Opinion of the Comptroller& Auditor General of India on the Accounts of Central Board of Secondary Education for the year ended 31 March 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Central Board of Secondary Education (HQ), RO Delhi West and PE Unit of CBSE, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2025 and the Income & Expenditure Account/Receipts & Payment Account for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies under Section 20 (1) of the Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions of Service) Act,1971. These financial statements include the accounts of 17 Regional Offices, 5 Units, 18 Centres of Excellence and Headquarters of the Central Board of Secondary Education. Out of these 6 Regional Offices, 1 Unit, 2 Centres of Excellence and CBSE headquarters were audited and comments were considered for the report.

This Audit Report contains the comments of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG) on the accounting treatment only with regard to classification, conformity with the best accounting practices, accounting standards, disclosure norms, etc. Audit observations on financial transactions regarding compliance with the Law, Rules and Regulations (Propriety & Regularity) and efficiency cum performance aspects etc., if any, are reported through inspection reports/ CAG's audit reports separately.

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements of CBSE, read together with the accounting policies and Notes thereon and matters mentioned in the Draft Separate Audit Report, which follows, give a true and fair view of the financial position of the autonomous body as at March 31, 2025, and (of) its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended in accordance with uniform format of accounts.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the CAG's auditing regulations/standards/manuals/guidelines/guidance-notes/orders/circulars etc. Our responsibilities are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the autonomous body in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the financial statements

The Governing Body of CBSE is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with uniform format of accounts, and for internal control as management determines it necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion in accordance with CAG's auditing regulations /standards/ manuals/ guidelines/ guidance-notes/ orders/ circulars etc.

Place: New Delhi

For and on behalf of the CAG of India

Date: 19-12-25

Director General of Audit
(Central Expenditure)

Separate Audit report on the accounts of Central Board of Secondary Education for the year 2024-25

A. Balance Sheet

A.1 Assets

A.1.1 Fixed Assets (Schedule 4) - Rs.1455.37 crore

- Examination of annual accounts and relevant records of CBSE Head Office revealed that the Capital Work in progress stood at Rs.31,373 lakh as on March 31, 2025. This amount includes cost of Building at Sector-23 Dwarka, Delhi amounting to Rs 29,141 lakh. Audit observed that the building was occupied on January 03, 2025. However, it has not yet been capitalized in the books of accounts and continues to be shown under CWIP. This has resulted in understatement of Fixed Assets by Rs 26227 lakh, understatement of Depreciation by Rs 2914 lakh and overstatement of the Capital Fund by Rs.29,141 lakh.

- Work wise details of Capital Work in Progress of Rs 348.78 crore shown in the accounts were not furnished to Audit.

B. Income & Expenditure

B.2 Expenditure

- Examination of annual accounts and relevant records of CBSE HQ, Regional Office Delhi West, Professional Exam Unit, Regional Office Bengaluru and Centre of Excellence Ajmer revealed that prior period expenses relating to various charges for the year 2023-24 amounting to Rs. 1387.75 lakh were paid in the year 2024-25 but booked under various schedules of Expenditure (I&E Account) other than Prior Period Expenses. This has resulted in understatement of Prior period Expenses & overstatement of Expenditure schedules by Rs.1387.75 lakh as detailed in Annexure A.

C. Management Letter

Deficiencies which have not been included in the Audit Report have been brought to the notice of Chairperson, Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi through a Management Letter issued separately for remedial/corrective action.

D. Assessment of Internal Controls

D.1 Adequacy of Internal Control System

- The internal control system of CBSE needs to be strengthened as 23 paras of external audit of CBSE Hqrs were outstanding as on 31.03.2025.

D.2 Adequacy of Internal Audit System

- The Pr. Pay & Account Office of Ministry of Education did not conduct any internal audit of the CBSE.

- The internal audit of Regional Offices/Units is being conducted by the team of All India Council of Audit & Accountants (AICAA).

- The internal audit for the financial year 2024-25 was in progress as on October 15, 2025.

D.3 System of Physical verification of Fixed Assets

- The physical verification of Land and Building has been done up to 07-02-2025. The Board's Land & Building are free from all types of encumbrances.

- The physical verification of non-consumable items (Furniture, Fixtures, Computer & Accessories) in respect of CBSE Hqrs has been conducted up to 07-02-2025.

D.4 System of Physical verification of Inventory

- The physical verification of stationery and other consumable items of CBSE Hqrs. had been conducted up to 20-03-2025.
- The Physical verification of stationery and consumable items of ROs/units is not being done regularly.

D.5 Regularity in payment of statutory dues

- As per accounts, no payment for over six months in respect of statutory dues was outstanding as on 31-03-2025.

F. Grants in aid

CBSE generates its own income and does not receive any grant from the Government.