

Q.7 'The CAG has a very vital role to play'. Explain how this is reflected in the method & terms of his appointment as well as the range of powers he can exercise. (250 words).

Ans.7 The CAG (Comptroller & Auditor General) of India is a constitutional post under Art. 148 which reflects his appointment, tenure, powers & salary.

**Appointment** - Unlike other officers which are appointed by President, CAG is appointed by President by a warrant under his hand & seal following the recommendation of Prime Minister.

As it is evident that such a high post in India is not appointed by the recommendations of Select Committee which is entrusted to suggest important decisions.

**Tenure** - CAG is appointed <sup>for</sup> a tenure of 6 years. This is a

crucial fact as it is to keep a check on govt. during & after its tenure as every govt.'s tenure is 5 years.

Further, removal of CAG from his post requires special majority in both the Houses & only on 2 conditions i.e. proved misbehaviour & incapacity.

### Vital Roles of CAG :-

- ① Carries out regulatory, proprietary & efficiency audit of funds of Centre & states as well as public undertakings. This ensures cooperative & competitive federalism in the nation.
- ② Acts as guide, friend & philosopher of Public Accounts Committee to assist them so as to make efficient working of Parliament.
- ③ Submits <sup>audit</sup> report to President on 3 matters :-
  - Appropriate matters.
  - finance accounts.
  - public undertakings.

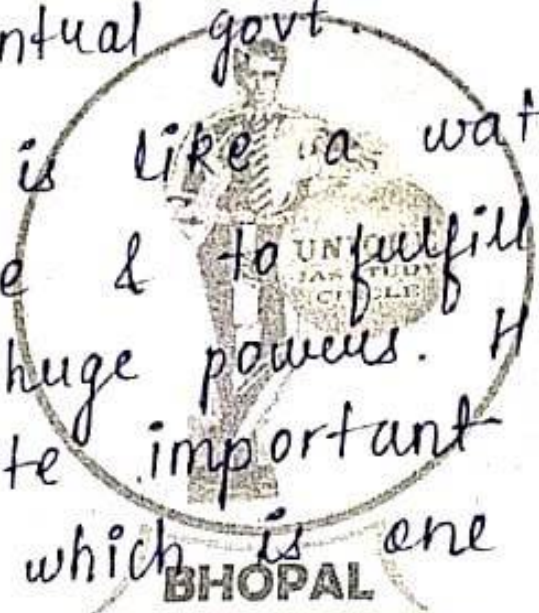
No doubt he has a vital role to play in the realm of financial



administration but there are 2 points which should be noted :-

- In India, CAG doesn't have any powers of comptrolling i.e. control on expenditure.
- In relation to expenditure, he frames his own audit codes & manuals but has to get approval from central govt.

Thus, CAG is like a watchdog of public purse & to fulfill his duties, he has ~~to~~ huge powers. His role becomes quite important in a nation like India which is one of the fastest growing economy.



BHOPAL

Established in 1996