

MOCKTEST PAPER 1
INTERMEDIATE (NEW): GROUP – II
PAPER – 6: AUDITING AND ASSURANCE
SUGGESTED ANSWERS / HINTS
Division A - Multiple Choice Questions

Division A- MCQ's-30 Marks

Questions (1-20) 1- Mark

1. (a)
2. (a)
3. (d)
4. (b)
5. (d)
6. (a)
7. (c)
8. (b)
9. (a)
10. (c)
11. (b)
12. (a)
13. (a)
14. (c)
15. (b)
16. (a)
17. (d)
18. (d)
19. (a)
20. (c)

Questions (21-25) 2- Mark

21. (d)
22. (b)
23. (d)
24. (a)
25. (c)

Division B- Descriptive Questions

1. (i) **Incorrect:** As per SA 705 “Modifications to the Opinion in the Independent Auditor’s Report”, the auditor shall express an adverse opinion when the auditor, having obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence, concludes that misstatements, individually or in the aggregate, are both material and pervasive to the financial statements. However, the auditor shall express qualified opinion when he concludes that misstatement, individually or in aggregate are material but not pervasive.
 - (ii) **Incorrect:** ‘Substantive procedure’ may be defined as an audit procedure designed to detect material misstatements at the assertion level whereas ‘tests of controls’ is an audit procedure designed to evaluate the operating effectiveness of controls in preventing, or detecting and correcting, material misstatements at the assertion level.
 - (iii) **Incorrect.** The method which involves dividing the population into groups of items is known as cluster sampling whereas block sampling involves the selection of a defined block of consecutive items.
 - (iv) **Correct.** As per SA 200, “Overall Objectives of the Independent Auditor and the Conduct of an Audit in Accordance with Standards on Auditing”, professional skepticism is an attitude that includes a questioning mind, being alert to conditions which may indicate possible misstatement due to error or fraud, and a critical assessment of audit evidence. Thus, it is necessary for the auditor to maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
 - (v) **Incorrect:** Teeming and Lading is one of the techniques of suppressing cash receipts and not of inflating cash payments. Money received from one customer is misappropriated and the account is adjusted with the subsequent receipt from another customer and so on.
 - (vi) **Incorrect:** As per section 139(6) of the Companies Act, 2013, the first auditor of a company, other than a government company, shall be appointed by the Board of directors within 30 days from the date of registration of the company.
Therefore, the appointment of first auditor made by the managing director of A Ltd. is in violation of the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.
 - (vii) **Correct.** The scope of work of an internal auditor may extend even beyond the financial accounting and may include cost investigation, inquiries relating to losses and wastages, production audit, performance audit, etc.
 - (viii) **Incorrect:** There is an inverse relationship between detection risks and the combined level of inherent and control risks. When inherent and control risks are high, acceptable detection risk needs to be low to reduce audit risk to an acceptably low level. When inherent and control risks are low, an auditor can accept a higher detection risk and still reduce audit risks to an acceptably low level.
2. (a) “An audit is independent examination of financial information of any entity, whether profit oriented or not, and irrespective of its size or legal form, when such an examination is conducted with a view to expressing an opinion thereon.”

Analysis of the Definition

1. Audit is Independent examination of Financial information.
2. of any entity – that entity may be profit oriented or not and irrespective of its size or legal form. For example – Profit oriented – Audit of Listed company engaged in business. On the other hand, Audit of NGO – not profit oriented.
3. The objective of the audit is to express an opinion on the financial statements.

The person conducting this task should take care to ensure that financial statements would not mislead anybody. This he can do honestly by satisfying himself that:

- (i) the accounts have been drawn up with reference to entries in the books of account;
 - (ii) the entries in the books of account are adequately supported by sufficient and appropriate evidence;
 - (iii) none of the entries in the books of account has been omitted in the process of compilation and nothing which is not in the books of account has found place in the statements;
 - (iv) the information conveyed by the statements is clear and unambiguous;
 - (v) the financial statement amounts are properly classified, described and disclosed in conformity with accounting standards; and
 - (vi) the statement of accounts present a true and fair picture of the operational results and of the assets and liabilities.
- (b) The relationship between auditing and law:** The relationship between auditing and law is very close one. Auditing involves examination of various transactions from the view point of whether or not these have been properly entered into. It necessitates that an auditor should have a good knowledge of business laws affecting the entity. He should be familiar with the law of contracts, negotiable instruments, etc. The knowledge of taxation laws is also inevitable as entity is required to prepare their financial statements taking into account various provisions affected by various tax laws. In analysing the impact of various transactions particularly from the accounting aspect, an auditor ought to have a good knowledge about the direct as well as indirect tax laws.
- (c) ELEMENTS OF A SYSTEM OF QUALITY CONTROL:** The firm's system of quality control should include policies and procedures addressing each of the following elements:
- (a) Leadership responsibilities for quality within the firm.
 - (b) Ethical requirements.
 - (c) Acceptance and continuance of client relationships and specific engagements.
 - (d) Human resources.
 - (e) Engagement performance.
 - (f) Monitoring.
- (d) Revision in Materiality level as the Audit Progresses:** Materiality for the financial statements as a whole (and, if applicable, the materiality level or levels for particular classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures) may need to be revised as a result of a change in circumstances that occurred during the audit (for example, a decision to dispose of a major part of the entity's business), new information, or a change in the auditor's understanding of the entity and its operations as a result of performing further audit procedures.

Example

If during the audit it appears as though actual financial results are likely to be substantially different from the anticipated period end financial results that were used initially to determine materiality for the financial statements as a whole, the auditor revises that materiality.

If the auditor concludes that a lower materiality for the financial statements as a whole (and, if applicable, materiality level or levels for particular classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures) than that initially determined is appropriate, the auditor shall determine whether it is necessary to revise performance materiality, and whether the nature, timing and extent of the further audit procedures remain appropriate.

3. (a) **Effect of Subsequent Events:** SA 560 "Subsequent Events", establishes standards on the auditor's responsibility regarding subsequent events.

According to it, 'subsequent events' refer to those events which occur between the date of financial statements and the date of the auditor's report, and facts that become known to the auditor after the date of the auditor's report. It lays down the standard that the auditor should consider the effect of subsequent events on the financial statements and on the auditor's report.

The auditor should obtain sufficient appropriate evidence that all events upto the date of the auditor's report requiring adjustment or disclosure have been identified and to identify such events, **the auditor should-**

- (i) obtain an understanding of any procedures management has established to ensure that subsequent events are identified.
- (ii) inquire of management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance as to whether any subsequent events have occurred which might affect the financial statements.

Examples of inquiries of management on specific matters are:

- Whether new commitments, borrowings or guarantees have been entered into.
 - Whether sales or acquisitions of assets have occurred or are planned.
 - Whether there have been increases in capital or issuance of debt instruments, such as the issue of new shares or debentures, or an agreement to merge or liquidate has been made or is planned.
 - Whether there have been any developments regarding contingencies.
 - Whether there have been any developments regarding risk areas and contingencies.
 - Whether any unusual accounting adjustments have been made or are contemplated.
 - Whether any events have occurred or are likely to occur which will bring into question the appropriateness of accounting policies used in the financial statements as would be the case, for example, if such events call into question the validity of the going concern assumption.
 - Whether any events have occurred that are relevant to the measurement of estimates or provisions made in the financial statements.
 - Whether any events have occurred that are relevant to the recoverability of assets.
- (iii) Read minutes, if any, of the meetings, of the entity's owners, management and those charged with governance, that have been held after the date of the financial statements and inquiring about matters discussed at any such meetings for which minutes are not yet available.
 - (iv) Read the entity's latest subsequent interim financial statements, if any.
 - (v) Read the entity's latest available budgets, cash flow forecasts and other related management reports for periods after the date of the financial statements.
 - (vi) Inquire, or extend previous oral or written inquiries, of the entity's legal counsel concerning litigation and claims.
 - (vii) Consider whether written representations covering particular subsequent events may be necessary to support other audit evidence and thereby obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

When the auditor identifies events that require adjustment of, or disclosure in, the financial statements, the auditor shall determine whether each such event is appropriately reflected in those financial statements. If such events have not been considered by the management and which in the opinion of the auditor are material, the auditor shall modify his report accordingly.

- (b) **Verification of Inventory:** As per SA 510 "Initial Audit Engagements – Opening Balances", in conducting an initial audit engagement, the objective of the auditor with respect to opening balances is to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about whether-
- (i) Opening balances contain misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements; and
 - (ii) Appropriate accounting policies reflected in the opening balances have been consistently applied in the current period's financial statements, or changes thereto are properly accounted for and adequately presented and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

When the financial statements for the preceding period were audited by predecessor auditor, the current auditor may be able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding opening balances by perusing the copies of the audited financial statements including the other relevant documents relating to the prior period financial statements such as supporting schedules to the audited financial statements. Ordinarily, the current auditor can place reliance on the closing balances contained in the financial statements for the preceding period, except when during the performance of audit procedures for the current period the possibility of misstatements in opening balances is indicated.

General principles governing verification of assets require that the auditor should confirm that assets have been correctly valued as on the Balance Sheet date. The contention of the management that the inventory has not undergone any change cannot be accepted, it forms part of normal duties of auditor to ensure that the figures on which he is expressing opinion are correct and properly valued. Moreover, it is also quite likely that the inventory lying as it is might have deteriorated and the same need to be examined. The auditor is advised not to exclude the audit of closing inventory from his audit programme.

- (c) (i) **Travelling Expenditure Rs. 50,000**
- Expenditure has been actually incurred for the purpose of travelling.
 - Travelling has been undertaken during the year under consideration.
 - Total amount of expenditure incurred is Rs. 50,000 during the year.
 - It has been treated as revenue expenditure and charged to Statement of Profit and Loss.
- (ii) **Trade receivable Rs. 2,00,000**
- These include all sales transaction occurred during the year.
 - These have been recorded properly and occurred during the year.
 - These constitute assets of the entity.
 - These have been shown at proper value, i.e. after showing the deduction on account of provision for bad and doubtful debts.
- (d) **Fraudulent Financial Reporting:** Fraudulent financial reporting involves intentional misstatements including omissions of amounts or disclosures in financial statements to deceive financial statement users. It can be caused by the efforts of management to manage earnings in order to deceive financial statement users by influencing their perceptions as to the entity's performance and profitability. Such earnings management may start out with small actions or inappropriate adjustment of assumptions and changes in judgments by management. Pressures

and incentives may lead these actions to increase to the extent that they result in fraudulent financial reporting.

In some entities, management may be motivated to reduce earnings by a material amount to minimize tax or to inflate earnings to secure bank financing.

Fraudulent financial reporting may be accomplished by the following:

- (i) Manipulation, falsification (including forgery), or alteration of accounting records or supporting documentation from which the financial statements are prepared.
- (ii) Misrepresentation in or intentional omission from, the financial statements of events, transactions or other significant information.
- (iii) Intentional misapplication of accounting principles relating to amounts, classification, manner of presentation, or disclosure.

Fraudulent financial reporting often involves management override of controls that otherwise may appear to be operating effectively.

4. (a) **Obtaining Knowledge of the Business:** The auditor needs to obtain a level of knowledge of the client's business that will enable him to identify the events, transactions and practices that, in his judgment, may have significant effect on the financial information among other things.

As per SA 315 – "Identifying and Assessing the Risk of Material Misstatement Through Understanding the Entity and its Environment", the auditor shall obtain an understanding of the following:

- (a) Relevant industry, regulatory, and other external factors including the applicable financial reporting framework
- (b) The nature of the entity, including:
 - (i) its operations;
 - (ii) its ownership and governance structures;
 - (iii) the types of investments that the entity is making and plans to make, including investments in special-purpose entities; and
 - (iv) the way that the entity is structured and how it is financed;to enable the auditor to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, and disclosures to be expected in the financial statements.
- (c) The entity's selection and application of accounting policies, including the reasons for changes thereto. The auditor shall evaluate whether the entity's accounting policies are appropriate for its business and consistent with the applicable financial reporting framework and accounting policies used in the relevant industry.
- (d) The entity's objectives and strategies, and those related business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement.
- (e) The measurement and review of the entity's financial performance.

In addition to the importance of knowledge of the client's business in establishing the overall audit plan, such knowledge helps the auditor to identify areas of special audit consideration, to evaluate the reasonableness both of accounting estimates and management representations, and to make judgement regarding the appropriateness of accounting policies and disclosures.

(b) Audit against propriety: Audit against propriety seeks to ensure that expenditure conforms to these principles which have been stated as follows:

- (1) The expenditure should not be *prima facie* more than the occasion demands. Every public officer is expected to exercise the same vigilance in respect of expenditure incurred from public moneys as a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in respect of expenditure of his own money.
- (2) No authority should exercise its powers of sanctioning expenditure to pass an order which will be directly or indirectly to its own advantage.
- (3) Public moneys should not be utilized for the benefit of a particular person or section of the community unless:
 - (i) The amount of expenditure involved is insignificant; or
 - (ii) A claim for the amount could be enforced in a Court of law; or
 - (iii) The expenditure is in pursuance of a recognized policy or custom; and
 - (iv) The amount of allowances, such as travelling allowances, granted to meet expenditure of a particular type should be so regulated that the allowances are not, on the whole, sources of profit to the recipients.

(c) CARO 2016 specifically exempts the following class of companies:

- (i) A banking company as defined in clause (c) of section 5 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949;
- (ii) An insurance company as defined under the Insurance Act, 1938;
- (iii) A company licensed to operate under section 8 of the Companies Act;
- (iv) A One Person Company as defined under clause (62) of section 2 of the Companies Act;
- (v) A small company as defined under clause (85) of section 2 of the Companies Act; and
- (vi) A private limited company, not being a subsidiary or holding company of a public company, having a paid up capital and reserves and surplus not more than rupees one crore as on the balance sheet date and which does not have total borrowings exceeding rupees one crore from any bank or financial institution at any point of time during the financial year and which does not have a total revenue as disclosed in Scheduled III to the Companies Act, 2013 (including revenue from discontinuing operations) exceeding rupees ten crores during the financial year as per the financial statements.

(d) Issue of Sweat Equity Shares: As per section 54 of the Companies Act, 2013, the employees may be compensated in the form of 'Sweat Equity Shares'.

"Sweat Equity Shares" means equity shares issued by the company to employees or directors at a discount or for consideration other than cash for providing know-how or making available right in the nature of intellectual property rights or value additions, by whatever name called.

The auditor may see that the Sweat Equity Shares issued by the company are of a class of shares already issued and following conditions are fulfilled-

- (a) The issue is authorized by a special resolution passed by the company;
- (b) The resolution specifies the number of shares, the current market price, consideration, if any, and the class or classes of directors or employees to whom such equity shares are to be issued;
- (c) Not less than one year has, at the date of such issue, elapsed since the date on which the company had commenced business; and

(d) Where the equity shares of the company are listed on a recognized stock exchange, the sweat equity shares are issued in accordance with the regulations made by the Securities and Exchange Board in this behalf and if they are not so listed, the sweat equity shares are issued in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed.

The rights, limitations, restrictions and provisions as are for the time being applicable to equity shares shall be applicable to the sweat equity shares issued under this section and the holders of such shares shall rank *paripassu* with other equity shareholders.

5. (a) **Understanding and Documenting Automated Environment:** Understanding the entity and its automated environment involves understanding how IT department is organised, IT activities, the IT dependencies, relevant risks and controls.

Given below are some of the points that an auditor should consider to obtain an understanding of the company's automated environment

- Information systems being used (one or more application systems and what they are)
- their purpose (financial and non-financial)
- Location of IT systems - local vs global
- Architecture (desktop based, client-server, web application, cloud based)
- Version (functions and risks could vary in different versions of same application)
- Interfaces within systems (in case multiple systems exist)
- In-house vs Packaged
- Outsourced activities (IT maintenance and support)
- Key persons (CIO, CISO, Administrators)

(b) **Stratification and Value-Weighted Selection:** In considering the characteristics of the population from which the sample will be drawn, the auditor may determine that stratification or value-weighted selection technique is appropriate. SA 530 provides guidance to the auditor on the use of stratification and value-weighted sampling techniques.

Stratification: Audit efficiency may be improved if the auditor stratifies a population by dividing it into discrete sub-populations which have an identifying characteristic. The objective of stratification is to reduce the variability of items within each stratum and therefore allow sample size to be reduced without increasing sampling risk.

When performing tests of details, the population is often stratified by monetary value. This allows greater audit effort to be directed to the larger value items, as these items may contain the greatest potential misstatement in terms of overstatement. Similarly, a population may be stratified according to a particular characteristic that indicates a higher risk of misstatement, **for example, when testing the allowance for doubtful accounts in the valuation of accounts receivable, balances may be stratified by age.**

The results of audit procedures applied to a sample of items within a stratum can only be projected to the items that make up that stratum. To draw a conclusion on the entire population, the auditor will need to consider the risk of material misstatement in relation to whatever other strata make up the entire population.

For example, 20% of the items in a population may make up 90% of the value of an account balance. The auditor may decide to examine a sample of these items. The auditor evaluates the results of this sample and reaches a conclusion on the 90% of value separately from the remaining 10% (on which a further sample or other means of gathering audit evidence will be used, or which may be considered immaterial).

If a class of transactions or account balance has been divided into strata, the misstatement is projected for each stratum separately. Projected misstatements for each stratum are then combined when considering the possible effect of misstatements on the total class of transactions or account balance.

Value-Weighted Selection: When performing tests of details it may be efficient to identify the sampling unit as the individual monetary units that make up the population. Having selected specific monetary units from within the population, **for example, the accounts receivable balance, the auditor may then examine the particular items, for example, individual balances, that contain those monetary units.** One benefit of this approach to defining the sampling unit is that audit effort is directed to the larger value items because they have a greater chance of selection, and can result in smaller sample sizes.

This approach may be used in conjunction with the systematic method of sample selection and is most efficient when selecting items using random selection.

(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.

✎ **For example,** Financial ratios may include:

✎ Trade receivables or inventory turnover

✎ Freight expense as a percentage of sales revenue

✎ **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) In addition to the procedures undertaken for verifying completeness of additions to PPE during the period under audit, the auditor while performing testing of additions should also verify that all PPE purchase invoices are in the name of the entity that entitles legal title of ownership to the respective entity. For all additions to land, building in particular, the auditor should obtain copies of conveyance deed/ sale deed to establish whether the entity is mentioned to be the legal and valid owner.

The auditor should insist and verify the original title deeds for all immoveable properties held as at the balance sheet date. In case the entity has given such immoveable property as security for any borrowings and the original title deeds are not available with the entity, the auditor should request the entity's management for obtaining a confirmation from the respective lenders that they are holding the original title deeds of immoveable property as security. In addition, the auditor should also verify the register of charges, available with the entity to assess the PPE that has been given as security to any third parties.



6. (a) **Evaluations by the Auditor:** 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) **Audit of Advances:** Advances generally constitute the major part of the assets of the bank. There are large number of borrowers to whom variety of advances are granted. The audit of advances requires the major attention from the auditors.

In carrying out audit of advances, the auditor is primarily concerned with obtaining evidence about the following:

- a. Amounts included in balance sheet in respect of advances are outstanding at the date of the balance sheet.
- b. Advances represent amount due to the bank.
- c. Amounts due to the bank are appropriately supported by Loan documents and other documents as applicable to the nature of advances.

- d. There are no unrecorded advances.
- e. The stated basis of valuation of advances is appropriate and properly applied, and that the recoverability of advances is recognised in their valuation.
- f. The advances are disclosed, classified and described in accordance with recognised accounting policies and practices and relevant statutory and regulatory requirements.
- g. Appropriate provisions towards advances have been made as per the RBI norms, Accounting Standards and generally accepted accounting practices.

The auditor can obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about advances by study and evaluation of internal controls relating to advances, and by:

- ◆ examining the validity of the recorded amounts;
- ◆ examining loan documentation;
- ◆ reviewing the operation of the accounts;
- ◆ examining the existence, enforceability and valuation of the security;
- ◆ checking compliance with RBI norms including appropriate classification and provisioning; and
- ◆ carrying out appropriate analytical procedures.

In carrying out his substantive procedures, the auditor should examine all large advances while other advances may be examined on a sampling basis. The accounts identified to be problem accounts however need to be examined in detail unless the amount involved is insignificant.

Advances which are sanctioned during the year or which are adversely commented by RBI inspection team, concurrent auditors, bank's internal inspection, etc. should generally be included in the auditor's review.

OR

(c) Special points of consideration while auditing certain transactions of a hospital are stated below-

- (i) **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.
- (ii) **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.
- (iii) **Legacies and Donations:** Ascertain that legacies and donations received for a specific purpose have been applied in the manner agreed upon.
- (iv) **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).
- (v) **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.

- (d) Provisions and Explanation:** For non-compliance of sub-section (2) of section 140 of the Companies Act, 2013, the auditor shall be punishable with fine, which shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees or the remuneration of the auditor, whichever is less but which may extend to five lakh rupees, under section 140(3) of the said Act.

Conclusion: Thus, the fine under section 140(3) of the Companies Act, 2013 shall not be less than Rs. 30,000 but which may extend to Rs. 5,00,000.

- (e)** As per section 142 of the Act, the remuneration of the auditor of a company shall be fixed in its general meeting or in such manner as may be determined therein. However, board may fix remuneration of the first auditor appointed by it.

Further, the remuneration, in addition to the fee payable to an auditor, includes the expenses, if any, incurred by the auditor in connection with the audit of the company and any facility extended to him but does not include any remuneration paid to him for any other service rendered by him at the request of the company. Therefore, it has been clarified that the remuneration to Auditor shall also include any facility provided to him.