Division A- MCQ’s-30 Marks

Questions (1-20) 1- Mark

1. (a)
2. (a)
3. (a)
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. (a)
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 viewpoint 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) Decrease in Rate of Gross Profit on Sales: When rate of Gross Profit on Sales of a manufacturing company has sharply decreased in comparison to the previous year, the auditor should satisfy the reasons for the same. Following factors should be considered which might cause decrease in the gross profit of the manufacturing company:

(i) Undervaluation of closing inventory or overvaluation of opening inventory either due to wrong valuation of inventory or mistake in inventory taking.

(ii) Change in the basis of inventory valuation. For example, opening inventory was valued at market price above cost when closing inventory valued at cost which is below the market price.

(iii) Inclusion in the current year, the amount of goods purchased in the previous year that were received and taken in the same year.

(iv) Reversal of fictitious sale entries recorded in the previous year to boost up profit.

(v) Sales return entry passed two times or entry for purchase return has not been passed whenever goods are returned to suppliers.

(vi) Excess provisions for wages or direct expenses have been made.

(vii) Goods sent out for sale on approval or on a consignment basis not included in closing inventory.

(viii) Value of unusual inventory of consumable stores (fuel and packing materials) are not shown as inventory or not adjusted from corresponding expenses.

(ix) Expenses which should be charged in the Profit and Loss Account but wrongly charged to the Trading Account.
(x) Insurance claim received in respect of goods lost in transit or destroyed by fire, not credited in Trading Account.

(xi) Goods sold or given as samples or destroyed, not accounted for.

(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.

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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 asper 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) Audit in a Computerized Information System (CIS) Environment: Though it is true that in CIS environment the trial balance always tallies, the same cannot imply that the job of an auditor becomes simpler. There can still be some accounting errors like omission of certain entries, compensating errors; duplication of entries, errors of commission in the form of wrong account head is posted. Possibility of “Window Dressing” and/or “Creation of Secret Reserves” where the trial balance tallied. At present, due to complex business environment the importance of trial balance cannot be judged only upto the arithmetical accuracy but the nature of transactions recorded in the books and appear in the trial balance should be focused.
The emergence of new forms of financial instruments like options and futures, derivatives, off balance sheet financing etc. have given rise to further complexities in recording and disclosure of transactions. In an audit, besides the tallying of a trial balance, there are also other issue like estimation of provision for depreciation, valuation of inventories, obtaining audit evidence, ensuring compliance procedure and carrying out substantive procedure, verification of assets & liabilities their valuation etc. which still requires judgment to be exercised by the auditor.

Responsibility of expressing an audit opinion and objectives of an audit are not changed in the audit in CIS environment. Therefore, it can be said that simply because of CIS environment and the trial balance has tallied it does not mean that the audit would become simpler.

(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) **Employee benefits expenses:** The Company shall disclose by way of notes additional information regarding aggregate expenditure on the Employee benefits expenses:-

(i) Salaries and wages.

(ii) Contribution to provident and other funds.

(iii) Expense on Employee Stock Option Scheme (ESOP) and Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP).

(iv) Staff welfare expenses.

(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 immovable properties held as at the balance sheet date. In case the entity has given such immovable 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 immovable 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) **Authentication of Financial Statements:** Section 134(1) provides that the financial statements, including consolidated financial statement, if any, shall be approved by the board of directors before they are signed on behalf of the board at least by the following:

(i) chairperson of the company where he is authorized by the Board; or

(ii) By two directors out of which one shall be managing director and the Chief Executive Officer, if he is a director in the company,

(iii) The Chief Financial Officer and the company secretary of the company, wherever they are appointed.

However, in the case of a one person company, the financial statement shall be signed by only one director, for submission to the auditor for his report thereon.

According to section 134(7), a signed copy of every financial statement, including consolidated financial statement, if any, shall be issued, circulated or published along with a copy each of

(i) Any notes annexed to or forming part of such financial statement;

(ii) The auditor’s report; and

(iii) The Board’s report.

(b) **Emphasis of Matter paragraph:** Sometimes the auditor considers it necessary to draw users’ attention to a matter 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, the auditor shall include an Emphasis of Matter paragraph in the auditor’s report.
provided the auditor has obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence that the matter is not materially misstated in the financial statements.

**Examples - when it is used:**

- An uncertainty relating to the future outcome of an exceptional litigation or regulatory action.
- Early application (where permitted) of a new accounting standard that has a pervasive effect on the financial statements in advance of its effective date.
- A major catastrophe that has had, or continues to have, a significant effect on the entity's financial position.

**Manner of its use in Audit Report:** As per SA 706 “Emphasis of Matter Paragraphs and Other Matter Paragraphs in the Independent Auditor’s Report”, the inclusion of an Emphasis of Matter paragraph in the auditor’s report does not affect the auditor’s opinion. When the auditor includes an Emphasis of Matter paragraph in the auditor’s report, the auditor shall:

(i) Include it immediately after the Opinion paragraph in the auditor’s report;
(ii) Use the heading “Emphasis of Matter”, or other appropriate heading;
(iii) Include in the paragraph a clear reference to the matter being emphasised and to where relevant disclosures that fully describe the matter can be found in the financial statements; and
(iv) Indicate that the auditor’s opinion is not modified in respect of the matter emphasised.

**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.