

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2848
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
C & AG OBSERVATION ON PRINTING OF ACCOUNTS BY PRIVATE PRINTERS
RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C&AG in its Report No.2 of 2000 (Civil) in para 5.2 has brought out the fact of giving No Objection Certificates to Ministries and Departments during 1993-98 for printing of accounts and reports due to which the printing work had to be passed on to private printers;

(b) if so, the reasons for giving NOC and lack of modernisation of the Government presses which are decades old;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enquire into the matter and fix the accountability and responsibility of the people responsible for not modernisation of the presses and giving NOCs; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT G. GEETE)

(a) Yes, Sir. No Objection Certificates (NOC) are issued, only in compelling circumstances after examining all the details of work and possibility of the same getting done through Government of India Presses.

However, on receipt of request from Ministry/Department for grant of NOC, the proposal is properly scrutinized and NOC is issued in each case where necessary.

NOCs issued constitute only about 1% of the total jobs received for printing by the Directorate of Printing.

(b),(c)&(d) The reasons for according NOC are as follows:

1. Non-availability of specific quality of paper demanded by indenting Department;
2. Non-availability of infrastructure required for special quality printing;
3. Short time provided by the indenting Department for jobs, and
4. Receipt of emergent work at times.

A consolidated proposal for modernisation/restructuring of the Presses has been proposed. No final decision has yet been taken in this regard.

In view of the above, the issue regarding fixing responsibility/accountability connected with modernisation of the Presses, however, does not arise.