the DPE and DoE for placing it before the Committee of Secretaries (CoS). DPE may prepare the list of non-compliant Ministries/Department annually (as on 31st December) for placing before CoS. While placing the	Ministry/ Department/ DPE

	compliance data before CoS, DPE may classify the Ministries/Departments under three categories viz., Low pendency, Medium pendency and High pendency depending on the pendency percentage of ATNs as more than 0-25 %, 25-50 % and more than 50%.	
	<p>(iii) The Financial Advisors (FAs) of concerned Ministry/Department, made as Nodal Officer for collation of all data must submit quarterly reports on ATN status to DPE; and</p> <p>(iv) In addition to this, the accountability of Secretary of the Ministry/Department, who also acts as Chief Accounting Authority (CAA), should be upheld in case of recurring non-compliance with ATN submission timelines, as well.</p>	Ministry/ Department
3	(i) Immediate action on implementation and operationalization of the APMS Portal by CGA within next six months, in consultation with the stakeholders viz., CPSUs through their concerned Ministry/Department, C&AG and DPE to make audit system for CPSUs more efficacious. The CGA should develop a customized APMS Portal involving the stakeholders and maintain the same under the Department of Expenditure. The portal should invariably include real-time tracking, automated alerts and a dashboard to display ATN submission status across all Ministries/Department. The portal should also generate automatic reminders for pending ATNs to the concerned Ministries and their Secretaries, in case of breach of any submission timeline;	DoE/ DPE
	(ii) The Portal should invariably have mandatory digital submission of ATNs by the Ministries/Departments and vetting remarks by C&AG through the APMS to eliminate inefficiencies in manual record-keeping. Hard copy submissions should immediately be discontinued and a digital acknowledgment receipt may be generated for tracking purposes	DPE/DoE/ O/o C&AG
4	(i) Priority on monitoring of high-pendency Ministries should be taken-up by DPE where Ministries with over 20 pending ATNs should be placed under stricter scrutiny and their Financial Advisors (FAs) should present a compliance action plan, detailing steps taken to clear the backlog	DPE

	(ii) Escalation mechanism for long-pending ATNs be made functional if ATNs remain pending beyond one year and the matter should be escalated to the Cabinet Secretariat through CoS.	DPE
	(iii) The cases involving unsettled Audit Paras may be classified under the sub-heads - DPE Guidelines, AMRCD, Court/Arbitration, Systemic and Other categories	DPE/C&AG
	(iv) For such cases where Ministries/Departments have cited ongoing legal proceedings as a reason for delayed ATNs, the Committee recommend the establishment of a legal advisory panel in consultation with Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law to review such cases and recommend appropriate legal reforms, if necessary;	Concerned Ministry/ Department
	(v) Further, non-compliant Ministries should be required to submit a written explanation on the APMS Portal for being viewed by the Secretaries of DPE and DoE with final responsibility to CoPU.	Concerned Ministry/ Department
5	(i) The Ministries/Departments may establish Internal Monitoring Committees to oversee the timely preparation and submission of ATNs. These Committees can meet at regular intervals, chaired by senior officials such as the Additional Secretary or Financial Advisor;	Concerned Ministry/ Department
	(ii) The Ministry/Department should also have Departmental Audit Committee (DAC), chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry/Department that may hold review meetings to expedite the processing and finalization of ATNs before submission to C&AG for vetting;	Concerned Ministry/ Department
	(iii) Structured workflow and timeline for the ATN submission process alongwith regular follow-ups and joint meetings between the Ministry's Audit Wing and the C&AG Office may also take place to facilitate vetting and resolve queries at an early stage. Such meetings should help to reduce delays due to repeated revisions of ATNs.	Concerned Ministry/ Department
6	(i) ATN compliance may be included as part of Performance Appraisal (PA) system of the Financial Advisors of the Ministry/Department, being the Nodal Officer nominated by DPE in this regard. Further, each CPSU while bringing their Annual Report should include information on data pertaining	Concerned Ministry/ Department

	to settled and pending ATNs that should help bring enhanced transparency and compliance in public domain.	
	(ii)The Committee further desire for layers of answerability at first level, to DPE and DoE and second level of CoS should act as deterrence for the non-compliant Ministries/Departments before being brought finally to CoPU. Failure at first and second level, the Secretaries of flagged non-compliant Ministries should be required to appear before CoPU for an explanation. Further, Annual Performance Reviews of Secretaries should include ATN compliance as a metric.	Concerned Ministry/ Department

3. The pilot portal for real time tracking of ATNs for C&AG Paras of CPSUs has been tested and it is likely to go-live in January 2026 with additional functionalities. All the Administrative Ministries/Departments are requested to take immediate steps. They may ensure setting up of mechanism for the above compliances within 30 days of this OM.

4. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.


(Baljit Singh)
Joint Director
011-2436 2671

To

1. All Secretaries of Concerned Ministries/Department
2. All Financial Advisors of Concerned Ministries/Department
3. Jt. CGA (APMS Cell) O/o Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure
4. Deputy Secretary (E.Coord), Department of Expenditure
5. Director (Parl./Coord), Department of Public Entreprises

Copy for information to :

1. PPS to Comptroller and Auditor General of India
2. PSO to Secretary, DPE.
3. PS to JS(Admn./Parl.), Department of Public Entreprises
4. PS to DDG(Survey), Department of Public Entreprises
5. Deputy Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat (Committee on Public Undertakings Branch)

APPENDIX-I
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS
(2025-26)

MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Friday, the 5th December, 2025 from 1000 hrs. to 1045 hrs. in Committee Room No. '2', Ground Floor, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Baijayant Panda - Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Tariq Anwar
3. Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi
4. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
5. Shri Shankar Lalwani
6. Shri B.Y. Raghavendra
7. Shri Mukesh Rajput
8. Shri Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa
9. Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy
10. Shri Lalji Verma

RAJYA SABHA

11. Dr. John Brittas
12. Shri Neeraj Dangi
13. Shri Milind Murli Deora
14. Dr. Bhagwat Karad
15. Shri Surendra Singh Nagar
16. Shri Debashish Samantaray
17. Shri Arun Singh

SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Shri Anjani Kumar | - Joint Secretary |
| 2. Smt. Mriganka Achal | - Director |
| 3. Shri Tenzin Gyaltsen | - Deputy Secretary |

2. The Hon'ble Chairperson briefly apprised the Members on the Eleven draft Reports. The Committee then considered and adopted the following draft reports, without any changes/modifications: -

- i. Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SFCL) (Comprehensive Examination);
- ii. Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC Limited) (Comprehensive Examination);
- iii. Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) (Comprehensive Examination);
- iv. Review of Performance of Petroleum & Natural Gas Sector CPSUs (Horizontal Examination);
- v. "Para No. 2.4 of C&AG Report No. 14 of 2021 regarding 'Loss due to flaring of High-pressure gas' relating to Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Limited. (Audit Based Examination);
- vi. Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the First Report (18th Lok Sabha) on "Procurement of hardware/software item to the tune of Rs. 890.34 Crores through strategic alliance" relating to National Informatics Centre Services Inc. (NICS) [Based on Audit Para No. 6.1 of C&AG Report No. 03 of 2021];
- vii. Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Third Report (18th Lok Sabha) on "Undue enrichment through recovery of turnover tax from consumer" relating to Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) [Based on Audit Para No. 2.1 of C&AG Report No. 14 of 2021];
- viii. Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Ninth Report (18th Lok Sabha) on "Industrial Finance Corporation of India Limited (IFCI Ltd)";
- ix. Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Tenth Report (18th Lok Sabha) on "Design and Development (D&D) in Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)" [Based on Chapter-II of C&AG Report No. 18 of 2023];
- x. Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report (18th Lok Sabha) on "Reviewing timely submission of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on C&AG Paras/Reports (Commercial) by the Ministries/Departments"; and
- xi. Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the twelfth Report (18th Lok Sabha) on "IREL (India) Limited".

3. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalize the draft Reports on the basis of factual verification as suggested by the concerned CPSUs/Ministry/Department/C&AG and presentation of the same during the current session of Parliament.

The Committee, then, adjourned.

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APPENDIX- II

ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE ELEVENTH REPORT (18th LOK SABHA) OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS (2024-25) ON “REVIEWING TIMELY SUBMISSION OF ACTION TAKEN NOTES (ATNs) ON C&AG PARAS/REPORTS (COMMERCIAL) BY THE MINISTRIES/DEPARTMENTS”

I	Total number of recommendations:	07
II	Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government Sl. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7	Total- 07 Percentage- 100
III	Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies: - NIL -	Total- 00 Percentage- NA
IV	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and need reiteration: - NIL -	Total- 00 Percentage- NA
V	Observations/Recommendations to which the Government has furnished interim replies: - NIL -	Total- 00 Percentage- NA