CA L3 Paper-3 Advanced Auditing, Assurance and Professional Ethics Question of 2025 September

UVW2

Roll No.
Total No. of Questions – 6
Total No. of Printed Pages - 12



Maximum Marks - 70

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- 1. The question paper comprises two parts, Part I and Part II.
- 2. Part I comprises Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs).
- 3. Part II comprises questions which require descriptive answers.
- 4. Ensure that you receive the question paper relating to both the parts. If you have not received both, bring it to the notice of the invigilator.
- 5. Answers to MCQs in Part I are to be marked on the OMR answer sheet as given on the cover page of descriptive answer book only. Answers to questions in Part II are to be written in the same descriptive answer book. Answers to MCQs, if written inside the descriptive answer book will not be evaluated.
- 6. OMR answer sheet given on the cover page of descriptive answer book will be in English only for all candidates, including for Hindi medium candidates.
- 7. The bar coded sticker provided in the attendance register, is to be affixed only on the descriptive answer book.
- 8. You will be allowed to leave the examination hall only after the conclusion of the exam. If you have completed the paper before time, remain in your seat till the conclusion of the exam.
- 9. Duration of the examination is 3 hours. You will be required to submit the descriptive answer books with OMR cover page to the invigilator before leaving the exam hall, after the conclusion of the exam.
- 10. The invigilator will give you acknowledgement on Page 2 of the admit card, upon receipt of the descriptive answer book.
- 11. Candidate found copying or receiving or giving any help or defying instructions of the invigilators or having / using mobile phone or smart watch or any other electronic gadget will be expelled from the examination and will also be liable for further punitive action.

PART – II

70 Marks

- 1. Question paper comprises 6 questions. Answer Question No. 1 which is compulsory and any 4 out of the remaining 5 questions.
- 2. Working notes should form part of the answer.
- 3. Answers to the questions are to be given only in English except in the case of candidates who have opted for Hindi Medium. If a candidate has not opted for Hindi Medium, his/her answers in Hindi will not be evaluated.

PART - II

- Munir & Co. is a practicing-chartered accountants' firm having its Head 1. Office at Mumbai. Mr. A, a dedicated and capable article assistant associated with Munir & Co. for the past three years, recently qualified as a Chartered Accountant. Recognizing his strong analytical skills, attention to detail, and in-depth understanding of audit, the firm inducted him as a Partner on 1st February, 2025. On joining the firm, he accepted his first assignment to act as an Engagement Quality Control Reviewer (EQCR) for J & J Limited, a listed entity, for the financial year 2024-25. Before finalizing the Balance Sheet of the Company for the year 2024-25, CA A signed on few working papers of the engagement team as a token of review performed by him in terms of firm's policies on engagement quality control review without going through the audit file. He made no further documentation, assuming that the team who performed the audit of the company for the year 2024-25, was the same team who performed the audit of the company for the financial year 2023-24. Comment on the act of CA A in accordance with relevant professional standards. SOC1
 - (b) CA Suba is a senior partner in a chartered accountancy firm in Mumbai. She and few other CA firms, each specializing in different sectors, agree to form a network to enhance their service portfolio and geographical reach. They apply to the ICAI for the network name approval, which is granted as "Suba & Affiliates". They are under the process of submitting relevant forms to the ICAI for Registration.

Simultaneously, M/s. RS & Associates, one of the member firms in the group, signs a collaboration agreement with an international accounting network based in Singapore.

Based on above facts, you are required to:

Guide CA Suba & M/s. RS & Associates with regard to Guidelines for Networking issued by the ICAI in respect of registration of Network with entities in India and outside India.

- (c) AZ Industries Ltd., an Indian pharmaceutical company having its corporate office in Mumbai is engaged in developing, manufacturing and globally marketing a broad range of pharma products. During the F.Y.2024-25, in pursuit of company's research & development drive for developing their core product portfolios, two companies viz. KK Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary company, and OP Ltd., a Jointly Controlled Entity, were amalgamated with AZ Industries Ltd. PPP & Associates, Chartered Accountants, are the principal auditors of the company. The audit of KK Ltd. and OP Ltd. was conducted by the respective auditors of those companies. The consolidated financial statements of AZ Industries Ltd. consists of financial statements and financial information of both these companies, to whom CARO 2020 is applicable. The auditors of the said companies have given qualifications in their CARO report on the standalone financial statements for the F.Y.2024-25 as under:
 - (1) In respect of wholly owned subsidiary company viz. KK Ltd, its auditor has qualified clause 3(xv) since the company has not complied with the provisions of Section 192 of the companies Act while entering into non-cash transactions with the director.

In respect of OP Ltd., being Jointly Controlled Entity, its auditor (2)has made the adverse remark in clause 3(ix)(a) since the company has defaulted in repayment of loans to bankers.

In respect of AZ Industries Ltd., the principal auditor has given adverse remark in the standalone financial statement of the company in respect of clause 3(i)(c) since the title deeds of some immovable properties were not held in the name of the company.

The engagement partner, CA P, is in the process of finalizing the consolidated audit report. Guide CA P how he will report on the matters stated above; in terms of the reporting requirements under paragraph 3 of CARO, 2020.

2. AJ Private Limited is a company involved in the business of textile (a) manufacturing and having its factory at NOIDA. The business of the company is spread across India. Due to the recent fire incidents, the local authority of NOIDA passed a regulation wherein it is compulsory for any organisation in its jurisdictional area to have a valid Fire No Objection Certificate (Fire NOC) issued by the regulatory authority. You are appointed as the statutory auditor of the company for the financial year 2024-25. During initial risk assessment phase, you observed that the company is not in possession of Fire NOC as stipulated by the regulatory authority. You approached those charged with governance regarding this matter and requested them to provide their justification on the same. They are of the opinion that obtaining Fire NOC is outside the purview of the financial statements; hence you are not required to look after this aspect. What are the auditor's responsibilities in relation to compliance with laws and regulations?

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- (b) F & F Associates, Chartered Accountants, are appointed as the statutory auditors of TQR Limited, an unlisted company, for the financial year 2024-25. The net-worth of the company has remained at ₹ 500 crores for last 2 years. CA F is the engagement partner for the audit of the company. During the audit, CA F became aware of an imminent breach of law that would cause substantial harm to investors, creditors and employees of the company. He discussed this matter with Mr. X, who was one of the senior-most directors of the company and who also happened to be a Chartered Accountant. He is of the view that it is the responsibility of Mr. X, being a senior professional accountant, to respond to such non-compliance of law. However, Mr. X is of the view that there is no responsibility casted on him for responding to the aforesaid non-compliance. In view of the following:
 - (i) Comment on the contention of Mr. X in terms of relevant section of Revised Code of Ethics.
 - (ii) What documentations are required to be prepared by CA F, regarding non-compliance observed, over and above the requirements under the applicable Standards on Auditing.
- liquefied natural Gas. The organization recently underwent a compliance audit conducted by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) of India. The audit aimed to assess whether the PSU's financial transactions, procurement activities and operations complied with relevant laws, regulations and internal guidelines.

In context of the above, you are required to:

- (i) Explain the concept of compliance audit and its perspective.
- (ii) What shall be the concern of the auditor when undertaking compliance audit?

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3. (a) M/s CES & Associates, Chartered Accountants are appointed as auditors for consolidated financial statements of King Ltd. for financial year 2024-25. Pawn Ltd., Rook Ltd., Bishop Ltd. and Queen Ltd. are the subsidiaries of King Ltd. The consolidated financial statements consist of financial statements and financial information of these subsidiaries audited by other auditors. Such financial statements, financial information and auditor's reports of subsidiaries have been furnished by management of King Ltd. to them. Following further information is also available in respect of these subsidiaries for the financial year 2024-25:

	Total assets ₹ in crore	Total Revenues ₹ in crore	Net cash outflows ₹ in crore
Pawn Ltd.	300	440	15
Rook Ltd.	200	330	8
Bishop Ltd.	150	220	12
Queen Ltd.	250	300	10

One Subsidiary company, Queen Ltd., is located outside India whose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the respective country and which has been audited by auditors in the respective country under generally accepted auditing standards applicable.

You are required to draft a suitable paragraph based on the above information to be included in the independent auditor's report on consolidated financial statements by making necessary assumptions.

- (b) M/s FG & Co., Chartered Accountants, have been appointed as statutory auditors of Z Ltd. for the F.Y.2024-25. During the course of audit, while carrying out risk assessment procedures and related activities for accounting estimates, CA G the engagement partner, identified provision for warranty as an accounting estimate and considered it to be at significant risk. In accordance with SA 540 explain the matters that need to be evaluated by CA G specifically with respect to estimation uncertainty.
- (c) MK Limited, a company engaged in the manufacture of modular furniture, is headquartered at Mumbai. The company is recently listed at the recognized stock exchange in the month of July, 2024. CD & Co., chartered accountants, are statutory auditors of the company for the F.Y. 2024-25. The company has approached statutory auditors for providing quarterly review report pursuant to requirement of SEBI to provide quarterly results of the company in accordance with SRE 2410. Elucidate the objective of the engagement assigned by the company to the statutory auditors.
- 4. (a) M/s. TZ and Associates are appointed as a statutory branch auditors of the Delhi Branch of ABC Bank Limited for the F.Y. 2024-25. CA T is the engagement partner for this assignment. He is verifying the advances and has obtained the list of advances outstanding as on 31st March, 2025. On sampling basis, he selected one account of Mr. X who has borrowed ₹ 1.00 crore in the form of housing loan in the year 2021-22. The account was operating positively till 2023-24. Since April 2024, the account was often remaining overdue. On 01.10.2024, Mr. X approached the Branch

and requested to increase the repayment period and to reduce the rate of interest as he was facing some financial crunch due to sudden medical emergency in the family. On 01.11.2024, the Branch accepted the proposal of Mr. X and increased the repayment period and reduced the rate of interest. The Branch classified the account of Mr. X as a Standard Asset as on 31.03.2025. CA T insisted the Branch Manager to classify the account as Sub-standard Asset as on 31.03.2025 as there is a change in the terms of payment. CA T started to draft Memorandum of Changes (MOC) for account of Mr. X to be submitted to the Branch. The rate of provision for secured portion of Sub-standard Assets as prescribed by the Board of ABC Bank Limited is 20% whereas the requirement as per IRAC norms is 15% for secured portion. In this context:

- (i) Justify the classification insisted by CA T regarding the account of Mr. X as on 31.03.2025.
- Guide CA T in deciding the rate to be applied for secured portion of Sub-standard Asset while finalizing the Memorandum of Changes (MOC).
- (b) M/s ST & Co., Chartered Accountants, are appointed as auditors of Hitech Ltd, an IT company, engaged in providing diverse range of services like digital transformation, software development and cloud solutions. The auditors have to use online means to conduct the audit. Hence, ST & Co. decided to go for Remote Audit technology to obtain audit evidence and perform documentation review with the participation of management. The audit team got first hand evidence directly from the IT system as direct access had been provided to them. M/s ST & Co. have been developing tailored strategies to ensure that the remote audit meets the

They are concerned with confidentiality, Security and Data protection aspects while conducting the Remote audit. Guide them.

KLM Chemicals and Paints Ltd., a manufacturing company listed on the stock exchange, has committed to enhancing its Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) transparency. Sustainability Reporting plays a crucial role in enhancing transparency and accountability regarding an entity's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance. The company wants to apply Sustainable development in its corporate policy.

During the review of its sustainability practices, the management is keen to assess the safety of the products, its quality and labour relations.

What should be addressed in the pillar envisaged above? Highlight the various key elements included in this Pillar.

(a) Gold Opportunities Fund is in the business of Mutual fund and has prepared the financial statements for the F.Y. ended on 31st March 2025. These financial statements have been audited by M/s SH & Co., Chartered Accountants, and the audit report issued is unqualified. The company has also prepared a scheme wise summary of its financial performance for the stakeholders. The management of Gold Opportunities Fund further engages M/s SH & Co. to perform an engagement to report on the abridged financial statements derived from the audited financial statements pursuant to SEBI regulations and in accordance with format prescribed by SEBI. Describe in detail the nature of procedures that would be performed by M/s SH & Co., under relevant Standard on Auditing to provide an opinion on the abridged financial statements.

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- (b) ABC Limited is in the business of manufacturing of iron ore and steel bars since last decade. The company is having its registered office in Mumbai and factory in Bhiwandi. M/s. R and Associates are appointed as the statutory auditors of the company for the financial year 2024-25. While going through the trial balance of the company, they observed that the company has 50 customers and 40 vendors. They requested the company to authorise them to send the external confirmation to few of its customers and vendors. The company immediately provided them an authority letter to send the external confirmation to their customers and vendors. The auditor sent positive confirmation request to top 3 customers and top 3 vendors. After two days of sending positive confirmation request, the management of the company handed over to them the duly signed response received from the respective customers and vendors to whom they had sent the confirmation request. How would M/s. R and Associates proceed to deal with the situation as the auditor of the company?
- (c) CA Neha, a Chartered Accountant in practice, is approached by Growtech Ltd., a startup company planning to raise capital through an Initial Public Offering (IPO). The company requests her assistance in guiding them through the selection of advertising agencies, co-ordinating with bankers and brokers to issue. Besides helping the company as an advisor, she also underwrote the public issue of the company to the extent of 20% at a commission of 1%. She contends that provisions of code of conduct are not binding such services. Do you agree with the view of CA Neha? Analyse the facts and give your comments in the light of applicable code of conduct.

- 6. (a) CA Q is the engagement partner for the statutory audit of LAL Ltd.

 While conducting the audit he has identified some deficiencies in the internal controls. On further verification of the internal controls of the company, he has some indications that significant transactions in which management is financially interested are not being appropriately scrutinised by those charged with the governance and also in few cases he observed the susceptibility to loss of an asset. He determines, on the basis of the audit work performed, that identified deficiencies constitute significant deficiencies. How and to whom CA Q shall communicate identified significant deficiencies in the internal control? Which matters shall be included by CA Q in such communication?
 - (b) VPN Ltd. is a listed entity that prepares quarterly financial statements in accordance with Ind AS. The company has appointed Jack & Co., Chartered Accountants, as its statutory auditors. During Q2 of the Financial Year 2024-25, Jack & Co. undertake a review of VPN Ltd.'s interim financial information in accordance with SRE 2410. The auditor plans to obtain written representations from the management. The management has merely stated that the interim financial information is prepared and presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. As an engagement team member, you are required to specify areas that these written representations should cover for the review of interim financial information.

Accountants, out of the five audit firms, for assignment of Statutory Audit for the F.Y. 2024-25. Bank emailed the list of branches to the audit firms along with the maximum fee per branch and requested them to submit the quotations. M/s VW & Colleagues responded to the bank and submitted their quotations. Comment with reference to the provisions of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and schedules thereto.

(OR)

(c) BIL Limited is a company manufacturing premium shampoos since last decade. The company functions through various salesmen appointed across the country. The management of company came across the news that the salesmen in the central and western regions have exaggerated their sales through fictitious billings to achieve higher commission and to accommodate the sales volume achieved by one employee with other employees, who falls short of their target. The management of the company appointed you to investigate and unearth such type of fraud, if it is prevailing in their company. What procedures will be followed by you to investigate such type fraud?