#### **PART IV**

## REGULATION OF INSOLVENCY PROFESSIONALS, AGENCIES AND INFORMATION UTILITIES

#### CHAPTER I

## THE INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY BOARD OF INDIA

## 188. Establishment and incorporation of Board. -

- (1)With effect from such date as the Central Government may, by notification, appoint, there shall be established, for the purposes of this Code, a Board by the name of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India.
- (2) The Board shall be a body corporate by the name aforesaid, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power, subject to the provisions of this Code, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued.
- (3) The head office of the Board shall be at such place in the National Capital Region, as the Central Government may, by notification, specify.
- *Explanation.* For the purposes of this section, the expression "National Capital Region" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in clause (f) of section 2 of the National Capital Region Planning Board Act, 1985 (2 of 1985).
  - (4) The Board may establish offices at other places in India.

## 189. Constitution of Board. -

- (1) The Board shall consist of the following members who shall be appointed by the Central Government, namely: -
  - (a) a Chairperson;
  - (b) three members from amongst the officers of the Central Government not below the rank of Joint Secretary or equivalent, one each to represent the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Ministry of Law, *ex-officio*;
    - (c) one member to be nominated by the Reserve Bank of India, ex-officio;
  - (d) five other members to be nominated by the Central Government, of whom at least three shall be the whole-time members.
- (2) The Chairperson and the other members shall be persons of ability, integrity and standing, who have shown capacity in dealing with problems relating to insolvency or bankruptcy and have special knowledge and experience in the field of law, finance, economics, accountancy or administration.
- (3) The appointment of the Chairperson and the members of the Board other than the appointment of an *ex-officio* member under this section shall be made after obtaining the

recommendation of a selection committee consisting of -

- (a) Cabinet Secretary- Chairperson;
- (b) Secretary to the Government of India to be nominated by the Central Government-Member:
- (c) Chairperson of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (in case of selection of members of the Board)- Member;
- (d) three experts of repute from the field of finance, law, management, insolvency and related subject, to be nominated by the Central Government- Members.
- (4) The term of office of the Chairperson and members (other than *ex-officio* members) shall be five years or till they attain the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier, and they shall be eligible for re-appointment.
- (5) The salaries and allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of, the Chairperson and members (other than the *ex-officio* members) shall be such as may be prescribed.

#### 190. Removal of member from office. -

The Central Government may remove a member from office if he-

- (a) is an undischarged bankrupt as defined under Part III;
- (b) has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a member;
- (c) has been convicted of an offence, which in the opinion of Central Government involves moral turpitude;
- (d) has, so abused his position as to render his continuation in office detrimental to the public interest:

Provided that no member shall be removed under clause (d) unless he has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in the matter.

## 191. Powers of Chairperson. -

Save as otherwise determined by regulations, the Chairperson shall have powers of general superintendence and direction of the affairs of the Board and may also exercise such other powers as may be delegated to him by the Board.

## 192. Meetings of Board. -

- (1) The Board shall meet at such times and places, and observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings (including quorum at such meetings) as may be determined by regulations.
- (2) The Chairperson, or if, for any reason, the Chairperson is unable to attend any meeting of the Board, any other member chosen by the members present at the meeting shall preside at the meeting.

(3) All questions which come up before any meeting of the Board shall be decided by a majority votes of the members present and voting, and, in the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson, or in his absence, the person presiding, shall have a second or casting vote.

## 193. Member not to participate in meetings in certain cases. -

Any member, who is a director of a company and who as such director has any direct or indirect pecuniary interest in any matter coming up for consideration at a meeting of the Board, shall, as soon as possible after relevant circumstances have come to his knowledge, disclose the nature of his interest at such meeting and such disclosure shall be recorded in the proceedings of the Board, and the member shall not take any part in any deliberation or decision of the Board with respect to that matter.

## 194. Vacancies etc., not to invalidate proceedings of Board, and Officers and employees of Board. -

- (1) No act or proceeding of the Board shall be invalid merely by reason of
  - (a) any vacancy in, or any defect in the constitution of, the Board; or
  - (b) any defect in the appointment of a person acting as a member of the Board; or
- (c) any irregularity in the procedure of the Board not affecting the merits of the case.
- (2) The Board may appoint such other officers and employees as it considers necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions in such manner as may be specified.
- (3) The salaries and allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of, officers and employees of the Board appointed under sub-section (2) shall be such as may be specified by regulations.

## 195. Power to designate financial sector regulator. –

Until the Board is established, the Central Government may by notification, designate any financial sector regulator to exercise the powers and functions of the Board under this Code.

#### **CHAPTER II**

## POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

#### 196. Powers and functions of Board. -

(1) The Board shall, subject to the general direction of the Central Government, perform all or any of the following functions namely: -

- (a) register insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities and renew, withdraw, suspend or cancel such registrations;
- <sup>1</sup>[(aa) promote the development of, and regulate, the working and practices of, insolvency professionals, insolvency professional agencies and information utilities and other institutions, in furtherance of the purposes of this Code;]
- (b) specify the minimum eligibility requirements for registration of insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities;
- (c) levy fee or other charges <sup>2</sup>[for carrying out the purposes of this Code, including fee for registration and renewal] of insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities;
- (d) specify by regulations standards for the functioning of insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities;
- (e) lay down by regulations the minimum curriculum for the examination of the insolvency professionals for their enrolment as members of the insolvency professional agencies;
- (f) carry out inspections and investigations on insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities and pass such orders as may be required for compliance of the provisions of this Code and the regulations issued hereunder:
- (g) monitor the performance of insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities and pass any directions as may be required for compliance of the provisions of this Code and the regulations issued hereunder;
- (h) call for any information and records from the insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities;
- (i) publish such information, data, research studies and other information as may be specified by regulations;
- (j) specify by regulations the manner of collecting and storing data by the information utilities and for providing access to such data;
- (k) collect and maintain records relating to insolvency and bankruptcy cases and disseminate information relating to such cases;
- (l) constitute such committees as may be required including in particular the committees laid down in section 197;
  - (m) promote transparency and best practices in its governance;
  - (n) maintain websites and such other universally accessible repositories of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ins. by Act No. 26 of 2018, sec. 32 (i) (w.e.f. 6-6-2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Subs. by Act No. 26 of 2018, sec. 32 (ii), for the words "for the registration" (w.e.f. 6-6-2018).

electronic information as may be necessary;

- (o) enter into memorandum of understanding with any other statutory authorities;
- (p) issue necessary guidelines to the insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities;
- (q) specify mechanism for redressal of grievances against insolvency professionals, insolvency professional agencies and information utilities and pass orders relating to complaints filed against the aforesaid for compliance of the provisions of this Code and the regulations issued hereunder;
- (r) conduct periodic study, research and audit the functioning and performance of to the insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities at such intervals as may be specified by the Board;
- (s)specify mechanisms for issuing regulations, including the conduct of public consultation processes before notification of any regulations;
- (t) make regulations and guidelines on matters relating to insolvency and bankruptcy as may be required under this Code, including mechanism for time bound disposal of the assets of the corporate debtor or debtor; and
  - (u) perform such other functions as may be prescribed.
- (2) The Board may make a model by e-laws to be adopted by the insolvency professional agency which may provide for  $-\,$ 
  - (a) the minimum standards of professional competence of the members of insolvency professional agencies;
  - (b) the standard for professional and ethical conduct of the members of insolvency professional agencies;
  - (c) requirements for enrolment of person as members of insolvency professional agency which shall be non-discriminatory;

*Explanation.* - For the purposes of this clause, the term "non-discriminatory" means lack of discrimination on the ground of religion, caste, gender or place of birth and such other grounds as may be specified;

- (d) the manner of granting membership;
- (e) setting up of a governing board for the internal governance and management of insolvency professional agency in accordance with the regulations specified by the Board;
- (f) the information required to be submitted by members including the form and the time for submitting such information;
- (g) the specific classes of persons to whom services shall be provided at concessional rates or for no remuneration by members;

- (h) the grounds on which penalties may be levied upon the members of insolvency professional agencies and the manner thereof;
- (i) a fair and transparent mechanism for redressal of grievances against the members of insolvency professional agencies;
- (j) the grounds under which the insolvency professionals may be expelled from the membership of insolvency professional agencies;
- (k) the quantum of fee and the manner of collecting fee for inducting persons as its members;
- (l) the procedure for enrolment of persons as members of insolvency professional agency;
- (m) the manner of conducting examination for enrolment of insolvency professionals;
- (n) the manner of monitoring and reviewing the working of insolvency professional who are members:
  - (o) the duties and other activities to be performed by members;
- (p) the manner of conducting disciplinary proceedings against its members and imposing penalties;
- (q) the manner of utilising the amount received as penalty imposed against any insolvency professional.
- (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, while exercising the powers under this Code, the Board shall have the same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908), while trying a suit, in respect of the following matters, namely:
  - (i) the discovery and production of books of account and other documents, at such place and such time as may be specified by the Board;
  - (ii) summoning and enforcing the attendance of persons and examining them on oath;
  - (iii) inspection of any books, registers and other documents of any person at any place;
  - (iv) issuing of commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents.

## 197. Constitution of advisory committee, executive committee or other committee. -

The Board may, for the efficient discharge of its functions, may constitute advisory and executive committees or such other committees, as it may deem fit, consisting of a Chairperson and such other members as may be specified by regulations.

## 198. Condonation of delay. -

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Code, where the Board does not perform any act within the period specified under this Code, the relevant Adjudicating Authority may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, condone the delay.

#### **CHAPTER III**

## INSOLVENCY PROFESSIONAL AGENCIES

## 199. No person to function as insolvency professional agency without valid certificate of registration. –

Save as otherwise provided in this Code, no person shall carry on its business as insolvency professional agencies under this Code and enrol insolvency professionals as its members except under and in accordance with a certificate of registration issued in this behalf by the Board.

## 200. Principles governing registration of insolvency professional agency. -

The Board shall have regard to the following principles while registering the insolvency professional agencies under this Code, namely: –

- (a) to promote the professional development of and regulation of insolvency professionals;
- (b) to promote the services of competent insolvency professionals to cater to the needs of debtors, creditors and such other persons as may be specified;
- (c) to promote good professional and ethical conduct amongst insolvency professionals;
- (d) to protect the interests of debtors, creditors and such other persons as may be specified;
- (e) to promote the growth of insolvency professional agencies for the effective resolution of insolvency and bankruptcy processes under this Code.

## 201. Registration of insolvency professional agency. -

(1) Every application for registration shall be made to the Board in such form and manner, containing such particulars, and accompanied by such fee, as may be specified by regulations:

Provided that every application received by the Board shall be acknowledged within seven days of its receipt.

(2) On receipt of the application under sub-section (1), the Board may, on being satisfied that the application conforms with all requirements specified under sub-section (1),

grant a certificate of registration to the applicant or else, reject, by order, such application:

Provided that no order rejecting the application shall be made without giving an opportunity of being heard to the applicant:

Provided further that every order so made shall be communicated to the applicant within a period of fifteen days.

- (3) The Board may issue a certificate of registration to the applicant in such form and manner and subject to such terms and conditions as may be specified.
- (4) The Board may renew the certificate of registration from time to time in such manner and on payment of such fee as may be specified.
- (5) The Board may, by order, suspend or cancel the certificate of registration granted to an insolvency professional agency on any of the following grounds, namely:
  - (a) that it has obtained registration by making a false statement or misrepresentation or by any other unlawful means;
  - (b) that it has failed to comply with the requirements of the regulations made by the Board or bye-laws made by the insolvency professional agency;
  - (c) that it has contravened any of the provisions of the Act or the rules or the regulations made thereunder;
    - (d) on any other ground as may be specified by regulations:

Provided that no order shall be made under this sub-section unless the insolvency professional agency concerned has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard:

Provided further that no such order shall be passed by any member except whole-time members of the Board.

## 202. Appeal to National Company Law Appellate Tribunal. -

Any insolvency professional agency which is aggrieved by the order of the Board made under section 201 may prefer an appeal to the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal in such form, within such period, and in such manner, as may be specified by regulations.

## 203. Governing Board of insolvency professional agency. –

The Board may, for the purposes of ensuring that every insolvency professional agency takes into account the objectives sought to be achieved under this Code, make regulations to specify—

- (a) the setting up of a governing board of an insolvency professional agency;
- (b) the minimum number of independent members to be on the governing board of the insolvency professional agency; and
- (c) the number of the insolvency professionals being its members who shall be on the governing board of the insolvency professional agency.

## 204. Functions of insolvency professional agencies. -

An insolvency professional agency shall perform the following functions, namely: –

- (a) grant membership to persons who fulfil all requirements set out in its bye-laws on payment of membership fee;
  - (b) lay down standards of professional conduct for its members;
  - (c) monitor the performance of its members;
- (d) safeguard the rights, privileges and interests of insolvency professionals who are its members;
- (e) suspend or cancel the membership of insolvency professionals who are its members on the grounds set out in its bye-laws;
- (f) redress the grievances of consumers against insolvency professionals who are its members; and
- (g) publish information about its functions, list of its members, performance of its members and such other information as may be specified by regulations.

## 205. Insolvency professional agencies to make bye-laws. -

Subject to the provisions of this Code and any rules or regulations made thereunder and after obtaining the approval of the Board, every insolvency professional agency shall make bye-laws consistent with the model bye-laws specified by the Board under sub-section (2) of section 196.

#### **CHAPTER IV**

#### INSOLVENCY PROFESSIONALS

## 206. Enrolled and registered persons to act as insolvency professionals. -

No person shall render his services as insolvency professional under this Code without being enrolled as a member of an insolvency professional agency and registered with the Board.

#### 207. Registration of insolvency professionals. -

- (1) Every insolvency professional shall, after obtaining the membership of any insolvency professional agency, register themselves with the Board within such time, in such manner and on payment of such fee, as may be specified by regulations.
- (2) The Board may specify the categories of professionals or persons possessing such qualifications and experience in the field of finance, law, management, insolvency or such other field, as it deems fit.

## 208. Functions and obligations of insolvency professionals. –

(1) Where any insolvency resolution, fresh start, liquidation or bankruptcy process has been initiated, it shall be the function of an insolvency professional to take such actions as may be necessary, in the following matters, namely: –

- (a) a fresh start order process under Chapter II of Part III;
- (b) individual insolvency resolution process under Chapter III of Part III
- (c) corporate insolvency resolution process under Chapter II of Part II.
- (d) individual bankruptcy process under Chapter IV of Part III; and
- (e) liquidation of a corporate debtor firm under Chapter III of Part II.
- (2) Every insolvency professional shall abide by the following code of conduct:
  - (a) to take reasonable care and diligence while performing his duties;
- (b) to comply with all requirements and terms and conditions specified in the byelaws of the insolvency professional agency of which he is a member;
  - (c) to allow the insolvency professional agency to inspect his records;
- (d)to submit a copy of the records of every proceeding before the Adjudicating Authority to the Board as well as to the insolvency professional agency of which he is a member; and
- (e) to perform his functions in such manner and subject to such conditions as may be specified.

#### **CHAPTER V**

#### **INFORMATION UTILITIES**

## 209. No person to function as information utility without certificate of registration. –

Save as otherwise provided in this Code, no information utility shall carry on its business under this Code except under and in accordance with a certificate of registration issued in that behalf by the Board.

## 210. Registration of information utility. –

(1) Every application for registration shall be made to the Board in such form and manner, containing such particulars, and accompanied by such fee, as may be specified by regulations:

Provided that every application received by the Board shall be acknowledged within seven days of its receipt.

- (2) On receipt of the application under sub-section (1), the Board may, on being satisfied that the application conforms with all requirements specified under sub-section (1), grant a certificate of registration to the applicant or else, reject, by order, such application.
- (3) The Board may issue a certificate of registration to the applicant in such form and manner and subject to such terms and conditions as may be specified.
  - (4) The Board may renew the certificate of registration from time to time in such

manner and on payment of such fee as may be specified by regulations.

- (5) The Board may, by order, suspend or cancel the certificate of registration granted to an information utility on any of the following grounds, namely:
  - (a) that it has obtained registration by making a false statement or misrepresentation or any other unlawful means;
  - (b) that it has failed to comply with the requirements of the regulations made by the Board;
  - (c) that it has contravened any of the provisions of the Act or the rules or the regulations made thereunder;
    - (d) on any other ground as may be specified by regulations:

Provided that no order shall be made under this sub-section unless the information utility concerned has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard:

Provided further that no such order shall be passed by any member except whole-time members of the Board.

## 211. Appeal to National Company Law Appellate Tribunal. –

Any information utility which is aggrieved by the order of the Board made under section 210 may prefer an appeal to the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal in such form, within such period, and in such manner, as may be specified by regulations.

#### 212. Governing Board of information utility. –

The Board may, for ensuring that an information utility takes into account the objectives sought to be achieved under this Code, require every information utility to set up a governing board, with such number of independent members, as may be specified by regulations.

## 213. Core services, etc. of information utilities. –

An information utility shall provide such services as may be specified including core services to any person if such person complies with the terms and conditions as may be specified by regulations.

## 214. Obligations of information utility. –

For the purposes of providing core services to any person, every information utility shall-

- (a) create and store financial information in a universally accessible format;
- (b) accept electronic submissions of financial information from persons who are under obligations to submit financial information under sub-section (1) of section 215, in such form and manner as may be specified by regulations;
  - (c) accept, in specified form and manner, electronic submissions of financial

information from persons who intend to submit such information;

- (d) meet such minimum service quality standards as may be specified by regulations;
- (e)get the information received from various persons authenticated by all concerned parties before storing such information;
- (f) provide access to the financial information stored by it to any person who intends to access such information in such manner as may be specified by regulations;
  - (g) publish such statistical information as may be specified by regulations.
  - (h) have inter-operatability with other information utilities.

## 215. Procedure for submission, etc. of financial information. –

- (1) Any person who intends to submit financial information to the information utility or access the information from the information utility shall pay such fee and submit information in such form and manner as may be specified by regulations.
- (2) A financial creditor shall submit financial information and information relating to assets in relation to which any security interest has been created, in such form and manner as may be specified by regulations.
- (3) An operational creditor may submit financial information to the information utility in such form and manner as may be specified.

## 216. Rights and obligations of persons submitting financial information. -

- (1) A person who intends to update or modify or rectify errors in the financial information submitted under section 215, he may make an application to the information utility for such purpose stating reasons therefor, in such manner and within such time, as may be specified
- (2) A person who submits financial information to an information utility shall not provide such information to any other person, except to such extent, under such circumstances, and in such manner, as may be specified.

## **CHAPTER VI**

## INSPECTION AND INVESTIGATION

## 217. Complaints against insolvency professional agency or its member or information utility. -

Any person aggrieved by the functioning of an insolvency professional agency or insolvency professional or an information utility may file a complaint to the Board in such form, within such time and in such manner as may be specified.

218. Investigation of insolvency professional agency or its member or information utility.

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- (1) Where the Board, on receipt of a complaint under section 217 or has reasonable grounds to believe that any insolvency professional agency or insolvency professional or an information utility has contravened any of the provisions of the Code or the rules or regulations made or directions issued by the Board thereunder, it may, at any time by an order in writing, direct any person or persons to act as an investigating authority to conduct an inspection or investigation of the insolvency professional agency or insolvency professional or an information utility.
- (2) The inspection or investigation carried out under sub-section (1) of this section shall be conducted within such time and in such manner as may be specified by regulations.
- (3) The Investigating Authority may, in the course of such inspection or investigation, require any other person who is likely to have any relevant document, record or information to furnish the same, and such person shall be bound to furnish such document, record or information:

Provided that the Investigating Authority shall provide detailed reasons to such person before requiring him to furnish such document, record or information.

- (4) The Investigating Authority may, in the course of its inspection or investigation, enter any building or place where they may have reasons to believe that any such document, record or information relating to the subject-matter of the inquiry may be found and may seize any such document, record or information or take extracts or copies therefrom, subject to the provisions of section 100 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, insofar as they may be applicable.
- (5)The Investigating Authority shall keep in its custody the books, registers, other documents and records seized under this section for such period not later than the conclusion of the investigation as it considers necessary and thereafter shall return the same to the concerned person from whose custody or power they were seized:

Provided that the Investigating Authority may, before returning such books, registers, other documents and record as aforesaid, place identification marks on them or any part thereof.

(6) A detailed report of inspection or investigation shall be submitted to the Board by the Investigating Authority.

# 219. Show cause notice to insolvency professional agency or its member or information utility. -

The Board may, upon completion of an inspection or investigation under section 218, issue a show cause notice to such insolvency professional agency or insolvency professional or information utility, and carry out inspection of such insolvency professional agency or insolvency professional or information utility in such manner, giving such time for giving reply, as may be specified by regulations.

## 220. Appointment of disciplinary committee. –

(1) The Board shall constitute a disciplinary committee to consider the reports of the

investigating Authority submitted under sub-section (6) of section 218:

Provided that the members of the disciplinary committee shall consist of whole-time members of the Board only.

- (2) On the examination of the report of the Investigating Authority, if the disciplinary committee is satisfied that sufficient cause exists, it may impose penalty as specified in subsection (3) or suspend or cancel the registration of the insolvency professional or, suspend or cancel the registration of insolvency professional agency or information utility as the case may be.
- (3) Where any insolvency professional agency or insolvency professional or an information utility has contravened any provision of this Code or rules or regulations made thereunder, the disciplinary committee may impose penalty which shall be
  - (i) three times the amount of the loss caused, or likely to have been caused, to persons concerned on account of such contravention; or
  - (ii)three times the amount of the unlawful gain made on account of such contravention,

whichever is higher:

Provided that where such loss or unlawful gain is not quantifiable, the total amount of the penalty imposed shall not exceed more than one crore rupees.

- (4) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3), the Board may direct any person who has made unlawful gain or averted loss by indulging in any activity in contravention of this Code, or the rules or regulations made thereunder, to disgorge an amount equivalent to such unlawful gain or aversion of loss.
- (5)The Board may take such action as may be required to provide restitution to the person who suffered loss on account of any contravention from the amount so disgorged, if the person who suffered such loss is identifiable and the loss so suffered is directly attributable to such person.
  - (6) The Board may make regulations to specify-
    - (a) the procedure for claiming restitution under sub- section (5)
    - (b) the period within which such restitution may be claimed; and
    - (c) the manner in which restitution of amount may be made.

### **CHAPTER VII**

## FINANCE, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

## 221. Grants by Central Government. -

The Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, make to the Board grants of such sums of money as that Government may think fit for being utilised for the purposes of this Code.

#### 222. Board's Fund. -

- (1) There shall be constituted a Fund to be called the Fund of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board and there shall be credited thereto –
- (a) all grants, fees and charges received by the Board under this Code;
- (b) all sums received by the Board from such other sources as may be decided upon by the Central Government;
- (c) such other funds as may be specified by the Board or prescribed by the Central Government.
  - (2) The Fund shall be applied for meeting –
  - (a) the salaries, allowances and other remuneration of the members, officers and other employees of the Board;
    - (b) the expenses of the Board in the discharge of its functions under section 196;
    - (c) the expenses on objects and for purposes authorised by this Code.
    - (d) such other purposes as may be prescribed.

#### 223. Accounts and audit. –

- (1) The Board shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare an annual statement of accounts in such form as may be prescribed by the Central Government in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.
- (2) The accounts of the Board shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India at such intervals as may be specified by him and any expenditure incurred in connection with such audit shall be payable by the Board to the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.
- (3) The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India and any other person appointed by him in connection with the audit of the accounts of the Board shall have the same rights and privileges and authority in connection with such audit as the Comptroller and Auditor-General generally has in connection with the audit of the Government accounts and, in particular, shall have the right to demand the production of books, accounts, connected vouchers and other documents and papers and to inspect any of the offices of the Board.
- (4) The accounts of the Board as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India or any other person appointed by him in this behalf together with the audit report thereon shall be forwarded annually to the Central Government and that Government shall cause the same to be laid before each House of Parliament.