

Agenda 4: Time standard for processing of bills by PAOs.

Deliberations: Recently, O/o CGA has issued revised timelines for the processing and passing of bills vide OM No. TA-2-01002/1/2026-TA-CGA/(e-20290)/209 dated 12th June' 2026. This has generated considerable concern and discussion among members, as the revised standards appear to have been introduced without any scientific workload assessment or study based on SIU norms. The prescribed time for bill processing has progressively been reduced from 7 days to 5 days and now to 3 days.

As custodians of Consolidated Fund of India, Contingency Fund of India and Public Account, officials are required to exercise due diligence and carry out all prescribed checks in accordance with the rules and regulations. Any lapse in scrutiny may result in financial irregularities, loss to the exchequer or other undesirable consequences.

A large number of bills are received in many PAOs and compelling officials to process and pass all bills within a rigid timeframe of 3 days may adversely affect the quality of scrutiny and compliance with established procedures. Furthermore, the e-Bill system itself is time-consuming and frequent technical issues such as server downtime, system slowdowns and connectivity problems further hamper timely processing.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the order may kindly be reconsidered and rescinded. No workload study based on SIU norms appears to have been conducted prior to its issuance nor was the Association consulted on a matter having significant implications for the functioning and accountability of Pay and Accounts Offices. A comprehensive study and stakeholder consultation should precede any revision of processing standards.

It was also discussed that the workload assessment of Sr. AOs was discussed during meeting with CGA vide para 4.10 of Minutes of Meeting dated 23.01.2026 wherein it has been mentioned that *"The Authorities advised the Association that since 1992 there had been significant technological up gradation. Further, there had been changes in the nature of work carried out by the CGA organization. Hence, carrying out a Work load assessment of Sr. AOs by SIU would be detrimental to the cadre. Hence, the matter may be treated as closed."*

After due deliberations, following decisions were taken unanimously:

- (i) AICAOA will write a letter to O/o CGA to reconsider the OM dated 12.06.2026 and rescind it or enhance the sanctioned strength of Sr. AOs and connected staff to deal with new norms. Further, it will also be requested that SIU norms or grounds of this revision of timeline may be shared with AICAOA.
- (ii) AICAOA will file a RTI in this regard.
- (iii) All PAOs will be asked to provide information on number of bills being handled and time consumed thereby.

Following members attended the meeting:

- (1) Ms. Geetanjali, President
- (2) Sh. P. Mahesh Kumar, Vice-President
- (3) Ms. Anita Rawat, Vice-President
- (4) Sh. Kaushal Mishra, Secretary General
- (5) Ms. Sreemati Bhowmik, Addl. Secretary General
- (6) Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Finance Secretary
- (7) Sh. Avinash Kumar, Jt. Secretary General
- (8) Sh. Santosh Kumar, Asstt. Finance Secretary
- (9) Sh. Biswajit Mondal, Asstt. Secretary General
- (10) Ms. Sumitra Goganio, Asstt. Secretary General
- (11) Ms. Asha Pal, Asstt. Secretary General

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- (12) Sh. Kumar Ashish, Asstt. Secretary General
 - (13) Sh. Debraj Singha Roy, Asstt. Secretary General
 - (14) Sh. Amol V Sule, Asstt. Secretary General
 - (15) Sh. U C Joshi, Chairman, LC, AICAOA
 - (16) Sh. Niraj Sriwastawa, Vice President, CZEC
 - (17) Sh. U.C. Srivastava, Finance Secretary, CZEC
 - (18) Ms. Madhu Priyanka, President, NZEC
 - (19) Sh. Rajinder Parshad, Secretary, NZEC
 - (20) Sh. Dalip Kumar Bhat, Executive Member, NZEC
 - (21) Sh. Inderjit Singh, Executive Member, NZEC
 - (22) Sh. Dinesh Kumar, Vice President, WZEC-I
 - (23) Sh. Shashi Kant Prasad, Secretary, WZEC-I
 - (24) Sh. Mahesh Prasad Rai, Finance Secretary, WZEC-I
 - (25) Sh. Anant Goyal, Joint Secretary, WZEC-I
 - (26) Sh. Anil Gautam, President, DZEC-I
 - (27) Sh. Manoj Talwar, Vice-President, DZEC-I
 - (28) Ms. Jyotsna Mehta, Finance Secretary, DZEC-II
 - (29) Sh. Jitendra Mittal, Finance Secretary, DZEC-IV
 - (30) Sh. Sanjay Kumar, Spl. Invitee from East Zone

The Meeting ended with Vote of Thanks.

(Kaushal Mishra)
Secretary General