**6.4.4 Institution conducts internal and external financial audits regularly**

Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI) is a Grant-in-Aid Institution (GIA) of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India, and is fully funded by DAE. The CIs / OCCs of HBNI are either units of DAE, or grant-in-aid institutes of DAE. Thus, HBNI and its CIs/ OCCs receive grants from DAE as per government procedures. The expenditures are incurred in the most optimum manner by following the guide lines issued by Ministry of Finance, Department of Atomic Energy and following all financial rules and regulations of Government of India.

In accordance with HBNI Financial Rules, 2014 Rule 2, the institute adopts the General Financial Rules (GFR), Civil Account Manual for accounting the grants-in-aid received from DAE. Utilization certificates are being furnished to DAE at the end of each financial year. Also, as per Rule 4 (a) of HBNI Financial Rules, 2014, HBNI is registered as a charitable institution under the Bombay (Mumbai) Public Trust Act, 1950 (Charity commission, Mumbai) and therefore, audited financial statements are being filed every year also with charity commission.

As per Rule 4 (e) of HBNI Financial Rules, 2014, yearly auditing of accounts of the institute is done by a chartered accountant (Statutory auditor) appointed by the institute with the approval of Council of Management. The statutory auditor certifies the financial statement of the institute on a yearly basis. The certified financial statement duly approved by the Council of Management and signed by the reporting trustee is filed with the office of the charity commissioner, Mumbai every year. The certified financial statement is also included as part of the annual report of HBNI, which is approved by Council of Management of HBNI, and forwarded to DAE for tabling in the parliament.

The Institute Finance Committee, chaired by Vice Chancellor, and having two joint secretaries from DAE as well as the finance officer as its members, discusses and approves the finance statement, each year, and also discusses comments / audit paras, if any. HBNI has not so far received any objections from audit regarding the finance statements.

HBNI being a Grant-in-Aid Institution (GIA) of DAE, all finance records are liable to be audited on yearly basis by internal inspection wing of the DAE and external audit by the Director General of Audit (Scientific departments), Indian Audit & Accounts Department, Mumbai Branch under Comptroller and Auditor General (C & AG). Internal Inspection Wing (IIW) Audit for the year 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was conducted during the period 18.04.2022 to 25.04.2022. No Paras are outstanding from this audit.

The CIs/OCCs of HBNI are either DAE units or Grant-in-aid institutes fully funded by DAE. Thus, all CIs and OCC of HBNI follow a similar, DAE approved practice with regard to internal and external auditing of accounts. The Department of Purchase and Stores (DPS), which handles the procurement activities of the DAE units, has an internal audit wing, which pre-audits all major purchase orders before they are approved for placement.