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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
(2008-2009)**

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA STATIONERY OFFICE, KOLKATA
(GISO)
(2008-2009)**

THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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(GISO)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 23 October, 2008
Laid in Rajya Sabha on



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
URBAN DEVELOPMENT (2008-2009)**

Mohd. Salim - Chairman

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LOK SABHA

2. Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana
3. Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi
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SECRETARIAT

1. Shri A. Louis Martin - Joint Secretary
2. Shri T.K. Mukherjee - Director
3. Smt. Anita B. Panda - Deputy Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Urban Development (2008-09) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Thirty-Sixth Report on the subject "Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata" of the Ministry of Urban Development.

2. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development and Ministry of Finance on 12th August, 2008.
3. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 30th September, 2008.
4. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officials of the Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of Finance for placing before them the requisite materials and their considered views in connection with the examination of the subject.
5. They would also like to place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI;
3rd October, 2008
11 Asvina, 1930 (*Saka*)

MOHD. SALIM
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Urban Development

PART –I

BACKGROUND ANALYSIS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA STATIONERY OFFICE KOLKATTA

A. Historical background of GISO

The Government of India Stationery Office (GISO), Kolkata, erstwhile Stationery Office, Calcutta, was established in the year 1850 under the control of Superintendent, Stamps and Stationery, Government of Bengal. It was transferred to the Central Government in the year 1904 under the Controller of Printing, Stationery & Stamps in the Department of Finance and Commerce and subsequently, under Department of Industries & Labour. After independence, it functioned under various Ministries from time to time, namely, the Ministry of Works, Mines & Power, the Ministry of Works, Housing & Rehabilitation, the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply and the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment, now renamed as the Ministry of Urban Development.

1.2 GISO, Kolkata, is a subordinate organisation headed by the Controller of Stationery. GISO is responsible for procurement, storage and supply of paper, paper-made articles and other stationery stores to various Government of India offices and Indian Missions abroad. At present this organisation carries out its duties through various branches/sections and its three Regional Stationery Depots located at Mumbai, New Delhi and Chennai.

1.3 The Regional Stationery Depots were opened, in addition to its headquarter (GISO) in Kolkata, to cope up with increased activities and to ensure quick supply, in New Delhi,

Chennai and Mumbai, in July, 1957, April, 1963 and March, 1965 respectively with an Assistant Controller of Stationery as head of the office.

1.4 The Committee were informed in a written note submitted by the Ministry of Urban Development that earlier to April, 1973, this organisation was functioning under the Controller of Stationery and Printing, New Delhi, which was subsequently upgraded as Chief Controller of Printing and Stationery, New Delhi with responsibility of overall control of three different wings viz. stationery, printing and publications. However, as this arrangement was found to be ineffective, Government of India trifurcated the department from April, 1973, into three separate departments namely, (i) Directorate of Printing, New Delhi, (ii) Department of Publications, New Delhi, and (iii) Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata.

1.5 During the briefing by representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development on GISO, a query was raised as to why GISO came under the purview of the Ministry of Urban Development. In response the Ministry of Urban Development stated as under:

"At the time of demarcation of works and housing, whatever was included in 'works' was taken up. As procurement of stationery was covered under 'works', it came under the purview of the Ministry of Urban Development."

1.6 The present functions of GISO, are stated to be as under:

- To procure and supply stationery stores within the available funds.
- To issue 'NOC' (No Objection Certificate) to the indenters whose demands cannot be met by GISO to enable them to procure their stationery from other sources.

- To accord sanction for drawing stationery stores from GISO, Kolkata / RSDs to the newly created Government Organizations.
- To regularize the local purchases made by the indenters.
- To pursue pending cases related to recovery of payment from the indenters.
- Administrative works of establishment and staff.

B. Orders of Closure and Revocation

One major issue that came up before the Committee during the examination of GISO was the decision of the Government of India in the year 1987 to wind up its operations and later, its revival, though as an interim measure, in the year 1991. The Committee examined the matter in detail. In addition, the Committee took the oral evidence of the representatives of Ministry of Urban Development, parent Ministry of GISO as well as the Ministry of Finance, during their sitting held on 12th August, 2008.

2.2 In 1985-1986, a Group of Secretaries chaired by the then Cabinet Secretary reviewed the functioning of all Government Departments and undertakings. While reviewing the work related to GISO, Kolkata, it recommended to wind up the organisation. The Ministry of Urban Development informed the Committee that the Group of Secretaries, while recommending winding up of GISO, took following reasons into consideration:

- (i) The overhead cost of procurement and supply of the stationery by GISO was high.
- (ii) The satisfaction percentage of supplies to the indenters was low because of poor and erratic supplies.

- (iii) In respect of many items, the rates in the Vocabulary of GISO were higher than those in the open market.
- (iv) Despite the existence of Central agencies in the form of GISO, local purchase of stationery items by various Government Offices was high.

2.3 On 16.10.1987, the Government of India (Ministry of Urban Development) issued a Resolution ordering closure of GISO. The resolution reads as follows:-

"It has been decided by the Government of India to wind up the operations of the Government of India Stationery Office, Calcutta and its three Regional Stationery Depots at New Delhi, Bombay and Madras and decentralize the work relating to procurement and distribution of stationery items with immediate effect. The stationery articles lying with the GISO, Calcutta and the three Regional Depots and such materials as are already in the pipelines, will be issued to the indenters within a period of three months from the date of publication of this resolution. The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India will henceforth themselves arrange for purchase of stationery items in accordance with their requirements as per provisions of the rules and procedures existing or as may be framed/amended from time to time."

2.4 The Committee were informed by the Ministry of Urban Development that the Government of India Stationery Workers Union also moved a Writ Petition in the Hon'ble High Court, Kolkata, challenging the decision and the Resolution dated 16.10.1987. The Hon'ble High Court issued an interim injunction on 17.12.1987 restraining the respondents (Union of India) from giving any effect to the said Resolution dated 16.10.1987. Accordingly, the employees of GISO continued to be paid their salaries as usual even without entrusting any work to them.

2.5 Subsequently another Government of India (Department of Urban Development) Resolution dated 27.02.1991 was issued revoked the earlier Resolution as an interim measure.

The Resolution reads as follows:-

"It has been decided by Government of India to make a study to establish whether there has been any economy in the purchase of stationery after the issue of the orders regarding winding up of the operations of Government of India Stationery Office as contained in the Resolution No. A-27023/4/85-sty. Dated the 16th October, 1987. It has further been decided to revoke the orders issued under the said Resolution dated 16th October, 1987 as an interim measure and to resume the operations of the Government of India Stationery Office, Calcutta, and its three Regional Stationery Depots at New Delhi, Bombay, and Madras relating to procurement and distribution of stationery items as was being done before the issue of the orders under the said Resolution. All the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India will henceforth send the indents of the requirements of stationery items to the Government of India Stationery Office, Calcutta and its three Regional Stationery Depots, as the case may be, for procurement of stationery items."

2.6 As proposed in the Resolution, a study of the functioning of GISO was conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DoAR & PG) to establish whether there had been any economy in purchase of stationery after the issue of closure orders for GISO dated 16.10.1997. In its report dated 30.7.1997, the said Department concluded that "there was more expenditure on stationery during closure period than during reopening period...". The report had also suggested two alternatives for GISO, as under:

- (i) Restructuring the organisation by converting GISO into an autonomous body like Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar, National Cooperative of Consumers' Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF) (to be seen on commercial lines with sales depots at more places) or;
- (ii) Continuation of GISO with staff strength to be decided through a work study by Internal Work Study Unit (IWSU) of Ministry of Urban Development.

2.7 In a written note, the Ministry of Finance submitted that the Department of Expenditure was apprised of the Study report in 2000 by M/o Urban Development while taking follow up action to the ERC recommendations for the first time. The study of

Department of AR & PG was at the instance of Ministry of UD, it being the Administrative Ministry for GISO and the study was as a follow up the Resolution of MoUD dated 27.2.1991 and hence the role of Department of Expenditure to comment upon it and the occasion was very limited.

2.8 In pursuance of the second alternative suggested by the DoAR & PG, the IWSU, undertook the work measurement study for the staff assessment of GISO during June, 2000 (12th June to 27th June). Work measurement study for the staff assessment at 3 Regional Stationery Depots (RSDs) (situated at New Delhi, Chennai & Mumbai) was done in the month of July, August & September, 2000 respectively. The study recommended abolition of 102 posts and creation of 53 posts, resulting in net saving of 49 posts in GISO.

2.9 However, by the time IWSU report was received (September 2001) and further action could be taken, ERC recommendation for closure of GISO had come (October 2001).

2.10 When the Committee enquired from the Ministry of Finance about the compelling reasons, which influenced the decision regarding winding up of GISO, the following reply was submitted:

"The basic reason for the Ministry of Finance to suggest winding up of GISO was the recommendations of Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC). The ERC was established in pursuance of the statement in Item No.39 of President's Address to the Joint Session of Parliament on 25.10.99 to the effect that 'The Expenditure Commission, which would be set up shortly will review all direct and indirect subsidies, examine all ongoing expenditure streams and schemes, as well as lay down the roadmap for downsizing of Government', and as per the announcement of FM in the Budget Speech of 1999-2000. The ERC was then set up with the approval of Hon'ble PM.. The ERC has recommended, in so far as GISO is concerned, that presently the Government Departments indent their stationery from Kendria Bhandar,

Super Bazar and National Cooperative of Consumers' Federation of India Ltd (NCCF). The rates at which the stationery is supplied by these organizations are competitive compared to the market prices. Further, as against the order position of Rs. 10.19 crore in RE 2000-01, the non-Plan expenditure on the Office was Rs. 23.68 crore. This Department was set up at a time when there was shortage of stationery items and there was need to centralize procurement. The scenario has since changed and it does not appear necessary for Government of India to engage in procurement of stationery when it is readily available and there are no shortages. As such, there is no justification for continuing this office. As decided in 1987, the Office should be wound up and the entire staff declared surplus. The Department of Printing can handle any residual work. It was decided to implement recommendations of the ERC and all concerned Ministries, *inter alia*, Ministry of Urban Development, who is dealing with GISO, were advised accordingly".

The Ministry of Urban Development disagreed with the ERC recommendations on the ground that:

- (i) The GISO, Kolkata is more than 150 years old Organization with three Regional Depots at New Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai and is responsible for procurement of stationery items supplied to all its authorized indenters which are more than 14,000 consisting of various Ministries/Departments of Government of India, PSUs etc. By a Government Resolution dated 16th October, 1987, GISO was closed.
- (ii) The closure of the Organization had created human problem affecting about 1200 employees.

2.11 According to the Ministry of Finance, it was decided to implement the recommendations of the ERC and all concerned Ministries, *inter alia*, the Ministry of Urban Development which was dealing with GISO, were advised accordingly, The Ministry of Urban Development informed the Committee that they disagreed with the ERC recommendations on the ground that the GISO, Kolkata was more than 150 years old Organization with three Regional Depots at New Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai and is

responsible for procurement of stationery items supplied to all its authorized indenters which are more than 14,000 consisting of various Ministries/Departments of Government of India, PSUs etc.

2.12 In response to a related query, the Ministry of Urban Development further furnished as under:

"...Main arguments given by the Ministry for continuation of GISO are as (i) Cost of procurement is less due to direct purchase from the manufacturer in bulk. (ii) GISO caters to the needs of Army bases/Para military forces located in the interiors also. (iii) Supply from GISO ensures uniformity in specification. (iv) GISO ensures quality of stationery as per BIS specifications."

2.13 According to the Ministry of Urban Development, it was decided to continue with GISO, with the reduced staff strength as recommended by IWSU. The matter regarding continuation of GISO with adequate Budget grant was taken up by their Internal Finance Division with the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) on 17.1.2006.

It is observed that ERC Report on GISO was three-fourth of a page and did not take into account crucial facts regarding relative cost of stationery supplied by GISO.

2.14 The Appendix 9 of GFR 1963 which conferred special powers on controller of stationery for purchase of stationery stores listed under this appendix, had been removed under the revised GFR-2005. The effect of this deletion had been that GISO is no more the nodal agency for procurement of stationery stores and supplying the same to Government offices/departments.

2.15 The Committee sought the views of the Ministry of Finance on non-inclusion of Appendix 9 of GFR, 1963 in GFR, 2005, which abolished the scope of centralized

procurement of stationery by GISO. The clarification tendered to the Committee was as under:

"As per directive of the Cabinet Secretary, this Ministry had constituted a Task Force to review General Financial Rules, 1963 so as to bring them in tune with the imperatives of a liberalized and growing economy. Based on the recommendation of Task Force and after wide consultations and extensive review with all the Ministries/Departments/organisations, this Ministry revised the General Financial Rules, 1963 and promulgated General Financial Rules, 2005 on 1st July, 2005. In the revised GFRs, 2005, the various provisions including provisions of procurement have been revised, so as to meet the present day requirements. As regards the earlier instructions in GFRs, 1963, contained in the Chapter titled 'Stores', supplemented by Appendices 8,9 and an annexure, the Task Force in its report had observed that these instructions had become largely redundant and sometimes hindrance in the day to day functioning of Government. It was also noted therein that the chapter on Stores in GFRs, 1963 also made no distinction between procurement of routine goods and procurement of sophisticated machinery and equipment, providing no flexibility for the operating departments to mould the system to requirements. Accordingly, on the basis of the recommendations of the Task Force and in-depth examination in consultation with all the Ministries/Departments/Organisation, the redundant appendices (including Appendix -9) and forms were deleted in the new GFRs, 2005."

2.16 In this connection, the representative of the Ministry of Finance, during the oral evidence submitted as under:

"I am really not being able to see any economy in continuing with GISO because the Ministries, autonomous bodies and departments across this country are by and large fulfilling the requirements through sources other than GISO and may be one or two Ministries; like the railway warrants or the defence forces warrants perhaps are being provided by the GISO".

2.17 However, the Representative of the Ministry of Urban Development submitted before the Committee during the course of oral evidence as follows:

"We had surveyed 30 indenting organisations as to what was their feed back regarding the services that are provided by the GISO and we have compiled this information

from 30 organisations.....Most of these organisations have found value in the services provided by the GISO and most of them confirmed that the cost of procurement through GISO were lower".

2.18 When the Committee enquired from the Ministry of Finance about action taken by them on the request of the Ministry of Urban Development for inclusion of Appendix 9 in GFR 2005, it was informed that the Department of Expenditure examined the reference related to inclusion of Appendix 9 in the new GFRs 2005 and the Ministry of Urban Development was advised vide ID No 8/6/E.II-A/06 dated 4.4.06 that:

“Revision of GFR by itself does not necessarily require GISO to be closed. It merely means GISO would not have the preferential/monopolistic rights to be the main canalizing agency for procurement of stationery by Government Departments. It is felt that decentralization of stationery procurement should not be opposed. Instead, GISO should take this opportunity to demonstrate that it can supply in a competitive manner with better quality of service and economy.”

2.19 The Committee were also informed by the Ministry of Finance that the Ministry of Urban Development were further advised on 12.12.2007 by them as under:

"In so far as present proposal for procurement of stationery is concerned, it is for the Ministry of Urban Development to take a decision in consultation with their Financial Advisor (FA) since this is under delegated powers of Ministry of Urban Development. It is for the Ministry of Urban Development to comply the advice of Hon'ble FM within a reasonable time, there does not seem to be anything in the above decision of ordering the organization to be brought to standstill. Therefore, Ministry of Urban Development, in consultation with their FA, may take appropriate decision in the matter."

2.20 The Ministry of Finance also drew the attention of the Committee towards the Cabinet Secretariat's decision dated 26.8.2004 stating that:

"It has been decided that henceforth all cases of disagreement with the recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission will be dealt with directly by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance. The Ministries/Departments concerned are accordingly advised to take the pending issues in this regard directly to the Department of Expenditure. The Department of Expenditure will intimate the position regarding each point of disagreement to the Cabinet Secretariat". This was further clarified in the note of Department of Expenditure F. No. 1(82)-E.Coord./2000(Pt. III) that what has now been envisaged that points of disagreement will be reported firstly by the administrative Ministry/Department to the Department of Expenditure and the Department of Expenditure will forward these to the Cabinet Secretariat along with its own views on each point of disagreement to the Cabinet Secretariat. The Cabinet Secretariat will place the matter before the CoS for consideration and decision."

2.21 The Finance Minister, in a letter to Shri Swadesh Chakraborty, MP on 18.8.2006, stated that there was no justification to revise GFR 2005 and suggested that Group C and D staff of GISO be adjusted in Kolkata or nearby locations. Similarly, the Finance Minister also wrote to the Minister of Urban Development in November, 2006 suggesting that:

"Centralized procurement of stationery items is impractical and inefficient in the current context and instead of seeking to review an anachronistic organization, the Ministry of Urban Development may wish to explore ways and means of redeployment of staff affected by closure of GISO."

2.22 The stationery rates charged by Kendriya Bhandar as compared to that of GISO as on 16th November, 2007 are reported to be as follows:-

Rate List

Kendriya Bhandar
Stationery Department

Government of India
Stationery Office,
Kolkata

Sl. No.	Description	Per Unit	Rate	VAT	Rate
1.	Duplicating Paper F/S Century	per ream	129.05	4%	86.6
2.	Register 2 Qr. Bharat	per piece	17.76	4%	15.1
3	Register 4 Qr. Bharat	per piece	32.9	4%	31.42
4.	Register 6 Qr. Bharat	per piece	48.6	4%	44.97
5.	Waste paper basket cello	per piece	50.5	12.50%	27
6.	Duplicating ink Natural	per piece	44.7	12.50%	26

7.	Stencil paper kores	per packet	180.3	4%	74.1
8.	Sealing was natural	per packet	30.5	12.50%	13
9.	All Pins	per packet	9.2	12.50%	15.3
10.	Photocopier A 4 Century 75	per ream	113.75	4%	130.81
	GSM				
11.	Photocopier F/S Century 75	per ream	138.5	4%	104.41
12.	PhotocopierA/3 Century 75	per ream	232.5	4%	181.75
13.	Envelopes SE7 Craft	per th.	482.2	4%	512
14.	Envelopes SE7A Craft	per th.	1298	4%	1466
15.	Envelopes SE8 Craft	per th.	900	4%	1498
16.	Envelop SE8A Craft	per th.	2510	4%	3335
17.	Envelop SE5 Craft	per th.	146.45	4%	178
18.	Computer Sty. 10x12x1.60 gsm	per th.	224.4	4%	168
19.	Computer Sty. 10x12x2.60 gsm	per th.	694.4	4%	183
20.	Note sheet Pad A/4 Green	each	23.75	4%	22.36
21.	Note Sheet Pad A/4 White	each	21.35	4%	17.74
22.	File Board R.K.	each	3.2	4%	3.84

It may be observed from the above, that the rates of most of the items charged by GISO are far less than that of Kendriya Bhandar.

C. Paucity of Staff

3.1 The Headquarter of GISO is located at Kolkata with its three Regional Stationery Depots (RSDs) at New Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai. The organisation carries out its functions through its different branches/sections.

3.2 When the Committee enquired about the staff strength of GISO and its Regional Stationery Depots (RSDs), the Ministry of Urban Development furnished the following details:

Year wise staff strength at GISO/RSDs					
Year	GISO	Regional Stationery Depots			Total
	Kolkata	Mumbai	Chennai	Delhi	

1985-86	960	30	80	106	1176
1986-87	944	30	80	107	1161
1987-88	914	28	80	110	1132
1988-89	895	28	80	108	1111
1989-90	862	27	77	101	1067
1990-91	823	27	75	99	1024
1991-92	775	25	74	93	967
1992-93	719	25	73	93	910
1993-94	728	25	73	96	922
1994-95	730	26	71	96	913

3.3 The Ministry of Urban Development informed the Committee in 2007 that the strength of GISO and its Regional Store Depots as on 1.08.07 was 663 with the following break up:

(i) Group 'A' -	2
(ii) Group 'B' -	13
(iii) Group 'C' -	345
(iv) Group 'D' -	303
Total	663

3.4 With regard to recruitment of additional staff, the Ministry of Urban Development in their written note, have stated that the ban on recruitment in various cadres in GISO, imposed by the Government as per the instructions of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, had resulted in the non-availability of adequate staff. It was further informed that over a period of time, the working strength of staff both in GISO and Regional Store Depots had reduced considerably resulting in difficulties in completion of urgent jobs in time as well as deterioration in quality of work in some cases.

3.5 After Expenditure Reforms Commission's (ERC) recommendation for closure of GISO, there had been no filling up of posts as per the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure instructions. In this connection, the Ministry of Urban Development further submitted as under:

"The question of re-deployment of staff members is the vital problem in the present scenario since most of the Central Government Organizations getting reduced their staff strength. It is learnt that the Organization like the Development Commissioner of Steel under the Ministry of Steel, Head Quarter – Kolkata are facing lots of problems in getting their staff members re-deployment of its staff members, especially belonging to Group C & D to other Central Government Offices of its respective location (specially Kolkata areas) would not be so convenient. Moreover, the Staff members of GISO has experience / expertise in stationery procurement, supply, storage, store handlings, accounts, etc. and other redeployment in other departments may be nothing but a permanent burden which will generate human sufferings. In the circumstances, it would be extremely difficult to re-deploy the affected staff in the Central Government offices located at the places of their respective stations i.e. Kolkata, Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai."

3.6 The post of Controller of Stationery had been lying vacant since 9.9.2005. The Ministry of Urban Development in their written reply submitted that the post of Controller of Stationery had gone under 'deemed abolition' and the Ministry of Finance had not agreed for its revival in view of ERC recommendation for closer of GISO. It was also informed that UPSC did not allow filling up of the post before up-dation of the Recruitment Rules (RRs). The exercise to revise the RRs was stated to be underway. Further, the Committee were informed by the Ministry of Urban Development that the Ministry of Finance was requested to revive the post and allow its continuation up to 1.12.2008. However, the request was turned down.

3.7 On the question of appointment of the Controller of Stationery, a representative of the Ministry of Finance submitted during the course of oral evidence as under:

"Sir, the issue of the appointment of the Controller of Stationery is an issue for the Ministry of Urban Development. If it is a sanctioned post, as it has been since you have very rightly pointed out a 150 years old institution, the post is sanctioned. The filling up of the post as per UPSC, or whatever template is required is really the responsibility of the Ministry of Urban Development".

3.8 When the Committee enquired about the chance of revival of the post, the representative of the Ministry of Urban Development, *inter alia*, submitted as follows:

"It really depends in the overall context that first of course we need to have a clearer decision about continuation and a decision towards that will get facilitated because of this discussion today. We will make further attempts. We have made attempts to revive the post in the past and we will make fresh attempts".

D. Indenters of GISO

4.1 The Committee were informed that Government of India Stationery Office supplies stationery stores directly as well as from ex-stock to the indenters. There are three types of indenters namely non-paying/Gratis, Paying Indenters and Advance Cash Paying Indenters. Paying indenters are Ministry of Defence, including Command Depots, Navy, MES, Defence ordnance factories, Accounts offices and Military Attache, Indian Railways, All India Radio, Doordarshan and Posts & Telecommunications. Central Government Undertakings/Enterprises are Advance cash paying Indenters. Rest of the other departments are non-paying Indenters.

4.2 As per the information supplied by the Ministry of Finance, the total number of indenters to whom stationery articles was being supplied during the year 1994-95 was 13166

out of which 3,070 were under Regional Stationery Depots (RSD), New Delhi; 764 under RSD, Mumbai; 1,386 under RSD, Chennai and rest of 7,946 under GISO, Kolkata.

4.3 As per the information supplied by the Ministry of Finance, the number of indenters to whom GISO and Regional Stationery Depots (RSD) supplied stationery articles during 1985 to 1995 were as per the Table below:

Year	GISO Kolkata	Regional Stationery Depots			Total
		Mumbai	Chennai	Delhi	
1985-86	7613	3025	654	1208	12500
1986-87	7520	3050	723	1241	12534
1987-88	7524	3075	735	1276	12610
1988-89	7575	3085	736	1304	12700
1989-90	7595	3095	736	1324	12750
1990-91	7813	3120	737	1330	13000
1991-92	7873	3184	744	1335	13136
1992-93	7929	3070	745	1356	13100
1993-94	7862	3130	755	1375	13122
1994-95	7946	3070	764	1386	13166

4.4 It may be observed from the above table that on an average 60% indenters are supplied stationery articles by GISO, Kolkata, 24% by RSD, Delhi, 10% by RSD, Chennai and 6% by RSD, Mumbai.

4.5 The Committee were informed that supply of stationery articles to its indenters located in Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Meerut is done by RSD, New Delhi. Those located in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are required to submit their indents to RSD, Chennai and for the offices located in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, part of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, the supply is done by RSD, Mumbai. For indents from all others indenters and from Cash-Paying Indenters irrespective of their location, the supply of stationery is made by GISO, Kolkata. For items, which are not available with GISO, a 'No Objection Certificate' is issued by GISO or its RSDs in respect of those items.

E. Cost of articles supplied by GISO

5.1 For fixing the issue price of the stationery articles, 20% overhead is added to its actual cost of the contract for the year by GISO, and is charged from the indenters, while issuing the stationery items from ex-stock. In respect of direct suppliers from the supplying firm to the indenters, the cost of such supply is arrived at on the basis of the contract price for the year by adding 4% overhead cost. An additional 10% is charged in the case of supplies made to Quasi Public Bodies.

5.2 During the course of oral evidence, the representative of the Ministry of Urban Development stated in the context of the issue of prices that:

"We made another internal comparison, what is our rate in comparison to Kendriya Bhandar. The result showed that over all we were about 10 per cent to 20 per cent cheaper. So, these two documents we have relied on. So, on the issue of whether there is cost benefit analysis done, we have been trying to do that in order to arrive at a

logical decision. The indications are that in most cases GISO rates happen to be cheaper but that can be studied further as my senior colleague said that the evidence does not appear to be conclusive. Now we can make comparison for further items".

F. Inspection and testing

6.1 As regards inspection and testing of stationery by GISO, a study Report on "The organizational aspects of GISO" presented by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances has stated as under:-

“Prior to procurement of stationery articles, these are inspected and tested, wherever necessary, by the Inspecting officers i.e. Assistant Controller (Inspection) and Inspector (testing). These officers are engaged for carrying out inspection work at the firms premises for all stationery items including paper, on receipt of inspection call letters from the suppliers. All relevant documents are verified to ascertain whether the stores offered for inspection are in order in all respects. They verify quantity, packing and marking offered for. The representative samples at random from various lots are drawn for inspection and testing.”

6.2 Explaining the laboratory facility available in GISO, the Committee were informed by the Ministry of Urban Development as under:

“The laboratories at GISO have facilities to conduct all types of tests as BIS & GISO specifications, like determination of thickness / substance / length / water penetration / moisture content / pH value / tear index, etc. of paper and other stationery items. The GISO’s laboratory facility is in use for testing of stationery stores supplied by GISO. At present, there is no provision for use of this facility by outside agencies.”

6.3 During the course of oral evidence, the representative of the Ministry of Urban Development submitted before the Committee as under:

“Our testing facilities and laboratories are excellent. In fact, our people who are technical experts are on the Board of Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS). We are

consultants to BIS for standardization of all stationery items, whether it is paper or ink".

6.4 According to the Study Report of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, items which do not require any chemical examination, are inspected against the prescribed specification for verification of dimensions, weight, quantity of material, general workmanship and finishing. If the stores are found reasonably conforming to the relevant specification in all respects, the same are accepted and inspection notes are issued to the firms. Items including packing materials which require chemical tests, the representative samples drawn at the time of inspection of consignments are tested in the stationery office laboratory as prescribed in the specification. If the firms have their own proper testing arrangement, the test is also carried out at their end. If the stores are found reasonably conforming as per GISO/ISI specification in all respects, they are accepted on the spot and released for dispatch to the respective consignee with released inspection notes. The inspection formalities are completed within three weeks time from the date of receipt of inspection call letters. Inspection and testing tasks are also undertaken by the inspecting officers at Regional Stationery Depots in New Delhi and Mumbai.

G. Budgetary Provisions

The Annual Budgetary provision for the Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata from the year 1991-92 onwards are stated to be as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates
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	Establishments	Material & Supply	Establishments	Material & Supply
1991-92	3.10	003.00	03.0294	001.50
1992-93	3.32	012.00	03.2832	011.97
1993-94	3.66	013.00	03.66	013.00
1994-95	3.80	014.60	03.7346	016.664
1995-96	3.94	016.00	04.32	016.00
1996-97	4.47	016.00	05.00	016.00
1997-98	7.45	014.89	07.4302	014.8198
1998-99	7.35	013.50	08.2799	013.50
1999-00	8.24	013.50	08.4366	013.50
2000-01	8.68	015.00	08.6800	015.00
2001-02	8.30	020.00	08.4100	020.00
2002-03	8.59	018.00	08.5900	018.00
2003-04	8.83	015.00	08.8300	015.00
2004-05	9.07	005.00	09.2700	005.00
2005-06	9.44	002.57	09.4500	002.57
2006-07	9.77	001.00	09.7900	003.00
2007-08	10.41	005.00		

7.2 The Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development submitted with respect to Budgetary provision for GISO as under:-

"We try on an annual basis to get provisions for this office because, as I understand, for procurement of stationery there has to be budget provision. The budget provision has been coming down though we get a provision every year. That is the limiting factor as far as improved functioning of this organisation is concerned and the ongoing dialogue with the Ministry of Finance also has stopped us from taking a clear-cut view point as far as strengthening this organisation is concerned".

7.3 In this connection, the Committee enquired as to why less budgetary support was given to GISO. The Ministry of Finance stated in a written reply as under:

"Allocation of Budget is made to the Ministry/Department on overall basis. The inter-se allocation from the same made to GISO by MoUD is not the concern of the Ministry of Finance. The budget is also scrutinized by Parliamentary Committees such as Estimates Committee & the Standing Finance Committee. The allocations made for GISO were an outcome of this process, against competing demands of various schemes & projects. though GISO was established for a purpose but it is an anachronistic organization in the present times."

7.4 A representative of the Ministry of Urban Development, during the course of oral evidence, stated that prior to 1987, GISO used to conclude contracts for supply of stationery in advance i.e. in the preceding Financial Year itself. However, after 1991, due to uncertainty about its continuation and consequent constraints of funds, this exercise was being undertaken only after the confirmation about funds allocated to GISO in Budget Estimates.

7.5 Further, drawing attention to the suggestion of DoAR&PG in 1997 that GISO should be geared up by giving full budgetary support for procurement of stationery articles 6 months in advance, the Committee asked the Ministry of Finance the reasons for not considering the said suggestion. In response, the Ministry of Finance stated:

"Gearing up of GISO by giving full budget support was one of the two recommendations of DOAR&PG. The recommendation in brief was that GISO should be geared up by giving full budgetary support for procurement of stationery items six month in advance. However, this recommendation was not in isolation but preceded by another recommendation that a study should be conducted by IWSU and directions should be issued that all Ministries/Departments/offices should strictly draw their entire requirement of stationery only from GISO etc. Any change in budgetary allocation would have been warranted only after the study to be taken up by IWSU. The said study was completed in 1999. In the meanwhile, ERC recommendations for closure of GISO were received."

7.6 With regard to costs incurred in the GISO and the actual budgetary provision for the GISO, the Representative of the Ministry of Urban Development informed the Committee during the course of oral evidence held on 12th August, 2008 as follows:-

"It is true that this year also we have got Rs. 50 crore. But the actual Budget of stationery and this printing as a whole out of which GISO is a small part is Rs. 221 crore. Out of which Rs. 171 crore is recoveries in the form of receivables out of printing charges, out of stationery charges etc. are adjusted and thereby it becomes Rs. 50 crore this year. I would like to give an example of the current year. Out of Rs. 50 crore, only Rs. 7 crore has been earmarked for the actual purchase of stationery.....This has been increasing every year as in 2005-06 it was 3 crore, next year, Rs. 5 crore was provided....in 2008-09, Rs. 7 crore was provided..... So, if we

consider the overall budget large part of it is spent on the establishment of expenditure and the portion for the purchase of stationery is small which has been gradually increasing over the past many years"

7.7 In this context, the representative of Ministry of Urban Development submitted during the course of oral evidence as under:

"The point which I would also like to make is that in the context of ERC recommendation, it is very important to know that ERC stated that against an order position of Rs. 10.19 crore – I am quoting it from their recommendation – in RE, the non-plan expenditure of the office was Rs. 23.68 crore. I am just mentioning a point. Now they had added the supplies also as non-plan which is the correct figure but it is not going on salaries alone but is going on providing supplies also".

7.8 During the course of oral evidence when the Committee raised the question of less budgetary allocation to GISO on the side of supplies, the representative of the Ministry of Urban Development submitted as follows:

"Only on the point of budgetary allocation on the side of supplies, the intention has been there as reflected from what has been processed. The problem comes when it comes to uncertainty regarding continuation. That is why, while the non-Plan is finalized in consultation with the Ministry of Finance by the Ministry of Urban Development, because of the environment of uncertainty, we have not been able to bring about the kind of change that you would perhaps like to see".

H. Outstanding Stationery Charges

It was observed that many Indenters did not pay charges on time to GISO and there was a huge outstanding bill to be recovered. When asked the Ministry of Urban Development

submitted the following information to the Committee with regard to three major Indenting Departments, in November, 2007:

DETAILS OF OUTSTANDING STATIONERY CHARGES TO BE RECOVERED FROM THE INDENTING DEPARTMENTS

	Ministry	Total Outstanding Amount upto Financial Year 2004-05 (Rs. in crore)
1.	Ministry of Defence	38.26
2.	Ministry of Communication	09.26
3.	Ministry of Railways	03.88
4.	Others	02.27
	Total	53.66

8.2 During the course of briefing, the Committee sought the latest position of recovery of outstanding dues by GISO, Kolkata. The Ministry of Urban Development furnished the following information:

Latest Position of Recovery of Outstanding Dues by GISO

(Rs. in crore)				
S. No.	Year	Dues (in Rs)	Recoveries (in Rs.)	Outstanding (in Rs.)
1.	1995-96	39.59	03.27	36.33
2.	1996-97	42.79-	04.29	38.50
3.	1997-98	44.74	04.02	40.72
4.	1998-99	45.55	03.27	42.28
5.	1999-2k	48.60	04.09	44.51
6.	2000-01	49.40	03.18	46.22
7.	2001-02	51.73	03.84	47.90
8.	2002-03	54.40	04.50	49.90
9.	2003-04	55.83	04.08	51.75
10.	2004-05	55.31	01.70	53.60
11.	2005-06	54.40	03.38	51.02
12.	2006-07	51.62	00.75	50.87
13.	2007-08	51.27	00.97	50.30
14.	2008-09 (upto 28 th July, 2008)		00.16	

8.3 On this matter, the Committee enquired from the Ministry of Finance as to whether they can issue a directive to defaulters. The Ministry responded as under:

“Recovery of outstanding dues is vested in the GISO as well as administrative Ministry. If any special advisory is required to be issued by the Ministry of ‘ Finance, the administrative Ministries needed to approach this Department for doing the needful.”

8.4 During the course of oral evidence, the representative of Ministry of Finance submitted that:

" If the Financial Advisor of that Ministry advises the Ministry of Finance that there is so much outstanding against various departments, there is no question of Secretary (Expenditure) not taking up with the concerned Financial Advisor".

I. Job Order Position

Latest job order position of Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata, (GISO) is stated to be as under:-

S.No.	Name of Office	Tentative values of the indented stores by the indenters for the financial year 2007-08 (Rs. in crore)	Tentative values of the indented stores by the indenters for the financial year 2008-09 (upto 30 th July, 2008 (Rs. in crore)
1.	Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata including its 3 Regional Stationery Depots at New Delhi, Mumbai & Chennai respectively.	Rs. 90 crore	Rs. 42.00 crore

9.2 When asked by the Committee as to how far had the GISO been successful in executing procurement and supply of stationery to all its authorized indenters, particularly since its functioning was revived in 1991, the Ministry of Urban Development submitted that GISO had been able to meet only 3% to 15% of the demands of indenters after revival of its functioning in 1991.

9.3 In response to a query by the Committee as to how much loss the Government exchequer will experience if the organisation continues to function, the Ministry of Finance submitted that it is for the Ministry of Urban Development to evaluate and assess the loss.

PART II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The Government of India Stationery Office (GISO), a 158-year old organization established in the year 1850, has been responsible for procurement and supply of stationery stores to around 13,166 authorized indenters consisting of various Government of India Offices, Public Sector Undertakings etc. spread all over the country. At present GISO carries out its duties through its various Branches as well as its three Regional Stationery Depots in Mumbai, New Delhi and Chennai. GISO has been facing an uncertain future since the year 1987 when the Cabinet took the decision to wind up this office and a Government of India Resolution to this effect was issued on 16th October, 1987. Subsequently the closure order was revoked vide Government of India Resolution dated 27th February, 1991, pending a study on the subject. The study conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances in July, 1997 recommended the continuance of GISO. When the follow up action on the recommendation of the study Report was in progress, the Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) in October, 2001 recommended closure of GISO. Since then, the Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) have been wrangling over the question of continuance of GISO, which inevitably had a negative impact on the overall functioning and performance of GISO. The Committee's conclusions and recommendations arising out of the examination of these and other related issues are set out in the following paragraphs.

2. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Group of Secretaries, Government of India decided in October, 1987 (Resolution dated 16.10.1987) to wind up the operations of the GISO and de-centralize the work handled by GISO with immediate effect. The ostensible reasons advanced by the Group of Secretaries for the closure of GISO included high overhead cost of procurement and supply of stationery and GISO rates being higher than those in the open market. Curiously, these reasons have been proved wrong subsequently. It was decided after three and half years (Resolution dated 27.2.1991) to resume the operations of GISO and to make a study to establish whether there had been any economy in purchase of stationery after closure orders were issued in October, 1987. The study conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (Report dated 30.7.1997) revealed that there was more expenditure on stationery during closure period as compared to the period of functioning of GISO. Thus, the initial presumption on which Group of Secretaries recommended closure of GISO stood refuted.

3. The study Report of Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances recommended either restructuring of GISO into an Autonomous Body or continuation of GISO with a staff strength to be assessed by an Internal Work Study Unit (IWSU) of the Ministry of Urban Development. The IWSU took over 4 years to complete its study and present a report. The IWSU Report of September, 2001 recommended net reduction of 49 posts in GISO. Regrettably no serious efforts appeared to have been taken by the Ministry of Urban Development to implement the Reports of the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances and IWSU nor was the cause of GISO taken up forcefully with the Ministry of Finance.

4. The Committee are surprised to note that without ascertaining the findings of the study conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances and the study by the IWSU of the Ministry of Urban Development, the Expenditure Reform Commission appears to have unilaterally recommended closure of GISO in October, 2001 on the misplaced plea that order position of GISO (Rs. 10.19 crore in 2000-01) was far less than the non-plan expenditure incurred by GISO (23.6 crore). From the information furnished by the Ministry of Urban Development, the Committee observe that the premise on which ERC made its recommendation for closure of GISO does not hold good. The establishment cost of GISO in 2007-08 was far too less at Rs. 10.41 crore (Budget Estimates) as against the reported order book position of Rs. 90.00 crore. The stationery rates charged by GISO are also observed to be far less than those of the Kendriya Bhandar in respect of most of the items. Evidently, ERC's three-fourth page report on GISO did not take into consideration crucial facts such as rates and quality of stationery and related factors concerning GISO and jumped to recommend closure of the organization. It is strange that the Ministry of Finance too, without an independent examination of facts, has been relying on the unjustified report of ERC and insisting on winding up of GISO. The Committee do not expect such mishandling of an issue involving livelihood of as many as over 600 employees. The Committee, therefore, urge that in the light of the above facts, the Ministry of Finance should reconsider the matter in totality taking into account all relevant factors and implications thereof and allow GISO to function as an efficient and vibrant organization with the staff strength recommended by IWSU.

5. The Committee deplore that adequate budgetary support has not been provided to GISO as recommended by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. The budgetary provision for “Material and Supply” which ranged between Rs. 12.00 crore and Rs. 20.00 crore from 1992-93 to 2003-04 was drastically reduced to Rs. 5.00 crore in 2004-05 and further reduced to a meagre Rs. 1.00 crore in 2006-07. According to the Ministry of Finance, it is for the Ministry of Urban Development to decide the extent of budgetary support to GISO. The Committee would expect the Ministry of Urban Development to clear the air of uncertainty regarding the continuance of GISO and provide adequate funds to enable GISO to function effectively. GISO on its part should develop more professionalism in its activities and establish that it can function more effectively in the competitive environment. Incidentally, the feasibility of generating revenue by commercializing the surplus capacity, if any, available in the laboratory and quality testing facilities available with GISO be examined.

6. The Committee have been informed that the staff strength of GISO has been reduced considerably over a period of time which has crippled its performance and resulted in deterioration of quality of work in some cases. The post of “Controller of Stationery” is also stated to be lying vacant for the last 3 years. Failure of the Ministry of Urban Development in updating the Recruitment Rules for the post in time appears to have delayed the filling up the post of “Controller of Stationery” and the resultant delay has reportedly led to ‘deemed abolition’ of the post. It is distressing in this connection to note the Inter-Ministerial wrangle on the matter. Whereas the Ministry of Urban Development has claimed that the Ministry of Finance had not agreed for the

revival of the post, the latter has asserted that it is the responsibility of the former to deal with the issue. The Committee would urge both the Ministries to sort out the issue expeditiously in a spirit of accommodation. There should be no further loss of time in filling up the post of “Controller of Stationery” and ensuring adequate staff strength to GISO as recommended by the IWSU of the Ministry of Urban Development.

NEW DELHI;
3rd October, 2008
11 Asvina, 1930 (Saka)

MOHD. SALIM
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Urban Development

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT (2007-2008)

**MINUTES OF THE THIRD SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 10TH OCTOBER, 2007**

The Committee sat from 1500 hrs. to 1630 hrs. in the Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Mohd. Salim - Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi
3. Shri Sharanjit Singh Dhillon
4. Shri Surendra Prakash Goyal
5. Shri Anant Gudhe
6. Shri Pushp Jain
7. Shri Sajjan Kumar
8. Shri A.K. Moorthy
9. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
10. Shri D. Vittal Rao
11. Shri Sudhangshu Seal
12. Kunwar Sarv Raj Singh
13. Kunwar Devendra Singh Yadav
14. Shri Suresh Ganpatrao Wagmare

RAJYA SABHA

15. Shri Surendra Moti Lal Patel
16. Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari
17. Shri Penumalli Madhu
18. Shri Mukul Roy
19. Shri Varinder Singh Bajwa
20. Shri Manohar Joshi

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Shri R.K. Saxena | - | Director (S&U) |
| 2. Smt. Anita B. Panda | - | Deputy Secretary(UD) |
| 3. Shri Harchain | - | Deputy Secretary-II(UD) |

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- (i) Shri M. Ramachandran, Secretary (UD)
- (ii) Shri M. Rajamani, Joint Secretary (UD)
- (iii) Shri Savitur Prasad, Director(PSP)
- (iv) Shri G. Ganesan, Controller of Stationery

2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members and the representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development to the sitting of the Committee. The Chairman then asked the Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development to brief the Committee on the subject "Government of India Stationery office, Kolkata'. He also drew the attention of the representatives to the provision of Direction 55 (1) of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha.

3. The Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development briefly outlined the issues regarding the closure of the organisation in 1987 and the resultant human problem, revival of the organisation in 1991, further review of the organisation by Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, Expenditure Reforms Commissions and Internal Works study unit of the Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Finance's decision to freeze the expansion of this organisation, problems in redeployment of staff, and in filling up the post of Controller of Stationery by UPSC. The representative of the Ministry clarified the queries raised by the Members on the subject.

4. The Hon'ble Chairman of the Committee asked the representatives of the Ministry to furnish information, which was not available readily, in a month's time. He also desired to have a briefing from the representatives of the Ministry of Finance in future, if necessary, on the subject.

The Committee then adjourned

Annexure-II

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT (2008-2009)

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY,
12TH AUGUST, 2008**

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1250 hrs. in Room No. '63', Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Mohd. Salim - Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi
3. Shri Sharanjit Singh Dhillon
4. Shri Surendra Prakash Goyal
5. Shri Anant Gudhe
6. Shri Sajjan Kumar
7. Shri D. Vittal Rao
8. Shri Sudhangshu Seal
9. Kunwar Sarv Raj Singh
10. Kunwar Devendra Singh Yadav
11. Shri Suresh Ganpatrao Wagmare

RAJYA SABHA

12. Smt. Syeda Anwara Taimur
13. Shri B.K. Hariprasad
14. Shri Surendra Moti Lal Patel
15. Shri Krishan Lal Balmiki
16. Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari
17. Shri Penumalli Madhu
18. Shri Mukul Roy

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri A. Louis Martin - Joint Secretary
2. Shri T.K. Mukherjee - Director
3. Shri Harchain - Deputy Secretary-II

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the first sitting of the Committee and congratulated them on their re-nomination to the Committee for the year 2008-2009.

3. The Chairman briefed the members about the work done by the previous Committee during the year 2007-2008 as well as the subjects, of which the examination could not be completed by the Committee, consequent upon the expiry of its term. The Committee then considered Memorandum No. 1 regarding selection of subjects for examination by the Committee during the year 2008-2009.

4. After due deliberations, the Committee decided to take up the following subjects for examination during the year 2008-2009, including the first seven items as unfinished work of the previous Committee :

- (i) National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB)
- (ii) Urban Transport
- (iii) Solid Waste Management
- (iv) Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata
- (v) The progress of JNNURM and challenges of Urban Infrastructure
- (vi) Urban Water Supply
- (vii) Urban Housing
- (viii) CPWD – Construction of General Pool Residential Accommodation in Delhi and various cities in India.
- (ix) National Urban Information System Scheme
- (x) Performance under Revamped SJSRY

5. Thereafter, the Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of Finance in connection with examination of

the subjects, "Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata". The following were present:-

Representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development

- (1) Shri A.K. Mehta, Joint Secretary (UD).
- (2) Dr. R.K. Vats, Joint Secretary & Finance Adviser.
- (3) Ms. Madhuri Dabral, Controller of Stationery, Directorate of Printing.
- (4) Shri R.R. Sharma, Deputy Secretary (PSP).

Representatives of the Ministry of Finance

- (1) Smt. Rita Menon, Additional Secretary, Department of Expenditure.
- (2) Smt. Madhulika P. Sukul, Joint Secretary (Pers).

6. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of Finance to the sitting of the Committee and drew their attention to the provision of Direction 55(1) of the 'Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha'.

7. The representative of the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance then briefly outlined the issues regarding the subject 'Government of India Stationery office, Kolkata' (GISO), which included the under-provisioning of Budgetary Grants to GISO, the justification behind the ERC (Expenditure Reforms Commission) recommendations on GISO, the General Financial Rules, 2005 etc. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development explained their Ministry's efforts to justify the continued existence of GISO and the reasons for underutilization of Budgetary allocation to GISO. The representatives then responded to the queries raised by the Members regarding the functioning of GISO.

A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT (2008-2009)

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY,
THE 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2008**

The Committee sat from 1430 hrs. to 1500 hrs. in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Mohd. Salim - Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi
3. Shri Sharanjit Singh Dhillon
4. Shri Anant Gudhe
5. Shri Pushp Jain
6. Shri Kailash Joshi
7. Shri Sajjan Kumar
8. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
9. Shri Sudhangshu Seal
10. Shri Jagdish Tytler
11. Kunwar Devendra Singh Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

12. Dr. Prabha Thakur
13. Shri B.K. Hariprasad
14. Shri Surendra Moti Lal Patel
15. Shri Krishan Lal Balmiki
16. Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari
17. Shri Penumalli Madhu
18. Shri Mukul Roy
19. Shri Varinder Singh Bajwa

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri A. Louis Martin - Joint Secretary
2. Shri T.K. Mukherjee - Director

3. Smt. Anita B. Panda - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. The Committee then took up for consideration the draft report on the subject 'Government of India Stationery Office, Kolkata' (GISO) of the Ministry of Urban Development and adopted the same with an addition in recommendation portion about infusion of professionalism by GISO to survive and compete in the market.

3. The Committee then authorized the Chairman to finalize the report on the basis of factual verification of the report and present the same to the Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

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The Souvenir items with logo of Parliament are also available at Sales Counter, Reception, Parliament House, New Delhi. The Souvenir items with Parliament Museum logo are available for sale at Souvenir Shop (Tel. No. 23035323), Parliament Museum, Parliament Library Building, New Delhi. List of these items are available on the website mentioned above".