

Uttarakhand Public Financial Management Strengthening Project
Centre for Training and Research in Financial Administration, (CTRFA)
UTTARAKHAND, INDIA
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES –SELECTION OF FIRMS)

India

Uttarakhand Public Financial Management Strengthening Project

Loan No.: IBRD 8928

Assignment Title: Selection of Chartered Accountants Firms for Financial Attest Audit of Urban Local Bodies in Government of Uttarakhand

Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): _ IN-CTRFA-284006-CS-FBS

Request for Expression of Interest for Selection of Firms of Chartered Accountant Firms for Financial Attest Audit of Urban Local Bodies in Government of Uttarakhand –Package No 7 (Udham Singh Nagar)

(CONSULTING SERVICES –SELECTION OF FIRMS)

Application Deadline:	12 th April 2022
Type of Contract:	Consulting Service- Selection of Firm
Method of Procurement:	Fixed-budget Based Selection (FBS)
Expected Duration of Assignment:	Six Months (expected from month of May 2022 to November , 2022)
Packages	<u>Selection of Chartered Accountant Firms for Financial Attest Audit of ULBs in Government of Uttarakhand – Package 7 – ULBs of Udham Singh Nagar</u> n Annexure - A of Draft TOR

Reference No.: IN-CTRFA-284006-CS-FBS

Date: 26th March 2022

1. The GoUk has received a loan from The World Bank (IBRD) for the Uttarakhand Public Financial Management Strengthening Project (UkPFMS) and intends to apply a part of the loan proceeds for this assignment which is towards Selection of Chartered Accountant firms for conducting Financial Attest Audit of Urban Local Bodies in the State of Uttarakhand in accordance with the Uttarakhand Financial Attest Audit Manual adopted by the Government of Uttarakhand.

2. The Directorate of Audit is constituted under section 3 of the Uttarakhand Audit Act, 2012 to perform audit functions in the State of Uttarakhand. The Directorate of Audit is the primary statutory auditor and is responsible for carrying out Financial Attest Audit of Urban Local Bodies (ULB) and Rural Local Bodies (RLB). GoUk has presently adopted a Co-sourced model of audit. The financial attest audit services are provided by a combination of in-house audit teams and a panel of external Chartered Accountants (CA) firms.
3. The UkPFMS invite applications from Chartered Accountant Firms who are interested to conduct the Financial Attest Audit of Urban Local Bodies in Uttarakhand. The objective of this audit assignment is to carry out a financial attest audit of the selected Urban local bodies (ULBs) and to provide an 'expression of opinion' on the "true and fair view" of the Financial Statements prepared by the ULBs.
4. The assignment will cover the financial attest audit of ULBs for last three financial years i.e., FY 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 as per the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) provided in **Annexure-I. The Terms of Reference has** 07 Packages and a CA Firm can apply for only three packages at REOI stage . Each package has to be separately applied GoUk will limit the number of packages in RFP and Award of the final contract.
5. The Interested CA firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform these services.

The REOI shortlisting criteria is given below. The applicants who fail to meet these criteria or those who have not provided required supporting documents will not be considered further in the evaluation process.

Shortlist Criteria:

S No	Shortlisting Criteria	Supporting Documents
1	The applicant should be registered with ICAI. The applicant having its Head Office or Branch Office in Uttarakhand will be an advantage keeping in mind the COVID situation.	Self-certified copy of Constitution certificate issued by ICAI as on 1 st January 2022
2	The firm should have at least five years overall experience.	Self-certified copy of Constitution certificate issued by ICAI as on 1 st January 2022
3	The applicant should have a minimum annual average turnover of at least Rs.50.00 Lakhs (Rs Fifty Lakhs Net of GST) in the last three years (FY 2020-21 , 2019- 20 , 2018-19) from audit fees only	Audited Financial Statements for FY2020-21, FY 2019-20, and FY 2018-19
4	The firm should have at least three full-time partners associated with the firm for the last one year	Self-certified copy of Constitution certificate issued by ICAI as on 1 st January 2022

5	The firm should have completed at least three Financial Attest audit assignments of Urban local bodies in the last ten years.	Self-certified list. Please note that audit of the same entity for more than one financial year will be counted as single assignment.
6	The applicant is not debarred by any State Government, Central Government or any other Public Sector undertaking or a Corporation or any other Autonomous Organization of Central or State Government or the World Bank The applicant (firm or its members) is not debarred by ICAI for any professional misconduct The applicant is not engaged with GoUK for any accounting, audit, and PFM related assignment of ULBs which conflicts with this assignment.	- Declaration format given in the EOI on Rs. 100 Non Judicial Stamp Paper duly notarized (please provide strictly as per format given below) . In case the firms doesn't provide the format as given below or on a notarized Rs 100 Stamp Paper the proposal shall be duly rejected

6. The Finance Department, through the Center for Training and Research in Financial Administration (CTRFA) now invites eligible CA Firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. Terms of reference of the assignment can be accessed on the website <http://www.uttarakhandaudit.uk.gov.in> or from PMU, UkPFMS.
7. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraphs 3.14 and 3.17 of the World Bank Procurement Regulations, July 2016 revised in November 2017 and August 2018 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict interest.
8. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Fixed Budget Selection (**FBS**) set out in the Procurement Regulations.
9. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 1000 to 1700 hours IST.
10. Expression of Interest in the prescribed format along with relevant annexures must be delivered in a document form (hard copy or electronic pdf) at the address or mail id given below (in person, by post or by e-mail) latest by 12th April 2022.

Project Director

Uttarakhand Public Financial Management Strengthening Project

91, Racecourse, Near Police Line

Dehradun Pin 248007, Uttarakhand

Tel: +91-135-2226790(O), 2226791(O), **Mob: +91-9358119541**

E-mail- ukpfmswb@gmail.com

EOI FORMAT

Instructions

1. Please provide the details as required in the format. Non-completion of the format may lead to rejection during evaluation.
2. The consultant can add other materials about the Organization and other relevant details as annexure.
3. Please provide all documents requested as annexure.

Name of the firm	
Registered Address	
Phone No:	
Email id:	
Name of the Contact Person for this EoI	
Phone no. of the Contact Person for this EoI	
E-mail id of the Contact person for this EoI	
Do you have a HO in the State	Yes/No. If yes, please provide the address
Do you have a branch office in the State	Yes/No. If yes, please provide the address
Date of firm's establishment	
Registration No. with ICAI	
Registration No. with CAG	
Is the firm empanelled on the CAG major list of auditors	Yes/No
Registration No. with RBI (if any)	
Number of full-time partners Fellow Associate	
Number of full-time qualified audit staff	
Number of other audit staff who are semi-qualified/unqualified	
PAN	
GST	

Please indicate the packages to you want to apply in this EOI

S. No.	Package	Package Name
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Financial Particulars of the CA Firms

Financial Year	Turnover	Net worth
2020-2021 (audited)		
2019-20(audited)		
2018-2019(audited)		

Partners Brief Profile

Name of Partner	Age	Years of experience	Qualification	Number of years associated with the firm	Name of ULB's audited if any

Full-Time CA and Staff Brief Profile

Name of Staff	Age	Years of experience	Qualification	Number of years associated with the firm	Name of ULB's audited if any

Relevant assignments – Last five years

Project Name	ULB Name	Nature and scope of audit explained in detail	Year of Audit	Location	Status (Completed/Ongoing)

To
Project Director,
UkPFMS
Dehradun.

Declaration

We hereby confirm that:

- (a) The applicant is not engaged with GoUK for any accounting, audit and PFM related assignment which conflicts with this assignment.
- (b) The Firm and its partner , Paid Assistant shall have not been Conducted Statutory audit or prepared books of accounts and Financial Statement in last four Years in any of the ULBs specified in the packages applied
- (c) The applicant is not debarred by the World Bank.
- (d) No partner of the audit firm or any qualified employee of the firm is related to any member of the Project/Directorate of Audit. Relative would mean husband, wife, brother, or sister or any lineal ascendant or descendant.
- (e) The partners/qualified staff neither face any pending disciplinary action nor is found guilty of professional/other misconduct by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India under the First or Second Schedule of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949

In case of any further changes which affect this declaration at a later date, we would inform the project appropriately. If any of the above are found to be false, we understand that the project can report this to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and/or the Firm will not be eligible to bid for any audit contracts of projects financed by the World Bank.

(To be signed by an authorized partner of the firm, on behalf of the firm)

**Indicative Terms of Reference for Selection of Chartered Accountant Firms for
Financial Attest Audit of ULBs in Government of Uttarakhand**

Background:

1. The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments (1992) gave Constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and empowered them to function as local self-governments to provide good governance. One of the many facets of improved good governance is maintaining of the complete set of accounting records to ensure accountability and transparency in all government functions. This necessitates all ULB/RLBs to convert their existing accounting and financial management system to such methods which have wide acceptance. The Central and State Governments and other agencies have been providing large amounts of fund to ULBs to enable them to discharge their duties and functions effectively. The national reforms agenda for RLBs includes reform in their accounting practices and strengthening of financial discipline. As a part of the overall reform's completion of the audit for every financial year is treated as a good indicator of transparency and accountability at these third-tier governance institutions.
2. The Uttarakhand (UP) Municipalities Act 1916 and Uttarakhand (UP) Municipal Corporation Act 1959 is the Act governing the Municipal Corporations – Nagar Nigam (MC), Nagar Palika and Nagar Panchayats in the State. As per the Act the accounts must be prepared by the ULBs and needs to be audited every year by the auditors.
3. The Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV-FC) in its recommendation has made it mandatory for all local governments, both urban and rural, web-based availability of annual accounts for the previous year and audited accounts for the year before last is an entry-level qualification for grants.
4. The Directorate of Audit is constituted under section 3 of the Uttarakhand Audit Act, 2012 to perform audit functions in the State of Uttarakhand. The Directorate of Audit is the primary statutory auditor and is responsible for carrying out Financial Attest Audit of Urban Local Bodies (ULB) and Rural Local Bodies (RLB). GoUk has presently adopted a Co-sourced model of audit. The financial attest audit services are provided by a combination of in-house audit teams and a panel of external Chartered Accountants (CA) firms.
5. Recently the Government has updated its Uttarakhand Municipal Accounting Manual (UMAM) 2011 to make the manual comestible with current accounting practice, contemporary financial transactions, good practice and change in law.

6. To address the above statutory requirements the Directorate of Audit and the Government of Uttarakhand intends to complete the audit of ULBs on a project mode and ensure there is no backlog of audits for these entities. Directorate of Audit wishes to appoint CA firms who will conduct this audit on their behalf and issue the audit report under their direction and supervision. Now the Government of Uttarakhand (GoUk) intends to appoint Chartered Accountant firms to conduct Financial Attest Audit of specified ULBs for financial year indicated .

Objective of the Financial Attest Audit assignment

7. The objective of this audit assignment is to carry out a financial attest audit of the selected local bodies and to express an independent opinion on the true and fair view of the Financial Statements¹ prepared by the ULBs. The purpose of Financial Attest Audit is to ascertain whether financial statements prepared by the ULBs are free from material misstatements and depicts a true and fair view of the State of the affairs and their financial position and therefore, assure the credibility to such financial statements.

8. The auditor is expected to issue a financial attest audit report for each ULB, and a Management Letter where the auditor deems it necessary. The format of the audit report to be issued is provided in the Annexure 2. The audited financial statements must be annexed with the report.

9. The auditor is also expected to issue a XV-FC scheme audit report in the format provided in Annexure 4.

Detailed Scope of Work:

10. The financial attest audit will be carried out in accordance with **Uttarakhand Financial Attest Audit Manual** and will include such tests and controls as the auditor considers necessary under the circumstances. The audit would be done through Online Audit Management system (OAMS). The system would be used for field data collection, analysis, issuance of draft and final audit reports, filing of working papers and compliance by the auditees. The Financial Attest audit of the ULBs is now to be conducted with the use of OAMS and the Scheme Audit of XV Finance Commission on Audit Online. The detailed audit programme/checklist would be discussed by the with successful audit firms. Training on OAMS will be provided by the, and any technical support during the assignment will be provided by the DoA.

¹ Refer Annexure 3- For RLB accounting.

11. The list of auditee units to be audited is annexed herewith. The auditor will agree on the audit schedule and the audit team / party that will perform the audit of these audit units. The audit party will be given access to the newly developed Online Audit Management System (OAMS) and Audit Online. A two-day training session will be organized by audit directorate for the audit party to explain the features of OAMS & Audit online which shall preferably be attended by all members of audit party of the firm and at least by the Engagement Partner. The Audit party conducting the audit will issue Half Memo Margin to the Auditee through OAMS which will be discussed during the Exit Meeting and recorded in OAMS. The response will be provided by auditee through OAMS. All the Audit Working papers collected during audit (including audit evidence) will be uploaded on the OAMS by audit parties.

12. In conducting financial audit, special attention should be given to the following (but not limited to).

- a. The accounts of the ULBs have prepared in accordance with the consistently applied accounting standards/ Rules and give true and fair view of the financial position for the financial year ending on March 31 and receipts and payments for the year ended on that date.
- b. Verify whether accounts of ULBs are properly prepared and complete in all respects and presented with adequate disclosures and are in compliance with the applicable laws, rules, and regulation.
- c. All funds spent and received by ULBs have been used in accordance with the condition laid down.
- d. All expenditure including works and procurement of goods and services have necessary supporting documentation and have been incurred in accordance with the Government rules
- e. Physical verification of inventory and fixed assets would have been by the auditor as deemed necessary.
- f. All own sources of revenue have been levied and collected and disclosed in the financial statements

Audit Report

13. The Financial Attest audit report will be generated from OAMS. The financial attest report would include the following:

a)Independent Auditors' Report with expression of opinion on the financial statement of ULBs s

b)Management Letter, where applicable

14. The Draft Audit report must be generated from OAMS and provided to the Audit Directorate within two weeks from the date of exit meeting with the auditee. Once the audit of the entire Package is completed, the auditor will make a presentation to the Directorate on the key findings of the audit report and how the audit was conducted, and any challenges faced during the audit.
15. The audit report will be reviewed by the Nodal officer and TRC for any corrections/suggestions will be discussed and finalized with the CA firm
16. The Chartered Accountant firm shall submit the signed final Independent Auditor's Report to Directorate of Audit. The final report will be reviewed by TRC before forwarding to the concerned audit unit.
17. The audit report shall be issued in the letter head of the CA Firm and with a proper UDIN No. Also, the audit report should have the copy of the Financial Statements which has been audited and based on which the opinion has been made by the auditors.

Audit Engagement:

18. The appointed CA firm shall be provided an engagement letter with detailed scope of audit and reporting requirement and roles and responsibilities.
19. **Period of Audit:** The period under the present RFP would be the financial attest audit of ULBs as per list annexed with the number of yeas audit to be Conducted ,
20. **Duration of the Contract:** 06 Months (expected from May 2022 to November 2022)
21. ***List of key positions, whose CV and experience would be evaluated***

Overall various ULBs have been divided into seven packages. Each package is expected to have 3 key experts – One audit partner and two audit experts. In case a firm applies for more than one package, the key experts proposed during RFP stage should be different individual for each package, In case the Key expert(s) are same the individual CV will not be evaluated in any of the packages and shall be awarded zero for CVs in those particular packages in which he/ she has been proposed . The key staff will be supported by adequate number of qualified and semi-qualified staff which will be proposed by the firm in its approach and methodology. Only CVs of the key staff will be evaluated. Ability to speak, write and read in Hindi would be essential for all staff:

Sr	Designation and Nos	Description of services to be provided	Experience/ Qualification
1	Audit Partner (1 Nos)	Overall coordination, & planning, and team leadership, reporting, liaison with client Responsibility to lead the audit teams in the field, planning and execution of the audits, discussions with head of office at State and report writing and finalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He/she should have at least 10 years of overall post qualification experience • <u>Has</u> conducted financial attest audit, <u>of</u> at least <u>3 ULBs</u> out of which one Municipality shall be either Nagar Nigam or Nagar Palika • He has conducted Internal Audit / Financial Audit as a team leader and led the team • Experience of audit in Uttarakhand would be an added advantage. •
2	Audit Managers – 2	Overall support to the team; audit planning and coordination; prepare draft reports etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified CA with five years of audit post qualification experience in statutory audit/ financial attest audit • Having conducted Certification Audit /Financial Audit in at least one PSU/ Local Bodies/ Autonomous Bodies • He/ She should have conducted of audit of at least one ULB

22. For Packaging and related details please refer to annexure no.1

Package Name	Number of audit entities	Audit partner	Audit manager 1	Audit manager 2
<i>Package 7 - Urban Local Bodies : US Nagar</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>

Annexure 1: Packaging

Package 7 - US Nagar (Package Seven amounts Rs Eight Lac Twenty Thousand Rupees only excluding GST) (INR 8,20,000 excluding GST)

	Name of ULB	No of year of Financial Attest Audit	Year of Financial Attest Audit
1	Nagar Nigam Kashipur	3	2018-19,2019-20,2020-21
2	Nagar Nigam Rudrapur	2	2018-19,2019-20,
3	Nagar Palika Kiccha	1	2018-19,
4	Nagar Palika Khatima	1	2018-19,
5	Nagar Palika Gadarpur	2	2018-19,2019-20
6	Nagar Palika Mhuakhedganj	3	2018-19,2019-20,2020-21
7	Nagar Panchayat Kelakheda	3	2018-19,2019-20,2020-21
8	Nagar Panchayat Mahuwadabra	1	2018-19,
9	Nagar Panchayat Nanakmatta	1	2018-19
10	Nagar Panchayat Sultanpur Patti	2	2018-19,2019-20,
11	Nagar Panchayat Shaktigarh	1	2018-19,
		20	

Annexure 2: Format of Independent Auditors Report – ULBs

Annexure 2: Format of Independent Auditors Report – Rural Local Bodies

Instructions for auditors

1. The audit report is to be issued on the letter head of the firm
2. Each page of the report should be signed and stamped
3. Each report should be for one financial year. If 3 years are audited then 3 separate reports are to be submitted.
4. UDIN has to be generated for each report.
5. In case a combined UDIN has already been generated earlier then same number can be used across the reports.
6. Income and Expenditure , Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to Accounts should accompany the audit report.
7. The auditor should specifically report on the adequacy or otherwise of maintenance of books and records by the ULB . Uttarakhand Municipal Accounting Manual 2011 has mandated that the following records should be maintained by the ULB
 - i. Receipt and Payment Account.
 - ii. Income and Expenditure Account
 - iii. Balance Sheet
 - iv. Cash Flow Statement
 - v. Trial Balance
 - vi. Cash book
 - vii. Payment, Receipt , Counter Vouchers.
 - viii. Bank Reconciliation Statement
 - ix. Register of Immovable Property
 - x. Register of Movable Property
 - xi. Inventory Register
 - xii. Demand and Collection Register for Property Tax , Rental Properties
 - xiii. Ledgers
 - xiv. Any other books as per UMAM
8. The List of Observations provided in OAMS/Audit Online format will be a report separate from the Independent Auditor’s Report in the form of a Management Letter.

Format for Unmodified Opinion

Independent Auditor's Report

To,
Governing Body of ULB/ Head of the ULB,

Full address

Opinion:

We have audited the accompanying Annual Financial Statements of the ***{insert name of the ULB}***, which comprise of the Balance Sheet as on -----31st March 20 ----- , Income and Expenditure , Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 20....., and the Notes to Financial Statements, including a summary of Significant Accounting Policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying Annual Financial Statements give a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the Income and Expenditure and the cash flows of the ***{insert name of the ULB }*** for the year ended 31 March 20....., in accordance with Uttarakhand Municipal Accounting Manual 2011 , and in accordance with the provisions of the UP Municipal Corporation Act 1959 /Up Municipality Act 1916

Basis for Unmodified Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards of Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India as well as Standards laid down in Uttarakhand Financial Attest Audit Manual 2021. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of***{insert name of the ULB}*** in accordance with our Code of Ethics together with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Financial Statements in India and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matters

{The auditor should describe the matters on which they wish to draw emphasis in addition to that provided below}

We draw attention to the following key points:

Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management of {insert name of the ULB for the Financial Statements

Management of {insert name of the ULB} is responsible for the preparation of Financial Statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Uttarakhand Municipal Accounting Manual 2011 is responsibility also includes maintenance of adequate accounting records in accordance with the provisions of the UP Municipal Corporation Act/ Up Municipality Act 1916 (as amended from time to time) for safeguarding of the assets of the {insert name of the ULB} and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Management of {insert name of the ULB} is responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Standards of Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India as well as Standards laid down in Uttarakhand Financial Attest Audit Manual 2021. will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. Also refer to the Appendix to this Report.

Report on Legal, Regulatory and Other Requirements

Further to the above, in our opinion, the _____ Municipal Corporation /Nagar Palika ./ Nagar Panchayat has maintained proper books and records in accordance with the UMAM 2011

(or)

Further to the above, in our opinion, the _____ ULB has maintained proper books and records in accordance with the UMAM 2011 except for.....

(or)

Further to the above, in our opinion, the _____ ULB has not maintained proper books and records in accordance with the UMAM 2011

Additional matters to be included as required

For XYZ & Co Chartered Accountants

(Firm's Registration No.)

Signature of the auditor

(Name of the Member Signing the Audit Report)

(Designation)

(Membership No. XXXXX)

Date:

Place:

UDIN:

Enclosures :

- 1. Appendix to Independent Auditor's Report**
- 2. Income and Expenditure Account**
- 3. Balance Sheet with Schedule**
- 4. Cash Flow Statement**
- 5. Notes to Accounts**

Appendix to Independent Auditor's Report

As part of an audit in accordance with the **Standards of Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India as well as Standards laid down in Uttarakhand Financial Attest Audit Manual 2021**, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud and error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosure made by the management.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the Financial Statements, including the disclosures, and whether the Financial Statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves true and fair view.

We communicate to Management of **{insert name of ULB}** regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide to Management of**{insert name of ULB}/Directorate of Audit** a statement we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationship and other matters that may reasonable be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Instructions for auditors

1. The audit report is to be issued on the letter head of the firm
2. Each page of the report should be signed and stamped
3. Each report should be for one financial year. If 3 years are audited then 3 separate reports are to be submitted.
4. UDIN has to be generated for each report.
5. In case a combined UDIN has already been generated earlier then same number can be used across the reports.
6. Income and Expenditure , Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to Accounts should accompany the audit report.
7. The auditor should specifically report on the adequacy or otherwise of maintenance of books and records by the ULB . Uttarakhand Municipal Accounting Manual 2011 has mandated that the following records should be maintained by the ULB
 - i. Receipt and Payment Account.
 - ii. Income and Expenditure Account
 - iii. Balance Sheet
 - iv. Cash Flow Statement
 - v. Trial Balance
 - vi. Cash book
 - vii. Payment, Receipt , Counter Vouchers.
 - viii. Bank Reconciliation Statement
 - ix. Register of Immovable Property
 - x. Register of Movable Property
 - xi. Inventory Register
 - xii. Demand and Collection Register for Property Tax , Rental Properties
 - xiii. Ledgers
 - xiv. Any other books as per UMAM
8. The List of Observations provided in OAMS/Audit Online format will be a report separate from the Independent Auditor's Report in the form of a Management Letter.

Format for Qualified Opinion

Independent Auditor's Report

To,

Governing Body of ULB / Head of the ULB

Full address

Qualified Opinion:

We have audited the accompanying Annual Financial Statements of the ***{insert name of the ULB }***, which comprise of the Balance Sheet as on ---- March 20 , Income and Expenditure Account , Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 20....., and the Notes to Financial Statements, including a summary of Significant Accounting Policies.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying Annual Financial Statements give a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the Income and expenditures and cash flows of the ***{insert name of ULB }*** for the year ended 31 March 20....., in accordance with UMAM 2011 and in accordance with the provisions of the UP Municipal Corporation Act 1959/ UP Municipalities Act 1916

Basis for Qualified Opinion

{The auditor should describe the matters due to which the audit opinion is qualified}

We conducted our audit in accordance with the the Standards of Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India as well as Standards laid down in Uttarakhand Financial Attest Audit Manual 2021.. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of***{insert name of the ULB}*** in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Financial Statements in India and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities

in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

To be reported wherever applicable. *{The auditor should describe the matters on which they wish to draw emphasis}*

We draw attention to.....

However, we have not qualified our opinion in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management of *{insert name of the ULB}* for the Financial Statements

Management of *{insert name of the ULB}* is responsible for the preparation of Financial Statements that give a true and fair view in accordance UMAM 2011 This responsibility also includes maintenance of adequate accounting records in accordance with the provisions of the UP Municipal Corporation Act 1959/ UP Municipality Act 1916 for or safeguarding of the assets of the *{insert name of the ULB}* and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Management of *{insert name of the ULB}* is responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance the Standards of Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India as well as Standards laid down in Uttarakhand Financial Attest Audit Manual 2021.will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. Also refer to the Appendix to this Report.

Report on Legal, Regulatory and Other Requirements

Further to the above, in our opinion, the _____ ULB has maintained proper books and records in accordance with UMAM2011

(or)

Further to the above, in our opinion, the _____ ULB has maintained proper books and records in accordance with the UMAM 2011 except for.....

(or)

Further to the above, in our opinion, the _____ ULB has not maintained proper books and records in accordance with the UMAM 2011

Additional matters to be included as required

For XYZ & Co Chartered Accountants
(Firm's Registration No.)

Signature of the auditor

(Name of the Member Signing the Audit Report)

(Designation)

(Membership No. XXXXX)

Date:

Place:

UDIN:

Enclosures :

- 1. Appendix to Independent Auditor's Report**
- 2. Income and Expenditure**
- 3. Balance Sheet with Schedules**
- 4. Cash Flow Statement**
- 5. Notes to Accounts**