

**MOCK TEST PAPER**  
**INTERMEDIATE (NEW) GROUP – II**  
**PAPER – 6: AUDITING AND ASSURANCE**

*Question No. 1 is compulsory.*

*Attempt any **four** questions from the Rest.*

**Time Allowed – 3 Hours**

**Maximum Marks – 100**

1. Examine with reasons (in short) whether the following statements are correct or incorrect:
- (i) A modelling tool constructs a statistical model from financial data only of prior accounting periods to predict current account balances.
  - (ii) When we are designing audit procedures to address an inherent risk or “what can go wrong”, we consider the nature of the risk of material misstatement in order to determine if a substantive analytical procedure can be used to obtain audit evidence.
  - (iii) According to SA 530 “Audit sampling”, ‘audit sampling’ refers to the application of audit procedures to 100% of items within a population of audit relevance.
  - (iv) The fundamental principle of an automated environment is the ability to carry out business with less manual intervention and more system driven.
  - (v) Application controls include manual controls only that operate at a business process level.
  - (vi) Misstatements in the financial statements can arise from fraud only.
  - (vii) The assessment of risks is a matter capable of precise measurement.
  - (viii) The matters which the banks require their auditors to deal with in the long form audit report have been specified by the Central Government.
  - (ix) The auditor shall express an adverse opinion when:
    - (a) The auditor, having obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence, concludes that misstatements, individually or in the aggregate, are material, but not pervasive, to the financial statements; or
    - (b) The auditor is unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on which to base the opinion, but the auditor concludes that the possible effects on the financial statements of undetected misstatements, if any, could be material but not pervasive
  - (x) Other matter paragraph is paragraph included in the auditor’s report that refers to a matter appropriately presented or disclosed in the financial statements that, in the auditor’s judgment, is of such importance that it is fundamental to users’ understanding of the financial statements.

**(2 x 10 = 20 Marks)**

2. Discuss the following:
- (a) The level of sampling risk that the auditor is willing to accept affects the sample size required. The lower the risk the auditor is willing to accept, the greater the sample size will need to be. Explain Stating the examples of factors that the auditor may consider when determining the sample size for tests of controls.
  - (b) “The auditor should plan his work to enable him to conduct an effective audit in an efficient and timely manner. Plans should be based on knowledge of the client’s business” Discuss stating clearly the broad points you would be covering in framing plan to conduct audit in an efficient and effective manner.

- (c) The engagement partner of AST AND ASSOCIATES, firm of Chartered Accountants appointed as auditor of Fabric India Ltd is considering as to management of key resources to be employed to conduct audit. Discuss how overall audit strategy would assist the auditor.
- (d) Discuss the different ways testing is performed in an automated environment **(5 x 4 = 20 Marks)**
3. (a) RAG is proprietorship firm engaged in the manufacturing of textile and handloom products. It sells its finished products both in the domestic as well as in the international market. The company is making total turnover of Rs. 30 crores. It has also availed cash credit limit of Rs. 5 crores from Canara Bank. In the year 2017-18, proprietor of the firm is worried about the financial position of the company and is under the impression that since he is out of India, therefore firm might run into losses. He approaches a CA about advantages of getting his accounts audited throughout the year so that he may not suffer due to accounting weaknesses. Advise regarding advantages of getting accounts audited. **(5 Marks)**
- (b) The auditor shall assemble the audit documentation in an audit file and complete the administrative process of assembling the final audit file on a timely basis after the date of the auditor's report. Discuss. **(5 Marks)**
- (c) On going through the financial statements of PQR Ltd, its auditors Kamal Gagan and Associates observed that company has taken Loans from banks and financial institutions. Further, the audit team discusses the following about Liabilities:
- “Liabilities are the financial obligations of an enterprise other than owners' funds. Liabilities include loans/ borrowings, trade payables and other current liabilities, deferred payment credits and provisions.
- Verification of liabilities is as important as that of assets, for, if any liability is omitted (or understated) or over stated, the Balance Sheet would not show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company.”
- Advise stating clearly the audit procedures generally required to be undertaken for verification of existence of Borrowings **(5 Marks)**
- (d) “Until the invoice is paid, the invoice amount is recorded on the organization's balance sheet as accounts receivable. If balances are not recoverable, then these amounts will need to be written off as an expense in the income statement/ profit and loss account.”
- It is important to carry out compliance procedures in the sales audit as part of the debtors' audit procedure.
- Verify to ensure that the system for receivables has the necessary features. **(5 Marks)**
4. (a) The objective of the IAASB is to serve the public interest by setting high quality auditing standards and by facilitating the convergence of international and national standards, thereby enhancing the quality and uniformity of practice throughout the world and strengthening public confidence in the global auditing and assurance profession. Advise how this objective would be accomplished. **(5 Marks)**
- (b) State the matters to be included in the auditor's report as per CARO, 2016 regarding -
- (i) Default in repayment of loans or borrowing to a financial institution, bank etc. **(2 Marks)**
- (ii) Fraud by the company or on the Company by its officers or employees. **(2 Marks)**
- (c) The auditor of XYZ Ltd, engaged in FMCG (Fast Moving Consumable Goods) obtains an understanding of the control environment. As part of obtaining this understanding, the auditor evaluates whether:
- (i) Management has created and maintained a culture of honesty and ethical behavior; and
- (ii) The strengths in the control environment elements collectively provide an appropriate

foundation for the other components of internal control.

Advise what is included in control environment. Also explain the elements of control environment. **(6 Marks)**

- (d) ABC Ltd is engaged in manufacturing of different type of yarns. On going through its financial statements for the past years, it is observed that inventory is material to the financial statements. You as an auditor of the company wanted to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the existence and condition of the inventory as appearing in the financial statements. Discuss, how would you proceed as an auditor. **(5 Marks)**
5. (a) The auditor evaluated, in respect of T Ltd., whether the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework.
- Auditor's evaluation included consideration of the qualitative aspects of the entity's accounting practices, including indicators of possible bias in management's judgments.
- Advise the qualitative aspects of the entity's accounting practices. **(5 Marks)**
- (b) M/s RM & Co. is an audit firm having partners CA. R and CA. M. The firm has been offered the appointment as an auditor of Enn Ltd. for the Financial Year 2016-17. Mr. Bee, the relative of CA. R, is holding 5,000 shares (face value of Rs. 10 each) in Enn Ltd. having market value of Rs. 1,50,000. One of the shareholders, complains that the appointment of RM & Co. as an auditor is invalid because it incurred disqualification u/s 141 of the Companies Act, 2013. Analyse and advise. **(5 Marks)**
- (c) The reliability of data is influenced by its source and nature and is dependent on the circumstances under which it is obtained. Accordingly, explain the factors that are relevant when determining whether data is reliable for purposes of designing substantive analytical procedures. **(5 Marks)**
- (d) Fraud, whether fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets, involves incentive or pressure to commit fraud, a perceived opportunity to do so and some rationalization of the act. Explain with examples. **(5 Marks)**
6. (a) The first auditors of Bhartiya Petrol Ltd., a Government company, were appointed by the Board of Directors. Analyse. **(5 Marks)**
- (b) An NGO operating in Delhi had collected large scale donations for Tsunami victims. The donations so collected were sent to different NGOs operating in Tamil Nadu for relief operations. This NGO operating in Delhi has appointed you to audit its accounts for the year in which it collected and remitted donations for Tsunami victims. Draft audit programme for audit of receipts of donations and remittance of the collected amount to different NGOs. Mention six points each, peculiar to the situation, which you will like to incorporate in your audit programme for audit of said receipts and remittances of donations. **(5 Marks)**
- (c) The engagement team of FRN & Co.- Auditors of Bank of Baroda held discussions to gain better understanding of the bank and its environment, including internal control, and also to assess the potential for material misstatements of the financial statements.
- The discussion between the members of the engagement team and the audit engagement partner are being done on the susceptibility of the bank's financial statements to material misstatements. These discussions are ordinarily done at the planning stage of an audit.
- Analyse and Advise the matters to be discussed in the engagement team discussion. **(5 Marks)**
- (d) Advise any five special points in an audit of hospital. **(5 Marks)**

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**SUGGESTED ANSWERS / HINTS**

1. (i) **Incorrect:** A modelling tool constructs a statistical model from financial and/or non-financial data of prior accounting periods to predict current account balances (e.g., linear regression).
- (ii) **Correct.** — When we are designing audit procedures to address an inherent risk or “what can go wrong”, we consider the nature of the risk of material misstatement in order to determine if a substantive analytical procedure can be used to obtain audit evidence. When inherent risk is higher, we may design tests of details to address the higher inherent risk. When significant risks have been identified, audit evidence obtained solely from substantive analytical procedures is unlikely to be sufficient.
- (iii) **Incorrect:** According to SA 530 “Audit sampling”, ‘audit sampling’ refers to the application of audit procedures to less than 100% of items within a population of audit relevance such that all sampling units have a chance of selection in order to provide the auditor with a reasonable basis on which to draw conclusions about the entire population.
- (iv) **Correct:** The fundamental principle of an automated environment is the ability to carry out business with less manual intervention and more system driven. The complexity of a business environment depends on the level of automation i.e., if a business environment is more automated, it is likely to be more complex.
- (v) **Incorrect.** Application controls include both automated or manual controls that operate at a business process level. Automated Application controls are embedded into IT applications viz., ERPs and help in ensuring the completeness, accuracy and integrity of data in those systems.
- (vi) **Incorrect:** Misstatements in the financial statements can arise from either fraud or error. The distinguishing factor between fraud and error is whether the underlying action that results in the misstatement of the financial statements is intentional or unintentional
- (vii) **Incorrect:** The assessment of risks is based on audit procedures to obtain information necessary for that purpose and evidence obtained throughout the audit. The assessment of risks is a matter of professional judgment, rather than a matter capable of precise measurement.
- (viii) **Incorrect:** The matters which the banks require their auditors to deal with in the long form audit report have been specified by the Reserve Bank of India.
- (ix) **Incorrect:** The auditor shall express a qualified opinion when:
- (a) The auditor, having obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence, concludes that misstatements, individually or in the aggregate, are material, but not pervasive, to the financial statements; or
- (b) The auditor is unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on which to base the opinion, but the auditor concludes that the possible effects on the financial statements of undetected misstatements, if any, could be material but not pervasive
- (x) **Incorrect:** Emphasis of Matter paragraph is a paragraph included in the auditor’s report that refers to a matter appropriately presented or disclosed in the financial statements that, in the auditor’s judgment, is of such importance that it is fundamental to users’ understanding of the financial statements.

2. (a) The level of sampling risk that the auditor is willing to accept affects the sample size required. The lower the risk the auditor is willing to accept, the greater the sample size will need to be.

The sample size can be determined by the application of a statistically-based formula or through the exercise of professional judgment. When circumstances are similar, the effect on sample size of factors will be similar regardless of whether a statistical or non-statistical approach is chosen.

**Examples of Factors Influencing Sample Size for Tests of Controls:** The following are factors that the auditor may consider when determining the sample size for tests of controls. These factors, which need to be considered together, assume the auditor does not modify the nature or timing of tests of controls or otherwise modify the approach to substantive procedures in response to assessed risks.

- ◆ When there is an increase in the extent to which the auditor's risk assessment takes into account relevant controls. The more assurance the auditor intends to obtain from the operating effectiveness of controls, the lower the auditor's assessment of the risk of material misstatement will be, and the larger the sample size will need to be. When the auditor's assessment of the risk of material misstatement at the assertion level includes an expectation of the operating effectiveness of controls, the auditor is required to perform tests of controls. Other things being equal, the greater the reliance the auditor places on the operating effectiveness of controls in the risk assessment, the greater is the extent of the auditor's tests of controls (and therefore, the sample size is increased). Thus, sample size will increase.
  - ◆ If there is an increase in the tolerable rate of deviation. Then sample size will decrease, as lower the tolerable rate of deviation, larger the sample size needs to be.
  - ◆ When there is an increase in the expected rate of deviation of the population to be tested then sample size will increase, as higher the expected rate of deviation, larger the sample size needs to be so that the auditor is in a position to make a reasonable estimate of the actual rate of deviation. Factors relevant to the auditor's consideration of the expected rate of deviation include the auditor's understanding of the business (in particular, risk assessment procedures undertaken to obtain an understanding of internal control), changes in personnel or in internal control, the results of audit procedures applied in prior periods and the results of other audit procedures. High expected control deviation rates ordinarily warrant little, if any, reduction of the assessed risk of material misstatement.
  - ◆ An increase in the auditor's desired level of assurance that the tolerable rate of deviation is not exceeded by the actual rate of deviation in the population will increase the sample size. Thus, the greater the level of assurance that the auditor desires that the results of the sample are in fact indicative of the actual incidence of deviation in the population, the larger the sample size needs to be.
  - ◆ In case of large populations, the actual size of the population has little, if any, effect on sample size. For small populations however, audit sampling may not be as efficient as alternative means of obtaining sufficient appropriate audit evidence. Therefore, there will be negligible effect on sample size due to increase in the number of sampling units in the population.
- (b) "The auditor should plan his work to enable him to conduct an effective audit in an efficient and timely manner. Plans should be based on knowledge of the client's business".

**Plans should be made to cover, among other things:**

- (a) acquiring knowledge of the client's accounting systems, policies and internal control procedures;
- (b) establishing the expected degree of reliance to be placed on internal control;

- (c) determining and programming the nature, timing, and extent of the audit procedures to be performed; and
- (d) coordinating the work to be performed.

**Plans should be further developed and revised** as necessary during the course of the audit.

SA-300, "Planning an Audit of Financial Statements" further expounds this principle. According to it, **planning is not a discrete phase of an audit, but rather a continual and iterative process** that often begins shortly after (or in connection with) the completion of the previous audit and continues until the completion of the current audit engagement. The auditor shall establish an overall audit strategy that sets the scope, timing and direction of the audit, and that guides the development of the audit plan.

- (c) The auditor shall establish an overall audit strategy that sets the scope, timing and direction of the audit, and that guides the development of the audit plan.

**The process of establishing the overall audit strategy assists the auditor** to determine, subject to the completion of the auditor's risk assessment procedures, such matters as:

1. The resources to deploy for specific audit areas, such as the use of appropriately experienced team members for high risk areas or the involvement of experts on complex matters;
2. The amount of resources to allocate to specific audit areas, such as the number of team members assigned to observe the inventory count at material locations, the extent of review of other auditors' work in the case of group audits, or the audit budget in hours to allocate to high risk areas;
3. When these resources are to be deployed, such as whether at an interim audit stage or at key cut-off dates; and
4. How such resources are managed, directed and supervised, such as when team briefing and debriefing meetings are expected to be held, how engagement partner and manager reviews are expected to take place (**for example, on-site or off-site**), and whether to complete engagement quality control reviews.

- (d) The following are different ways testing is performed in an automated environment :

There are basically four types of audit tests that should be used. They are inquiry, observation, inspection and reperformance. As shown in the illustration below, Inquiry is the most efficient audit test but it is also gives the least audit evidence. Hence, inquiry should always be used in combination with any one of the other audit testing methods. Inquiry alone is not sufficient.

Reperformance is most effective as an audit test and gives the best audit evidence. However, testing by reperformance could be very time consuming and least efficient most of the time.

Generally, applying inquiry in combination with inspection gives the most effective and efficient audit evidence. However, which audit test to use, when and in what combination is a matter of professional judgement and will vary depending on several factors including risk assessment, control environment, desired level of evidence required, history of errors/misstatements, complexity of business, assertions being addressed, etc. The auditor should document the nature of test (or combination of tests) applied along with the judgements in the audit file as required by SA 230.

When testing in an automated environment, some of the more common methods are as follows:

- Obtain an understanding of how an automated transaction is processed by doing a walkthrough of one end-to-end transaction using a combination of inquiry, observation and inspection.
- Observe how a user processes transactions under different scenarios.
- Inspect the configuration defined in an application

3. (a) The chief utility of audit lies in reliable financial statements on the basis of which the state of affairs may be easy to understand. Apart from this obvious utility, there are other advantages of audit. Some or all of these are of considerable value even to those enterprises and organisations where audit is not compulsory, these advantages are given below:
- (a) **It safeguards the financial interest of persons who are not associated** with the management of the entity, whether they are partners or shareholders, bankers, FI's, public at large etc.
  - (b) **It acts as a moral check on the employees** from committing defalcations or embezzlement.
  - (c) Audited statements of account are **helpful in settling liability for taxes**, negotiating loans and for determining the purchase consideration for a business.
  - (d) These are **also useful for settling trade disputes** for higher wages or bonus as well as claims in respect of damage suffered by property, by fire or some other calamity.
  - (e) An audit can also **help in the detection of wastages and losses** to show the different ways by which these might be checked, especially those that occur due to the absence or inadequacy of internal checks or internal control measures.
  - (f) **Audit ascertains whether the necessary books of account and allied records have been properly kept** and helps the client in making good deficiencies or inadequacies in this respect.
  - (g) As an appraisal function, **audit reviews the existence and operations of various controls in the organisations** and reports weaknesses, inadequacies, etc., in them.
  - (h) Audited accounts are of great help in **the settlement of accounts at the time of admission or death of partner**.
  - (i) **Government may require audited and certified statement** before it gives assistance or issues a license for a particular trade.

- (b) The auditor shall assemble the audit documentation in an audit file and complete the administrative process of assembling the final audit file on a timely basis after the date of the auditor's report.

SQC 1 "Quality Control for Firms that perform Audits and Review of Historical Financial Information, and other Assurance and related services", requires firms to establish policies and procedures for the timely completion of the assembly of audit files. An appropriate time limit within which to complete the assembly of the final audit file is ordinarily not more than 60 days after the date of the auditor's report.

The completion of the assembly of the final audit file after the date of the auditor's report is an administrative process that does not involve the performance of new audit procedures or the drawing of new conclusions. Changes may, however, be made to the audit documentation during the final assembly process, if they are administrative in nature.

Examples of such changes include:

- ◆ Deleting or discarding superseded documentation.
- ◆ Sorting, collating and cross referencing working papers.
- ◆ Signing off on completion checklists relating to the file assembly process.
- ◆ Documenting audit evidence that the auditor has obtained, discussed and agreed with the relevant members of the engagement team before the date of the auditor's report.

After the assembly of the final audit file has been completed, the auditor shall not delete or discard audit documentation of any nature before the end of its retention period.

SQC 1 requires firms to establish policies and procedures for the retention of engagement documentation. The retention period for audit engagements ordinarily is no shorter than seven years from the date of the auditor's report, or, if later, the date of the group auditor's report.

- (c) Review board minutes for approval of new lending agreements. During review, make sure that any new loan agreements or bond issuances are authorized. Ensure that significant debt commitments should be approved by the board of directors
- Agree details of loans recorded (interest rate, nature and repayment terms) to the loan agreement. Verify that borrowing limits imposed by agreements are not exceeded.
  - Agree overdrafts and loans recorded to bank confirmation / confirmation to lenders.
  - Agree details of leases and hire purchase creditors recorded to underlying agreement.
  - Examine trust deed for terms and dates of redemption, borrowing restrictions and compliance with covenants.
  - When debt is retired, ensure that a discharge is received on assets securing the debt.
  - If we become aware of significant transactions that are outside the normal course of business or that otherwise appear to be unusual given our understanding of the entity and its environment, perform the following procedures:
    - (a) Gain an understanding of the business rationale for such significant unusual transaction.
    - (b) Consider whether the transactions involve previously unidentified related parties or parties that do not have the substance or the financial strength to support the transaction without assistance from the entity we are auditing.
- (d) Trade receivable are an essential part of any organisation's balance sheet. Often referred to as debtors, these are monies which are owed to an organisation by a customer. The most common form of an account receivable is a sale made on credit, via an invoice, to a customer. Typically, an invoice is raised and issued to the customer with the invoice amount being recorded as a debtor balance. Until the invoice is paid, the invoice amount is recorded on the organization's balance sheet as accounts receivable. If balances are not recoverable, then these amounts will need to be written off as an expense in the income statement/ profit and loss account.

It is important to carry out compliance procedures in the sales audit as part of the debtors' audit procedure. In summary, check to ensure that the system for receivables has the following features:

- Only bona fide sales lead to receivables
  - All such sales are to approved customers
  - All such sales are recorded
  - Once recorded, the debts can only be eliminated by receipt of cash or on the authority of a responsible official
  - Debts are collected promptly
  - Balances are regularly reviewed and aged, a proper system of follow up exists and if necessary adequate provision for bad debt exists
  - Clear segregation of duties relating to identification of debt, receipt of income, reconciliations and write off of debts
4. (a) The objective of the IAASB is to serve the public interest by setting high quality auditing standards and by facilitating the convergence of international and national standards, thereby enhancing the quality and uniformity of practice throughout the world and strengthening public confidence in the global auditing and assurance profession. The IAASB achieves this objective by:
- Establishing high quality auditing standards and guidance for financial statement audits that

are generally accepted and recognized by investors, auditors, governments, banking regulators, securities regulators and other key stakeholders across the world;

- Establishing high quality standards and guidance for other types of assurance services on both financial and non-financial matters;
  - Establishing high quality standards and guidance for other related services;
  - Establishing high quality standards for quality control covering the scope of services addressed by the IAASB; and
  - Publishing other pronouncements on auditing and assurance matters, thereby advancing public understanding of the roles and responsibility of professional auditors and assurance service providers.
- (b) Matters to be included in the Auditor's Report under CARO, 2016:** The auditor's report on the accounts of a company to which CARO applies shall include a statement on the following matters, namely-
- (i) whether the company has defaulted in repayment of loans or borrowing to a financial institution, bank, Government or dues to debenture holders? If yes, the period and the amount of default to be reported (in case of defaults to banks, financial institutions, and Government, lender wise details to be provided).
  - (ii) whether any fraud by the company or any fraud on the Company by its officers or employees has been noticed or reported during the year; If yes, the nature and the amount involved is to be indicated;
- (c) Control Environment – Component of Internal Control:** The auditor shall obtain an understanding of the control environment. As part of obtaining this understanding, the auditor shall evaluate whether:
- (i) Management has created and maintained a culture of honesty and ethical behavior; and
  - (ii) The strengths in the control environment elements collectively provide an appropriate foundation for the other components of internal control.

#### **What is included in Control Environment?**

The control environment includes:

- (i) the governance and management functions and
- (ii) the attitudes, awareness, and actions of those charged with governance and management.
- (iii) The control environment sets the tone of an organization, influencing the control consciousness of its people.

**Elements of the Control Environment:** Elements of the control environment that may be relevant when obtaining an understanding of the control environment include the following:

- (a) Communication and enforcement of integrity and ethical values** – These are essential elements that influence the effectiveness of the design, administration and monitoring of controls.
- (b) Commitment to competence** – Matters such as management's consideration of the competence levels for particular jobs and how those levels translate into requisite skills and knowledge.
- (c) Participation by those charged with governance** – Attributes of those charged with governance such as:
  - ◆ Their independence from management.

- ◆ Their experience and stature.
  - ◆ The extent of their involvement and the information they receive, and the scrutiny of activities.
  - ◆ The appropriateness of their actions, including the degree to which difficult questions are raised and pursued with management, and their interaction with internal and external auditors.
- (d) **Management's philosophy and operating style** – Characteristics such as management's:
- ◆ Approach to taking and managing business risks.
  - ◆ Attitudes and actions toward financial reporting.
  - ◆ Attitudes toward information processing and accounting functions and personnel.
- (e) **Organisational structure** – The framework within which an entity's activities for achieving its objectives are planned, executed, controlled, and reviewed.
- (f) **Assignment of authority and responsibility** - Matters such as how authority and responsibility for operating activities are assigned and how reporting relationships and authorisation hierarchies are established.
- (g) **Human resource policies and practices** – Policies and practices that relate to, for example, recruitment, orientation, training, evaluation, counselling, promotion, compensation, and remedial actions.
- (d) When inventory is material to the financial statements, the auditor shall obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the existence and condition of inventory by:
- (a) Attendance at physical inventory counting, unless impracticable, to:
- (i) Evaluate management's instructions and procedures for recording and controlling the results of the entity's physical inventory counting;
  - (ii) Observe the performance of management's count procedures;
  - (iii) Inspect the inventory; and
  - (iv) Perform test counts; and
- (b) Performing audit procedures over the entity's final inventory records to determine whether they accurately reflect actual inventory count results.
5. (a) The auditor shall evaluate whether the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework.

This evaluation shall include consideration of the qualitative aspects of the entity's accounting practices, including indicators of possible bias in management's judgments.

**Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Accounting Practices**

1. Management makes a number of judgments about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
2. SA 260 (Revised) contains a discussion of the qualitative aspects of accounting practices.
3. In considering the qualitative aspects of the entity's accounting practices, the auditor may become aware of possible bias in management's judgments. The auditor may conclude that lack of neutrality together with uncorrected misstatements causes the financial statements to be materially misstated. Indicators of a lack of neutrality include the following:
  - (i) The selective correction of misstatements brought to management's attention during the audit

### Example

- ✍ Correcting misstatements with the effect of increasing reported earnings, but not correcting misstatements that have the effect of decreasing reported earnings.
- ✍ The combination of several deficiencies affecting the same significant account or disclosure (or the same internal control component) could amount to a significant deficiency (or material weakness if required to be communicated in the jurisdiction). This evaluation requires judgment and involvement of audit executives.

(ii) Possible management bias in the making of accounting estimates.

4. SA 540 addresses possible management bias in making accounting estimates.

Indicators of possible management bias do not constitute misstatements for purposes of drawing conclusions on the reasonableness of individual accounting estimates. They may, however, affect the auditor's evaluation of whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement.

- (b) As per section 141(3)(d)(i), a person shall not be eligible for appointment as an auditor of a company, who, or his relative or partner is holding any security of or interest in the company or its subsidiary, or of its holding or associate company or a subsidiary of such holding company. However, as per proviso to this section, the relative of the person may hold the securities or interest in the company of face value not exceeding of Rs. 1,00,000.

In the instant case, M/s RM & Co. is an audit firm having partners CA. R and CA. M. Mr. Bee is a relative of CA. R and he is holding shares of Enn Ltd. of face value of Rs. 50,000 only (5,000 shares x Rs. 10 per share).

Therefore, M/s RM & Co. is not disqualified for appointment as an auditors of Enn Ltd. as the relative of CA. R (i.e. partner of M/s RM & Co.) is holding the securities in Enn Ltd. which is within the limit mentioned in proviso to section 141(3)(d)(i) of the Companies Act, 2013.

- (c) The reliability of data is influenced by its source and nature and is dependent on the circumstances under which it is obtained. Accordingly, the following are relevant when determining whether data is reliable for purposes of designing substantive analytical procedures:

- (i) Source of the information available. For example, information may be more reliable when it is obtained from independent sources outside the entity;
- (ii) Comparability of the information available. For example, broad industry data may need to be supplemented to be comparable to that of an entity that produces and sells specialised products;
- (iii) Nature and relevance of the information available. For example, whether budgets have been established as results to be expected rather than as goals to be achieved; and
- (iv) Controls over the preparation of the information that are designed to ensure its completeness, accuracy and validity. For example, controls over the preparation, review and maintenance of budgets.

The auditor may consider testing the operating effectiveness of controls, if any, over the entity's preparation of information used by the auditor in performing substantive analytical procedures in response to assessed risks. When such controls are effective, the auditor generally has greater confidence in the reliability of the information and, therefore, in the results of analytical procedures. The operating effectiveness of controls over non-financial information may often be tested in conjunction with other tests of controls. For example, in establishing controls over the processing of sales invoices, an entity may include controls over the recording of unit sales. In these circumstances, the auditor may test the operating effectiveness of controls over the recording of unit sales in conjunction with tests of the operating effectiveness of controls over the processing

of sales invoices. Alternatively, the auditor may consider whether the information was subjected to audit testing. SA 500 (Revised) establishes requirements and provides guidance in determining the audit procedures to be performed on the information to be used for substantive analytical procedures.

**(d) Fraud, whether fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets, involves incentive or pressure to commit fraud, a perceived opportunity to do so and some rationalization of the act. For example:**

- Incentive or pressure to commit fraudulent financial reporting may exist when management is under pressure, from sources outside or inside the entity, to achieve an expected (and perhaps unrealistic) earnings target or financial outcome.
- A perceived opportunity to commit fraud may exist when an individual believes internal control can be overridden, for example, because the individual is in a position of trust or has knowledge of specific deficiencies in internal control.

Individuals may be able to rationalize committing a fraudulent act. Some individuals possess an attitude, character or set of ethical values that allow them knowingly and intentionally to commit a dishonest act. However, even otherwise honest individuals can commit fraud in an environment that imposes sufficient pressure on them.

6. (a) A "Government company" is a company in which not less than 51% of the paid-up share capital is held by the Central Government or by any State Government or Governments or partly by the Central Government and partly by one or more State Governments, and includes a company which is a subsidiary company of such a Government company.

**Section 139(7)** provides that in the case of a Government company or any other company owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the Central Government, or by any State Government, or Governments, or partly by the Central Government and partly by one or more State Governments, the first auditor shall be appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India within 60 days from the date of registration of the company.

In case the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India does not appoint such auditor within the above said period, the Board of Directors of the company shall appoint such auditor within the next 30 days. Further, in the case of failure of the Board to appoint such auditor within next 30 days, it shall inform the members of the company who shall appoint such auditor within 60 days at an extraordinary general meeting. Auditors shall hold office till the conclusion of the first annual general meeting.

Hence, in the case of Bhartiya Petrol Ltd., being a government company, the first auditor shall be appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

**Conclusion:** Thus, the appointment of first auditor made by the Board of Directors of Bhartiya Petrol Ltd., is null and void.

**(b) Receipt of Donations:**

- (i) **Internal Control System:** Existence of internal control system particularly with reference to division of responsibilities in respect of authorised collection of donations, custody of receipt books and safe custody of money.
- (ii) **Custody of Receipt Books:** Existence of system regarding issue of receipt books, whether unused receipt books are returned and the same are verified physically including checking of number of receipt books and sequence of numbering therein.
- (iii) **Receipt of Cheques:** Receipt Book should have carbon copy for duplicate receipt and signed by a responsible official. All details relating to date of cheque, bank's name, date, amount, etc. should be clearly stated.

- (iv) **Bank Reconciliation:** Reconciliation of bank statements with reference to all cash deposits not only with reference to date and amount but also with reference to receipt book.
- (v) **Cash Receipts:** Register of cash donations to be vouched more extensively. If addresses are available of donors who had given cash, the same may be cross-checked by asking entity to post thank you letters mentioning amount, date and receipt number.
- (vi) **Foreign Contributions,** if any, to receive special attention to compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

**Remittance of Donations to Different NGOs:**

- (i) **Mode of Sending Remittance:** All remittances are through account payee cheques. Remittances through Demand Draft would also need to be scrutinised thoroughly with reference to recipient.
  - (ii) **Confirming Receipt of Remittance:** All remittances are supported by receipts and acknowledgements.
  - (iii) **Identity:** Recipient NGO is a genuine entity. Verify address, 80G Registration Number, etc.
  - (iv) **Direct Confirmation Procedure:** Send confirmation letters to entities to whom donations have been paid.
  - (v) **Donation Utilisation:** Utilisation of donations for providing relief to Tsunami victims and not for any other purpose.
  - (vi) **System of NGOs' Selection:** System for selecting NGO to whom donations have been sent.
- (c) The engagement team should hold discussions to gain better understanding of the bank and its environment, including internal control, and also to assess the potential for material misstatements of the financial statements. All these discussions should be appropriately documented for future reference. The discussion provides:
- An opportunity for more experienced engagement team members, including the audit engagement partner, to share their insights based on their knowledge of the bank and its environment.
  - An opportunity for engagement team members to exchange information about the bank's business risks.
  - An understanding amongst the engagement team members about effect of the results of the risk assessment procedures on other aspects of the audit, including decisions about the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures.

The discussion between the members of the engagement team and the audit engagement partner should be done on the susceptibility of the bank's financial statements to material misstatements. These discussions are ordinarily done at the planning stage of an audit.

The engagement team discussion ordinarily includes a discussion of the following matters:

- Errors that may be more likely to occur;
- Errors which have been identified in prior years;
- Method by which fraud might be perpetrated by bank personnel or others within particular account balances and/or disclosures;
- Audit responses to Engagement Risk, Pervasive Risks, and Specific Risks;
- Need to maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit engagement;
- Need to alert for information or other conditions that indicates that a material misstatement may have occurred (e.g., the bank's application of accounting policies in the given facts and circumstances).

(d) **Audit of Hospital:** The special steps involved in such an audit are stated below-

- (1) **Register of Patients:** Vouch the Register of patients with copies of bills issued to them. Verify bills for a selected period with the patients' attendance record to see that the bills have been correctly prepared. Also see that bills have been issued to all patients from whom an amount was recoverable according to the rules of the hospital.
- (2) **Collection of Cash:** Check cash collections as entered in the Cash Book with the receipts, counterfoils and other evidence for example, copies of patients bills, counterfoils of dividend and other interest warrants, copies of rent bills, etc.
- (3) **Income from Investments, Rent etc.:** See by reference to the property and Investment Register that all income that should have been received by way of rent on properties, dividends, and interest on securities have been collected.
- (4) **Legacies and Donations:** Ascertain that legacies and donations received for a specific purpose have been applied in the manner agreed upon.
- (5) **Reconciliation of Subscriptions:** Trace all collections of subscription and donations from the Cash Book to the respective Registers. Reconcile the total subscriptions due (as shown by the Subscription Register and the amount collected and that still outstanding).
- (6) **Authorisation and Sanctions:** Vouch all purchases and expenses and verify that the capital expenditure was incurred only with the prior sanction of the Trustees or the Managing Committee and that appointments and increments to staff have been duly authorised.
- (7) **Grants and TDS:** Verify that grants, if any, received from Government or local authority has been duly accounted for. Also, that refund in respect of taxes deducted at source has been claimed.
- (8) **Budgets:** Compare the totals of various items of expenditure and income with the amount budgeted for them and report to the Trustees or the Managing Committee, significant variations which have taken place.
- (9) **Internal Check:** Examine the internal check as regards the receipt and issue of stores; medicines, linen, apparatus, clothing, instruments, etc. so as to insure that purchases have been properly recorded in the Inventory Register and that issues have been made only against proper authorisation.
- (10) **Depreciation:** See that depreciation has been written off against all the assets at the appropriate rates.
- (11) **Registers:** Inspect the bonds, share scrips, title deeds of properties and compare their particulars with those entered in the property and Investment Registers.
- (12) **Inventories:** Obtain inventories, especially of stocks and stores as at the end of the year and check a percentage of the items physically; also compare their total values with respective ledger balances.
- (13) **Management Representation and Certificate:** Get proper Management Representation and Certificate with respect to various aspects covered during the course of audit.