

PAPER – 6 : AUDITING AND ASSURANCE

Question No.1 is compulsory.

Attempt any **four** questions from the remaining **five** questions.

Question 1

Explain whether the following statements are correct or incorrect, with reasons/ explanations/ examples (Answer any seven out of eight)

- (a) *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 less complex.*
 - (b) *The Auditor is expected to, reduce audit risk to zero and can therefore obtain absolute assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error.*
 - (c) *Determining materiality involves the exercise of professional judgement.*
 - (d) *The objectives and scope of internal audit functions are restricted to activities relating to evaluation of internal control only.*
 - (e) *If the purpose of an audit procedure is to test for understatement in the existence or valuation of accounts payable then testing the recorded accounts payable may be relevant audit procedure.*
 - (f) *As per Section 139(8) of the Companies Act, 2013, any casual vacancy in the office of an auditor shall in case of a company other than a company whose accounts are subject to audit by an auditor appointed by Comptroller and Auditor General of India, be filled by the Shareholders at an Annual General Meeting within 60 days.*
 - (g) *Sufficiency is the measure of the quantity of audit evidence.*
 - (h) *Communicating Key Audit Matters is a substitute for the auditor expressing a modified audit opinion when required by the circumstances of a specific audit engagement in accordance with SA 705.*
- (7 x 2 = 14 Marks)**

Answer

- (a) **Incorrect:** 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. If a company uses an integrated enterprise resource planning system (ERP) viz., SAP, Oracle etc., then it is considered more complex to audit. On the other hand, if a company is using an off-the-shelf accounting software, then it is likely to be less automated and hence less complex environment.
- (b) **Incorrect:** As per SA 200 "Overall Objectives of the Independent Auditor and the Conduct of an Audit in Accordance with Standards on Auditing", The auditor is not expected to, and cannot, reduce audit risk to zero and cannot therefore obtain absolute assurance that the

financial statements are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. This is because there are inherent limitations of an audit.

- (c) **Correct:** Determining materiality involves the exercise of professional judgment. A percentage is often applied to a chosen benchmark as a starting point in determining materiality for the financial statements as a whole.
- (d) **Incorrect:** As per SA-610, "Using the Work of an Internal Auditor", the objectives of internal audit functions vary widely and depend on the size and structure of the entity and the requirements of management and, where applicable, those charged with governance.

The objectives and scope of internal audit functions typically include assurance and consulting activities designed to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the entity's governance processes, risk management and internal control.

From the above, it can be concluded that the objective and scope of internal audit function are not restricted to activities relating to evaluation of control only.

- (e) **Incorrect:** If the purpose of an audit procedure is to test for overstatement in the existence or valuation of accounts payable, testing the recorded accounts payable may be a relevant audit procedure.

On the other hand, when testing for understatement in the existence or valuation of accounts payable, testing the recorded accounts payable would not be relevant, but testing such information as subsequent disbursements, unpaid invoices, suppliers' statements, and unmatched receiving reports may be relevant.

- (f) **Incorrect:** As per Section 139(8), any casual vacancy in the office of an auditor shall in the case of a company other than a company whose accounts are subject to audit by an auditor appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, be filled by the Board of Directors within 30 days.
- (g) **Correct:** Sufficiency is the measure of the quantity of audit evidence. The quantity of audit evidence needed is affected by the auditor's assessment of the risks of misstatement (the higher the assessed risks, the more audit evidence is likely to be required).
- (h) **Incorrect:** Communicating key audit matters in the auditor's report **is not a substitute** for the auditor expressing a modified opinion when required by the circumstances of a specific audit engagement in accordance with SA 705 (Revised);

Question 2

- (a) *Explain the fundamental principles of professional ethics relevant to the auditor when conducting an audit of financial statements in accordance with Code of Ethics issued by ICAI.* **(4 Marks)**
- (b) *CA Raj, an auditor was removed by PQR Ltd. before the expiry of his term. Discuss the procedure to be taken by PQR Ltd to appoint an auditor other than retiring auditor under Sec. 140(4) of the Companies Act, 2013.* **(4 Marks)**

- (c) *"Theft of an entity's assets is often perpetrated by employees in relatively small and immaterial amounts." Explain the various ways in which the same can be accomplished?* **(3 Marks)**
- (d) *Explain the objectives of the auditor regarding written representations.* **(3 Marks)**

Answer

- (a) The auditor is subject to relevant ethical requirements, including those pertaining to independence, relating to financial statement audit engagements. Relevant ethical requirements ordinarily comprise the Code of Ethics issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

The Code establishes the following as the fundamental principles of professional ethics relevant to the auditor when conducting an audit of financial statements and provides a conceptual framework for applying those principles;

- (a) Integrity;
 - (b) Objectivity;
 - (c) Professional competence and due care;
 - (d) Confidentiality; and
 - (e) Professional behaviour.
- (b) In the given question, CA Raj was removed by PQR Ltd. before the expiry of his term and PQR Ltd wants to appoint an auditor other than retiring auditor i.e CA Raj who was removed.

Section 140(4) lays down procedure to appoint an auditor other than retiring auditor who was removed-

- (1) Special notice shall be required for a resolution at an annual general meeting appointing as auditor a person other than a retiring auditor, or providing expressly that a retiring auditor shall not be re-appointed, except where the retiring auditor has completed a consecutive tenure of five years or as the case may be, ten years, as provided under **sub-section (2) of section 139**.
- (2) On receipt of notice of such a resolution, the company shall forthwith send a copy thereof to the retiring auditor.
- (3) Where notice is given of such a resolution and the retiring auditor makes with respect thereto representation in writing to the company (not exceeding a reasonable length) and requests its notification to members of the company, the company shall, unless the representation is received by it too late for it to do so, -
 - (a) in any notice of the resolution given to members of the company, state the fact of the representation having been made; and

- (b) send a copy of the representation to every member of the company to whom notice of the meeting is sent, whether before or after the receipt of the representation by the company. and if a copy of the representation is not sent as aforesaid because it was received too late or because of the company's default, the auditor may (without prejudice to his right to be heard orally) require that the representation shall be read out at the meeting.
- (c) Misappropriation of Assets involves the theft of an entity's assets and is often perpetrated by employees in relatively small and immaterial amounts. However, it can also involve management who are usually more able to disguise or conceal misappropriations in ways that are difficult to detect. Misappropriation of assets can be accomplished in a variety of ways including :
- ◆ Embezzling receipts (for example, misappropriating collections on accounts receivable or diverting receipts in respect of written-off accounts to personal bank accounts).
 - ◆ Stealing physical assets or intellectual property (for example, stealing inventory for personal use or for sale, stealing scrap for resale, colluding with a competitor by disclosing technological data in return for payment).
 - ◆ Causing an entity to pay for goods and services not received (for example, payments to fictitious vendors, kickbacks paid by vendors to the entity's purchasing agents in return for inflating prices, payments to fictitious employees).
 - ◆ Using an entity's assets for personal use (for example, using the entity's assets as collateral for a personal loan or a loan to a related party).
- (d) **The objectives of the auditor regarding written representation:**
- (i) **To obtain written representations**
To obtain written representations from management. Also that management believes that it has fulfilled its responsibility for the preparation of the financial statements and for the completeness of the information provided to the auditor;
 - (ii) **To support other evidence**
To support other audit evidence relevant to the financial statements or specific assertions in the financial statements by means of written representations; and
 - (iii) **To respond appropriately**
To respond appropriately to written representations provided by management or if management does not provide the written representations requested by the auditor.

Question 3

- (a) *Depreciation and amortisation expense generally constitute an entity's significant part of overall expenses and have direct impact on the profit/loss of the entity. What are the attributes, the Auditor needs to consider while verifying Depreciation and amortisation expense.* **(4 Marks)**
- (b) *Explain how Internal Financial Control and Internal controls over financial reporting differ?* **(4 Marks)**
- (c) *As an Auditor of XYZ Bank Limited, how would you assess the Risk of Fraud including Money Laundering in line with SA 240 ?* **(3 Marks)**
- (d) *ABC Limited has a closing balance of work in progress of inventories aggregating ₹ 850 lakhs in their balance sheet as at March 31, 2020.*

As Statutory Auditor of ABC Limited, explain various audit procedures which need to be performed to confirm Work-in-progress of inventories have been valued appropriately and as per generally accepted accounting policies and practices. **(3 Marks)**

Answer

- (a) Depreciation and amortisation generally constitute an entity's significant part of overall expenses and have direct impact on the profit/ loss of the entity, hence auditors need to verify and ensure that such expenditure is appropriate, accurately calculated and has been accounted as per applicable provisions of Companies Act or other statutes, to the extent applicable on the respective industry and as per generally accepted accounting principles.

Auditor needs to consider the following attributes while verifying for depreciation and amortisation expenses:

- Obtain the understanding of entity's accounting policy related to depreciation and amortisation.
- Ensure the Company policy for charging depreciation and amortisation is as per the relevant provisions of Companies Act/ applicable accounting standards.
- Whether the depreciation has been calculated after making adjustment of residual value from the cost of the assets.
- Whether depreciation and amortisation charges are valid.
- Whether depreciation and amortisation charges are accurately calculated and recorded.
- Whether all depreciation and amortisation charges are recorded in the appropriate period.
- Ensure the parts (components) of each item of property, plant and equipment that are to be depreciated separately have been properly identified.

- Whether the most appropriate depreciation method for each separately depreciable component has been used.

(b) Difference between internal financial control and internal control over financial reporting

Internal Financial Control as per Section 134(5)(e), “the policies and procedures adopted by the company for ensuring the orderly and efficient conduct of its business, including adherence to company’s policies, the safeguarding of its assets, the prevention and detection of frauds and errors, the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, and the timely preparation of reliable financial information.”

On the other hand, Internal controls over financial reporting-is required where auditors are required to express an opinion on the effectiveness of an entity’s **internal controls over financial reporting**, such opinion is in addition to and distinct from the opinion expressed by the auditor on the financial statements.

- (c)** As an Auditor of XYZ Bank Limited, risk of fraud including money laundering would be assessed as explained hereunder which is in line with SA 240.

As per **SA 240 “The Auditor’s Responsibilities Relating to Fraud in an Audit of Financial Statements”**, the auditor’s objective is to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement in the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on those identified misstatements and to respond appropriately. The attitude of professional skepticism should be maintained by the auditor so as to recognise the possibility of misstatements due to fraud.

The RBI has framed specific guidelines that deal with prevention of money laundering and “Know Your Customer (KYC)” norms. The RBI has from time to time issued guidelines (“Know Your Customer Guidelines – Anti Money Laundering Standards”), requiring banks to establish policies, procedures and controls to deter and to recognise and report money laundering activities.

- (d)** Audit procedure which needs to be performed to confirm work in progress worth Rs.850 lakhs has been valued appropriately and as per generally accepted accounting policies and practices is given hereunder :

- (1) Ascertain how the various stages of production/ value add are measured and in case estimates are made, understand the basis for such estimates.
- (2) Ascertain what elements of cost are included. If overheads are included, ascertain the basis on which they are included and compare such basis with the available costing and financial data/ information maintained by the entity.
- (3) Ensure that material costs exclude any abnormal wastage factors.

Question 4

- (a) *In the context of SA 530 'Audit Sampling', explain the terms 'Sampling Risk' and 'Non-Sampling risk'. (4 Marks)*
- (b) *Discuss the common methods applied by the auditor when testing in an automated environment is done by him. (4 Marks)*
- (c) *As a Statutory Auditor of the company list out audit procedure required to be undertaken for the recognition of following other income:*
- i. Interest income from fixed deposit*
 - ii. Dividend income*
 - iii. Gain/(loss) on sale of investment in mutual funds. (3 Marks)*
- (d) *Explain any three ways where cash receipts are suppressed. (3 Marks)*

Answer

- (a) **Sampling Risk.** The risk that the auditor's conclusion based on a sample may be different from the conclusion if the entire population were subjected to the same audit procedure. Sampling risk can lead to two types of erroneous conclusions:

- (i) In the case of a test of controls, that controls are more effective than they actually are, or in the case of a test of details, that a material misstatement does not exist when in fact it does. The auditor is primarily concerned with this type of erroneous conclusion because it affects audit effectiveness and is more likely to lead to an inappropriate audit opinion.
- (ii) In the case of a test of controls, that controls are less effective than they actually are, or in the case of a test of details, that a material misstatement exists when in fact it does not. This type of erroneous conclusion affects audit efficiency as it would usually lead to additional work to establish that initial conclusions were incorrect.

Non-Sampling Risk. The risk that the auditor reaches an erroneous conclusion for any reason not related to sampling risk.

Example

Examples of non-sampling risk include use of inappropriate audit procedures, or misinterpretation of audit evidence and failure to recognize a misstatement or deviation.

Sources of Non Sampling risk are :

- (i) Human Mistakes
- (ii) Applying audit procedures not appropriate to the objectives of audit
- (iii) Relying on erroneous information e.g. erroneous confirmation
- (iv) Misinterpreting the sample results

Non sampling risk can never be mathematically measured.

- (b) There are basically four types of audit tests that should be used. They are inquiry, observation, inspection and reperformance. Inquiry is the most efficient audit test but it 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.

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.
 - ◆ Inspect the system logs to determine any changes made since last audit testing.
 - ◆ Inspect technical manual / user manual of systems and applications.
 - ◆ Carry out a test check (negative testing) and observe the error message displayed by the application.
 - ◆ Conduct reperformance using raw source data and independently applying formulae, business rules or validations on the source data using CAATs.
- (c) **Statutory auditor would perform the following audit procedure for recognition of different items given in the question:**
- (1) Interest income on fixed deposits is recognized on a time proportion basis taking into account the amount outstanding and the applicable interest rate.
 - (2) Dividends are recognised in the statement of profit and loss only when:
 - (i) the entity's right to receive payment of the dividend is established;
 - (ii) it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the dividend will flow to the entity; and
 - (iii) the amount of the dividend can be measured reliably.
 - (3) Gain/(loss) on sale of investment in mutual funds is recorded as other income on transfer of title from the entity and is determined as the difference between the redemption price and carrying value of the investments.
- (d) **Few techniques of how receipts are suppressed are:**
- (1) **Teeming and Lading:** Amount received from a customer being misappropriated; also to prevent its detection the money received from another customer subsequently being credited to the account of the customer who has paid earlier. Similarly, moneys received from the customer who has paid thereafter being credited to the account of

the second customer and such a practice is continued so that no one account is outstanding for payment for any length of time, which may lead the management to either send out a statement of account to him or communicate with him.

- (2) Adjusting unauthorised or fictitious rebates, allowances, discounts, etc. to customer' accounts and misappropriating amount paid by them.
- (3) Writing off as debts in respect of such balances against which cash has already been received but has been misappropriated.
- (4) Not accounting for cash sales fully.
- (5) Not accounting for miscellaneous receipts, e.g., sale of scrap, quarters allotted to the employees, etc.
- (6) Writing down asset values in entirety, selling them subsequently and misappropriating the proceeds.

Question 5

- (a) *Management's assessment of the entity's ability to continue as a going concern involves making a judgement about inherently uncertain future outcomes of events or conditions. What are relevant factors to that judgement?* **(4 Marks)**
- (b) *What an auditor should state in "Basis for opinion" section of auditor's report and when the auditor modifies the opinion on the financial statements, what amendments he should make in this section ?* **(4 Marks)**
- (c) *Explain the techniques available as Substantive Analytical procedures.* **(3 Marks)**
- (d) *What are the prohibited services for auditor as per Companies Act, 2013 ?* **(3 Marks)**

Answer

- (a) Management's assessment of the entity's ability to continue as a going concern involves making a judgment, at a particular point in time, about inherently uncertain future outcomes of events or conditions. The following factors are relevant to that judgment:
 - The degree of uncertainty associated with the outcome of an event or condition increases significantly the further into the future an event or condition or the outcome occurs. For that reason, most financial reporting frameworks that require an explicit management assessment specify the period for which management is required to take into account all available information.
 - The size and complexity of the entity, the nature and condition of its business and the degree to which it is affected by external factors affect the judgment regarding the outcome of events or conditions.
 - Any judgment about the future is based on information available at the time at which the judgment is made. Subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgments that were reasonable at the time they were made.

(b) An auditor should state in “Basis for Opinion” section of Auditor’s Report as under:

Basis for Opinion:

The auditor’s report shall include a section, directly following the Opinion section, with the heading “**Basis for Opinion**”, that:

- (i) States that the audit was conducted in accordance with Standards on Auditing;
- (ii) Refers to the section of the auditor’s report that describes the auditor’s responsibilities under the SAs;
- (iii) Includes a statement that the auditor is independent of the entity in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to the audit and has fulfilled the auditor’s other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.
- (iv) States whether the auditor believes that the audit evidence the auditor has obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for the auditor’s opinion.

Amendments an Auditor should make :

When the auditor modifies the opinion on the financial statements, the auditor shall, in addition to the specific elements required by SA 700 (Revised):

- (i) Amend the heading “Basis for Opinion” required by para of SA 700 (Revised) to “Basis for Qualified Opinion,” “Basis for Adverse Opinion,” or “Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion,” as appropriate; and
- (ii) Within this section, include a description of the matter giving rise to the modification.

(c) Techniques Available as Substantive Analytical Procedures

The design of a substantive analytical procedure is limited only by the availability of reliable data and the experience and creativity of the audit team. Substantive analytical procedures generally take one of the following forms:

Trend analysis – A commonly used technique is the comparison of current data with the prior period balance or with a trend in two or more prior period balances. We evaluate whether the current balance of an account moves in line with the trend established with previous balances for that account, or based on an understanding of factors that may cause the account to change.

Ratio analysis – Ratio analysis is useful for analysing asset and liability accounts as well as revenue and expense accounts. An individual balance sheet account is difficult to predict on its own, but its relationship to another account is often more predictable (e.g., the trade receivables balance related to sales). Ratios can also be compared over time or to the ratios of separate entities within the group, or with the ratios of other companies in the same industry.

Reasonableness tests – Unlike trend analysis, this analytical procedure does not rely on events of prior periods, but upon non-financial data for the audit period under consideration (e.g., occupancy rates to estimate rental income or interest rates to estimate interest income or expense). These tests are generally more applicable to income statement accounts and certain accrual or prepayment accounts.

Structural modelling – 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).

(d) Prohibited services for an auditor as per Companies Act, 2013 are stated in Section 144.

Section 144 of the Companies Act, 2013 prescribes certain services not to be rendered by the auditor. An auditor appointed under this Act shall provide to the company only such other services as are approved by the Board of Directors or the audit committee, as the case may be, but which shall not include any of the following services (whether such services are rendered directly or indirectly to the company or its holding company or subsidiary company), namely :

- (i) accounting and book keeping services;
- (ii) internal audit;
- (iii) design and implementation of any financial information system;
- (iv) actuarial services;
- (v) investment advisory services;
- (vi) investment banking services;
- (vii) rendering of outsourced financial services;
- (viii) management services; and
- (ix) any other kind of services as may be prescribed.

Question 6

- (a) *As an Auditor of NGO, how do you check/verify atleast four receipts of income during the year?* **(4 Marks)**
- (b) *You have been appointed as internal auditor of 'City Club' in Delhi. The receipts of the club were 50 lakhs during the previous year ending 2019-20. You are required to mention special points of consideration while auditing such receipts of the club.* **(4 Marks)**

OR

Explain "Advances under Consortium" in the context of Prudential Norms on Income Recognition, Asset Classification and Provisioning pertaining to Advances.

- (c) *Discuss the objectives and scope of internal audit functions with respect to activities relating to internal control.* **(3 Marks)**
- (d) *XYZ Ltd. which is in the business of trading of automobile components is following Cash Basis of Accounting for sale of spare parts. As Statutory Auditor of XYZ Ltd. explain the reporting requirements, manner of qualification and disclosure, if any, to be made in the auditor's report in line with AS-1 'Disclosure of Accounting Policies'.* **(3 Marks)**

Answer

- (a) **The receipt of income of NGO may be checked on the following lines:**
- (i) **Contributions and Grants for projects and programmes:** Check agreements with donors and grants letters to ensure that funds received have been accounted for. Check that all foreign contribution receipts are deposited in the foreign contribution bank account as notified under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.
 - (ii) **Receipts from fund raising programmes:** Verify in detail the internal control system and ascertain who are the persons responsible for collection of funds and mode of receipt. Ensure that collections are counted and deposited in the bank daily.
 - (iii) **Membership Fees:** Check fees received with Membership Register. Ensure proper classification is made between entrance and annual fees and life membership fees. Reconcile fees received with fees to be received during the year.
 - (iv) **Subscriptions:** Check with subscription register and receipts issued. Reconcile subscription received with printing and dispatch of corresponding magazine/circulars/periodicals. Check the receipts with subscription rate schedule.
 - (v) **Interest and Dividends:** Check the interest and dividends received and receivable with investments held during the year.
- (b) **The special steps involved, to be considered by the Internal Auditor of City Club in conducting the audit of receipts of the club are stated below-**
- (1) Vouch the receipt on account of entrance fees with members' applications, counterfoils issued to them, as well as on a reference to minutes of the Managing Committee.
 - (2) Vouch members' subscriptions with the counterfoils of receipt issued to them, trace receipts for a selected period to the Register of Members; also reconcile the amount of total subscriptions due with the amount collected and that outstanding.
 - (3) Ensure that arrears of subscriptions for the previous year have been correctly brought over and arrears for the year under audit and subscriptions received in advance have been correctly adjusted.
 - (4) Check totals of various columns of the Register of members and tally them across.

- (5) See the Register of Members to ascertain the Member's dues which are in arrear and enquire whether necessary steps have been taken for their recovery; the amount considered irrecoverable should be mentioned in the Audit Report.
- (6) Verify the internal check as regards members being charged with the price of foodstuffs and drinks provided to them and their guests, as well as, with the fees chargeable for the special services rendered, such as billiards, tennis, etc.

OR

- (b) **Advances under Consortium:** Consortium advances should be based on the record of recovery of the respective individual member banks and other aspects having a bearing on the recoverability of the advances. Where the remittances by the borrower under consortium lending arrangements are pooled with one bank and/or where the bank receiving remittances is not parting with the share of other member banks, the account should be treated as not serviced in the books of the other member banks and therefore, an NPA.

The banks participating in the consortium, therefore, need to arrange to get their share of recovery transferred from the lead bank or to get an express consent from the lead bank for the transfer of their share of recovery, to ensure proper asset classification in their respective books.

- (c) The objectives and scope of internal audit functions **relating to Internal Control** are:
 - (i) **Evaluation of internal control:** The internal audit function may be assigned specific responsibility for reviewing controls, evaluating their operation and recommending improvements thereto. In doing so, the internal audit function provides assurance on the control. For example, the internal audit function might plan and perform tests or other procedures to provide assurance to management and those charged with governance regarding the design, implementation and operating effectiveness of internal control, including those controls that are relevant to the audit.
 - (ii) **Examination of financial and operating information:** The internal audit function may be assigned to review the means used to identify, recognize, measure, classify and report financial and operating information, and to make specific inquiry into individual items, including detailed testing of transactions, balances and procedures.
 - (iii) **Review of operating activities:** The internal audit function may be assigned to review the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of operating activities, including nonfinancial activities of an entity.
 - (iv) **Review of compliance with laws and regulations:** The internal audit function may be assigned to review compliance with laws, regulations and other external requirements, and with management policies and directives and other internal requirements.

- (d) **Reporting requirements, Manner of qualification and disclosure to be made in the auditor's report in line with AS 1, "Disclosure of Accounting Policies" are given hereunder :**

In the case of a company, members should qualify their audit reports in case –

- (a) accounting policies required to be disclosed under Schedule III or any other provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 have not been disclosed, or
- (b) accounts have not been prepared on accrual basis, or
- (c) the fundamental accounting assumption of going concern has not been followed and this fact has not been disclosed in the financial statements, or
- (d) proper disclosures regarding changes in the accounting policies have not been made.

Where a company has been given a specific exemption regarding any of the matters stated above but the fact of such exemption has not been adequately disclosed in the accounts, the member should mention the fact of exemption in his audit report without necessarily making it a subject matter of audit qualification.

In view of the above, the auditor will have to consider different circumstances whether the audit report has to be qualified or only disclosures have to be given.

In making a qualification / disclosure in the audit report, the auditor should consider the materiality of the relevant item. Thus, the auditor need not make qualification / disclosure in respect of items which, in his judgement, are not material.

A disclosure, which is not a subject matter of audit qualification, should be made in the auditor's report in a manner that it is clear to the reader that the disclosure does not constitute an audit qualification. The paragraph containing the auditor's opinion on true and fair view should not include a reference to the paragraph containing the aforesaid disclosure.