

PRESS NOTE ON SIXTH REPORT OF KARNATAKA ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS COMMISSION-2

(Note: This note contains only brief points. For more details the complete 6th report is uploaded on the Commission's website. Website- <https://karc2.karnataka.gov.in>)

Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2 was constituted vide Government Order dated 07.01.2021. The Commission started its functioning from 11.02.2021. The Commission has already submitted 5 reports to the government. A total of 3,630 recommendations have been made in respect of 23 departments. Today the 6th report was submitted to the Government.

1. Methodology adopted

The Commission visited 30 districts, 74 taluks, 171 cities/towns and 53 Gram Panchayats. Between 11.01.2021 to 31.10.2023, 298 offices/institutions were visited and 4,564 officials, elected representatives and citizens were met. 511 meetings were held in which the number of participants was about 7647. Responses were received from 25,522 users who availed the state government citizen services.

2. 6th Report

In its 6th report, the Commission studied 7 departments and submitted its recommendations. Besides, general recommendations related to other departments have also been made in the report. The Commission also received study reports from IIM, Bangalore, National Law School of Indian University (NLSIU), Vidhi Center for Legal Policy, Azim Premji University, Public Affairs Center, Public Affairs Foundation on some specific areas and recommendations have been made based on these reports.

3. Summary of recommendations made in 6th report.

Sl. No	Name of the department /organisation	Total recommendations
1	Housing Department	109
2	Forest, Ecology & Environment Department	150
3	Water Resources Department	83
4	Minor Irrigation and Groundwater Department	58
5	Public Works Department	85
6	Commerce & Industries Department	223

7	Infrastructure Development, Ports and Inland Water Transport Department,	48
8	General Recommendations	55
9	Study Reports of IIMB, NLSIU, Vidhi Center for Legal Policy, Azim Premji University, Public Affairs Center, PAF	71
Total recommendations		882

Reports	Date of Submission	Departments in the Report	Number of Recommendations
First report	3 rd July, 2021	3	856
Second and Third reports	18 th February, 2022	8	1165
Fourth and Fifth reports	January, 2023	12	1609
Sixth report	November 2023	7	882
Total recommendations made in 06 reports			4512

Users Feedback

1. The call centre called a total of 74,108 users of 138 citizen services of 23 Departments. Of the 74,108 users who were called, 25522 (34%) users provided feedback. The main demands expressed by the called users are:-

- **Timely provision of services**
- **Convenience for users**
- **Provide Information to applicants**
- **Ensure good Quality of interaction in offices**
- **User friendly website and technology**
- **No brokers in offices**

General recommendations

2. eOffice is not being used in many offices, starting from Head office, district and taluk offices. The head offices, district and taluk level offices already have a minimum number of computers, scanner, printer and UPS with which they can start using eOffice for correspondence and sending files to higher offices. Government may issue orders that departments should **insist that subordinate offices only send files and proposals through eOffice.**

Government may also issue orders fixing timelines for implementing e-Performance Appraisal Report and eService Register.

Therefore it is recommended that Government issue instructions to the departments and heads of departments and through them district and taluk level offices not to ask for hard copies of reports through post or by muddam. The department may mandate the use of Avalokana software alone, and no other duplication, for taluk office and higher offices to send online monthly monitoring reports.

3. Various Acts and Rules were enacted in the 1960's and thereafter. Many fee, fine and penalty provisions in these Acts and Rules have not been revised at all since then or have not been revised for many years. In most of these cases, the cost of litigation may be many times higher than the penalty amount prescribed. Hence there is a need to revise the penalty provisions to make them an effective deterrent and worthwhile to pursue legally. (e.g. Penalty for Transit of forest produce is Rs 500 - fixed in 1964) **Suggestions have made for revision of fees, fines and penalties for each department are based on increase in the cost inflation index since they were last prescribed or revised.**
4. Many posts of First Division Assistants and Second Division Assistants and other clerical posts are vacant in all departments. Clerical work would reduce considerably with the introduction and adoption of HRMS, Khajane 2 E Office, E Par and E Service Register.. There may be no need for continuing with more FDA and SDA posts. Government may consider reviewing the number of FDA and SDA posts in each department and rationalising them or converting them to technical posts e.g. Forest Guards in Forest department.
5. **Group C and D staff have to wait for many months or even years to get sanction of routine benefits like childcare leave, time bound promotion, stagnation increment and medical re-imburement because powers for sanctioning them are centralised in the head offices of departments. Powers to sanction such benefits for Group-C and D employees may be delegated to the District level officers instead of to the head office.** Sanction of childcare leave to Group B employees also may be delegated to the district level officers.

Housing department

6. The E-Governance department has developed the Multi Dimension Deprivation Index (MDDI) based on income, education, employment, housing, household resources etc of families in the State. **This index may**

be incorporated into the selection parameters and be considered for selection of beneficiaries for State sector housing and site schemes .

7. Formation of a layout takes many years in the Karnataka Housing Board. One reason is the delay caused in obtaining approval for layout plans from the Town and Country Planning department. There is a post of Additional Director, Town Planning in the KHB who vets the layouts prepared by KHB. In order to speed up the process of layout formation, Housing department may propose to Urban Development Department to amend Sec 81 to add an Explanation that for the purposes of Sec 81 of the KTCP Act, 1961, the Karnataka Housing Board shall be deemed to be a local authority. Alternatively, the words “or to the Commissioner, Karnataka Housing Board” may be proposed to be added after the words “or any officer of the local authority” in Sec 81. As a further alternative, Housing department may propose an amendment to Sec 32A of the Karnataka Housing Board Act 1963. Sec 32A empowers the Board and the Housing Commissioner to exercise powers and functions under the Karnataka Acts 22 of 1964, 14 of 1977 and 2[14 of 1993]. Housing department may propose to amend this section to empower the Board and the Commissioner to give approval for layouts that are in conformity with the approved Master Plans and have been cleared by the Additional Director, Town Planning of KHB.
8. Allotment of sites to Economically Weaker Section beneficiaries should be done by obtaining Aadhaar numbers of applicants and verifying from the Kutumba database, RGHCL allottee list and linking with eKhata, eSwathu, BDA and BBMP databases. This will help to identify and weed out ineligible applicants who already possess site or a house and multiple applicants from a single family.
9. The fee of Rs 1000 for approval of a building plan was fixed by KHB in 2013. The fees should be fixed as a percentage of the estimated cost of the building. It may be noted that the Building and Other Construction Workers Board collects Labour Cess at 1% of the estimated cost of the building. In many cases, the Labour cess collected is more than the building approval and other fees charged by KHB. **Therefore, it is recommended that the KHB building plan approval fee be fixed as a percentage of the estimated cost of the building.**
10. In many KHB layouts even after provision of all basic infrastructure and lapse of many years large number of sites are vacant. This defeats the

purpose of forming layouts and deprives other needy applicants who would have built houses. Such owners should be penalised for keeping sites vacant for long year. **KHB may fix the penalty for registering outright sale deed of vacant sites at 25% of the present guidance value of the site. Secondly, the maintenance charges levied on vacant sites may be double the charges levied on built houses as a vacant land charge.**

Karnataka Slum Development Board (KSDB)

11. There are 2.16 lakh slum dwelling households that remain to be given hakku patras. Housing department may give **annual and monthly targets for hakku patra distribution to KSDB.**
12. **A Slum Improvement Cess is being collected by urban local bodies since 1994. The rates have not been revised since then. The rates are absolute figures and are miniscule when compared to the fund requirement for slum development. It is therefore recommended that the Housing department propose an amendment to the Karnataka Slum Areas (Improvement and Clearance) Act 1973 to introduce a provision similar to Sec 30 of the Karnataka Public Libraries Act 1965 for collection of Slum Improvement Cess as a percentage of the property tax and other taxes levied by urban local bodies in the State.**
13. **Housing department may consider and issue instructions that vacant lands owned by the KSD Board should only be disposed of by auction through eAuction platform for improvement of revenue of the Board.**

Forest, Environment and Ecology department

14. **Department has to respond quickly in giving compensation to victims of man-animal conflict. In the interest of quicker payment of ex-gratia and maintaining better relations with the public, it is recommended that the annual limit for sanction of ex-gratia be raised to Rs 5 lakh per year to Assistant Conservator of Forests. It is recommended that Range Forest Officers (RFO) also be delegated powers to sanction ex-gratia upto Rs 15,000 in each case subject to a maximum of Rs 2 lakh in a year. RFOs can be given the authority to issue the Official Memorandum sanctioning the ex-gratia.**
15. **Village Forest Committees (VFC) have funds lying unused for many years. One reason for non-utilisation could be the cumbersome procedure for getting approval for utilising the funds. In order to simplify the process, it is recommended that approval of 10 years management plan of VFCs may be done by Deputy Conservator of**

Forests (DCF) instead of by Chief CF/CF. Once the 10 year plan is approved by the DCF, the approval of Annual Plan of Operations may be done by the ACF and the approval of estimates, calling and approval of tenders, issue of work orders and payment of bills may be done by the RFO.

16. Nearly a lakh cases of forest violations are pending. This delay defeats the purpose of prescribing penalties and allows repeat violators to run free. In order to act as a deterrent, the power of compounding offences may be used more extensively by delegating the power and increasing the compounding amount. It is recommended that in the interest of quicker disposal of offences, **the Forest department may propose an amendment to Sec 79 of Karnataka Forest Act to empower the Deputy RFO to compound offences.** A limit of fifty thousand rupees for compounding offences was fixed in 1981. **Therefore it is recommended that the compounding limit be increased to Rs 10 lakhs. Compounding of second and third time offences may be at higher rates.**
17. Government in recent years have liberalised the rules for felling, transporting and selling of sandalwood and teak wood grown in private lands with a view to encourage farmers to grow these trees. However, the rules in respect of rosewood have not been liberalised so far. There may be no need to have special rules for felling and transporting of rosewood. The rules relating to rosewood trees may be relaxed and the same rules regarding felling and transporting applicable to teak trees may be made applicable to rosewood trees planted in private lands also.
18. Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) - III regulations require applicants constructing houses between 200 metres and 500 metres of the coastline to take permission from the District Coastal Management Committee chaired by the district Deputy Commissioner. The district DC has a tremendous workload of different types of work. It may not be possible for the DC to hold meetings of the DCMC regularly. **It is suggested that FEE department consider delegating the power to dispose applications for house building permissions in CRZ-III to the concerned DCFs without going to the DCMC.**
19. Thousands of forest offence cases are pending since many decades. The timber seized in such cases is stored in timber depots awaiting court orders. Due to such long delays the quality of timber deteriorates and may become worthless. It is said that such timber can retain value for about 3-4 years; thereafter it deteriorates in quality and value. In such cases both the parties

suffer loss. Therefore, it is recommended that Forest department propose for an amendment of Sec.62B- Report by Investigation Officer of KFA, so that immediately after filing the chargesheet report in court, the concerned RFO is authorised to e-auction the seized items and deposit the proceeds of auction in the same court till final disposal of the case.

20. It is recommended that Forest department propose for extending a death cum disability insurance cover at Government cost to its outsourced staff working in RRTs, APCs, anti-depredation camps, forest protection camps, elephant task force and in other such life threatening work.
21. It is therefore recommended that in districts with low forest cover where the Territorial division does not have much work and in the Malnad districts where the Social forestry (SF) division may have much work, the Territorial and SF divisions be merged.
22. In the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, the power to issue consent, authorisation and registration under the two Acts and the four Rules administered by the Board, in respect of all green category industries, small-scale orange and micro red categories of industries may be delegated to Regional Officers (RO). The industry should be able to get consent/authorization/registration under all 6 Acts/Rules in a single order by the RO.

Water Resources Department

23. Revised water rates for industrial use that were issued in 2019 were struck down by the Hon High Court because the relevant rules had not been amended. The revised water rates for industrial use taking cost inflation index would be Rs 1.20 lakh per mcft for use of river water and Rs 2.40 lakh for use of canal water. **The Rules may be notified with these rates. While revising the rates, WRD may also insert a provision in the Rules to increase the rate at the rate of 5% every year, to take into account inflation and the higher water rates for industrial use in neighbouring States.**
24. The WRD Subdivisions are responsible for managing emergency works, such as temporarily repairing breaches in the canal bunds, removal of fallen trees, plugging of rat holes etc. However, there is currently no provision to address such works without obtaining prior approval from the corporation head office. **It is suggested that a revolving fund be provided to the Executive Engineers with an amount of say Rs 5 lakh for taking up**

specified emergency works under Sec 4a of KTPP Act without seeking prior approval.

25. The Commissioner, Rehabilitation & Resettlement post is usually held by officers as a concurrent charge. They may not have much time to visit and clear files in Bagalkot and therefore there is avoidable delay in approving land acquisition files. This further delays project implementation. **It is therefore recommended that powers to approve land acquisition cases be entrusted to the relevant district Deputy Commissioners in districts other than Bagalkot.**
26. **It is therefore recommended that the WRD consider merging CADAs with the respective Nigamas and entrust the entire responsibility for FIC creation, maintenance, WUCS and closing the gap between irrigation potential created and utilisation to the respective Nigamas. Cadass can work like WALMI branches to train and handhold the WUCS. The responsibility of dealing with WUCS, constituting and rejuvenating WUCS may be entrusted to the maintenance subdivisions of the Nigamas. An annual target may be given to the Nigamas for constitution of WUCS and for rejuvenation of WUCS. Only by involving the Nigamas can the WUCS become active.**
27. **It is recommended that an annual grant of Rs 2 lakh each be given to all active WUCS. The funds may be routed through the Nigamas rather than through CADAs because of the larger budget allocation available with Nigamas.**
28. **Data on these parameters was obtained from three Nigamas - KBJNL, CNNL and VJNL. Following the above methodology, below is a zonal summary of the number of sanctioned posts to be reduced and working staff to be rebalanced in these three Nigamas. As may be seen, by assessing the workload based on the above parameters it is suggested that 156 (20% of the total sanctioned posts) sanctioned posts of AEs and 101 (18% of the total sanctioned posts) sanctioned posts of JEs may be reduced in these three Nigamas by shifting them to other departments. As regards working staff, 114 (24%) of the working AEs are surplus in the three Nigamas based on workload assessment and may be re-deployed to other subdivisions within the same zone or Nigam or other Nigamas. For JEs, this number is 74 (38%) as currently there are many SDs which operate without even one JE. **Across the 3 Nigamas there is a shortage of about 30 JE's.** In order to meet this**

shortage, WRD may consider moving JE's from the nearby CADA Divisions.

Minor Irrigation department

29. The Kere Sanjeevini programme is implemented through contractors by MI department, whereas KTCDA implements it through the Kere Balakedarara Sanghas. In the interest of better quality of work and local participation, **MI department may also implement the Kere Sanjeevini programme through the relevant Kere Balakedarara Sanghas.**
30. The department should get energy audits done of all old pumps and motors to gauge their efficiency. It should give guidelines to all subdivisions on the energy saving measures that should be implemented. Calibration of electricity meters should be done regularly to ensure accurate metering. If necessary, projects to replace the inefficient pumps and motors may be taken up by calling for tenders as was done by Smart City corporations for replacing inefficient bulbs and tubes with LED streetlighting.

Public Works Department

31. To prevent wastage of funds, it is recommended that Finance department issue orders to all PWD offices and Accounts officers in these offices that every bill payment for road works should be done only if the relevant RIS extract has been obtained, examined and the online road history updated. RIS may be made a module in KRAMS to avoid duplication.
32. A Building Information System (BIS) has also been developed by the department but is not being used. Using regularly updated BIS would prevent cases of taking up the same buildings for improvements while neglecting more needy buildings. On the same lines as for RIS, unless payment of work bills is linked to examination of BIS, it is not likely to be used. **Therefore, it is recommended that Finance department issue orders to all PWD offices and Accounts officers in these offices to pass bills for building works only if the relevant BIS extract has been obtained, examined and the online building history updated.**
33. Powers to issue work orders and for payment of bills for works costing less than Rs 10 lakh may be delegated to AEEs. AEEs may be entrusted with 100% check measurement instead of 90% at present in respect of works costing less than Rs 10 lakh. Finance department may issue instructions while releasing funds under heads of account

2059 for building maintenance and 3054 for emergency road works, that AEEs may also be allocated funds under these two heads for making such payments. Such powers may be made applicable to AEEs of all engineering departments including Water Resources, Minor Irrigation, Panchayat Raj Engineering, Rural Water Supply etc. Suitable changes may be proposed and made in the Departmental Code and orders of delegation of powers.

34. Exemption under Sec 4(g) or Sec 4(a) of KTPP Act can be granted based on emergency needs. These works could include preparation of VVIP helipads, barricading, press conferences, restoration of drinking water supply, resumption of electricity supply, closing potholes posing danger to riders and other similar emergency works where work has to be carried out immediately in the interest of security and safety. Suitable administrative, financial and technical powers may be delegated to the Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) and Executive Engineer (EE) for the execution of such works on piece rate basis and for making payments. Funds may be allocated for Emergency works and the Assistant Executive Engineer may be authorized to use up to a certain financial limit, say Rs 2 lakh per month, for such emergency works.

Commerce & Industries department

35. Therefore, a new State Level Survey of Artisans to prepare a database of artisans (like Fruits database for farmers) with their details like ration card number may be proposed. It may be conducted in rural and urban areas. A mobile app may be prepared for collecting the data. A suitable ID like UDID may be issued to them. Data of artisans registered under Kaushalkar for skill development may be incorporated in the database.
36. It is therefore recommended that DCs be given annual targets for industrial and service enterprises development in terms of (1) number of new enterprises for which MOUs are signed, (2) Affidavit Based Clearances (ABC) acknowledgements issued, (3) approvals given and commissioned; (4) investment made and (5) employment generated. Their targets may be exclusive of Karnataka Udyoga Mitra (KUM) cleared projects. In the case of KUM projects and large and medium scale industries, their targets can be in terms of (6) number of large and medium scale industries and services commissioned.

Deputy Commissioners may be designated as ex-officio Deputy Commissioners for Industrial and Services Promotion.

37. **It has been further modified to allow private estates to be set up in 10 acres or more.** In view of rising prices of land in Karnataka, purchasing 75 acres of land may require high investment and may not be within the reach of private entrepreneurs in districts and taluks. To promote private industrial parks, **it is recommended that the KIP 2020-25 be modified to reduce the minimum acreage for multi/sector specific private industrial parks from 75 acres to 10 acres within Local Planning Area boundaries and 15 acres in TMC, TP and taluk level.**
38. **The district level Single Window Agencies (SWA) should be instructed to take up a drive to identify industrial plots where industries are not set up after completion of the permitted period. After taking a final decision in the SWA, such vacant plots should be resumed or recommended for cancellation as per rules. They may be reallocated to other eligible applicants. Detailed recommendations in this regard are made in the KIADB and KSSIDC sections. C&I department may issue suitable instructions in this regard to district SWAs and Land Audit Committees.**
39. **In order to better utilise the DD, KVI team, C&I department may consider transferring the responsibility for implementation and monitoring of State sector schemes for rural industries, artisans and housing from JD, DIC to DD, KVI (RI). Alternately, these schemes may be transferred from State Sector to the ZP sector. This way the services of the DD, KVI may be better utilised.**
40. **In Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board, Government may consider and issue directions to delegate the power under Sec 34B to resume possession of land measuring less than 2 acres to the district SWA after following the procedure laid down in Sec 4B. There should be no need to send the proposal for resumption to CEO. If found necessary, a suitable amendment may be proposed to Sec 34B to delegate the power under Sec 34B to the district Single Window Agency or any agency or officer authorised by the Board.**
41. **Chamarajendra Technical Institute (CTI) of professional training is one of the oldest professional training institutes in the State. It was established by the Maharaja of Mysore in 1913 to upgrade professional and technical skills of artisans. Now only two Trainers are working in the institute. This institute has stopped conducting training programs, since the last 3-4 years.**

Hence it is recommended that the CTI be transferred on use basis to the Department of Industrial Training and Employment under the Skill Development department for running it as Chamarajendra Industrial Training Institute (CITI). The C&I department may retain ownership of the land.

42. It was reported that about 500 of these worksheds have been allotted and the rest are pending for allotment. The unused worksheds are in danger of collapsing due to lack of use and maintenance. **C&I department may consider and issue an order handing over the remaining unallotted Vishwa worksheds to Gram Panchayats and Municipalities for using the worksheds for public purposes only, without transferring the property rights.**
43. **C&I department may propose that Zonal regulations of Town Planning department be amended to permit setting up of micro-scale garment and embroidery units with capital investment upto Rs 1 crore and handloom units upto Rs 50 lakh in residential areas of urban and rural areas.**
44. Out of the 74 running sugar factories, only 14 are cooperatives while the remaining 60 are private factories. **Therefore, there may be no need for cooperative officers in the directorate; the Cooperative department posts in the directorate like ARCS etc. may be abolished.**

Mines and Geology

45. **Responsibility may be fixed on the leaseholders to furnish quarry levels, cut volume, royalty payable and paid. The department officers shall accept the faithful data submitted by the leaseholder. However, the department can inspect and verify the cut volume reported. The above stipulations may be incorporated in all the lease agreements. Therefore, Integrated lease management system (ILMS) application format under Rule 42 may be revised so that it includes a self-declaration by the licensee-applicant about (a) the levels of mining as on 31st March and 1st April of the year (b) cumulative quantity mined and (c) MDPs taken for the mined quantity. If this information is not entered on the ILMS, MDP generation should be blocked by the system.**
46. PWD, Rural Water Supply department, Water Resources and other government departments use excavated minerals. Though Rule 42 of KMMCR mandates transportation of minerals only with MDP, an interim provision was made to collect royalty by deducting from the work bills. The

MDP system has stabilised and is being widely used. It is therefore appropriate for Government to consider withdrawing the circular issued in 2011, allowing deduction of royalty from work bills. **The contractors should strictly be asked to follow Rule 42 and use only minerals with MDP. If MDP is not submitted, penalty of 5 times royalty, plus DMF contribution and Average Additional Periodic (AAP) payment should be deducted.**

47. For capturing part of the profits accruing from increasing market price, it is recommended that royalty of minor minerals be based on market price i.e. on ad valorem basis. For determining the market price, a State Bureau of Mines (SBM) Wing may be formed in the DMG. It may follow the procedure adopted by the IBM, including study of market prices and royalty in neighbouring States, to determine the market price and publish the market prices of minor minerals. The Government may by notification revise the relevant market price and royalty on an annual basis on or before 31st March every year.
48. It was reported that out of 314 Ordinary Building Stone (OBS) blocks in the State identified for auction only 15-20 blocks have been auctioned. The rest are pending for want of Revenue and Forest NOCs. **The district DCs may be instructed by Government to hold monthly meetings to review the pending NOCs for identified blocks and expedite the NOCs. C&I department may propose to Government to set up a Standing Cabinet Sub Committee consisting of Ministers of Revenue, Forest and Mines departments to regularly review and expedite the issue of NOCs and clearances.**
49. **Therefore, Enforcement Squads may be set up attached to each MPF.** A Senior Geologist may head the Squad consisting of two geologists and others by redeploying them from districts with less mineral production. **At the divisional level, Enforcement Squads may be constituted with Karnataka Industrial Security Force constables to work under the JD for tackling illegal mining.** This will strengthen the department to control illegal mining in the mineral rich areas where it is rampant.
50. **Therefore, there may be no need to continue with the posts of Civil engineers in the DMG. The working civil engineers could continue till their retirement or could be deputed to other engineering departments. The posts falling vacant may be converted to posts of Geologists and Mining Engineers.**

Finance dept

51. To serve as an alert to senior officers, it is recommended that DDOs, Heads of department and Secretaries of departments may be sent monthly SMSs by the HRMS Cell about the number of their staff, both regular and outsourced, who have not been paid salary for the previous month. This would alert the senior officers to review and take suitable steps to ensure that issues relating to delayed salary, unauthorised absence etc are attended to promptly.
52. Though the Contract Management System was part of eProc 1.0, it was not utilized. **The Contract Management System in eProc 2.0 should be operationalised and mandatorily used. Suitable Government order may be issued by Finance department for this purpose.**
53. The eProcurement 1.0 version comprises modules for recording e-MB, E billing, and Contract Management module, which are currently underutilized. Unless payment is linked to use of the Contract management module, it may not be used to the full potential. **Therefore, it is recommended that linking of Khajane 2 and eProcurement 2.0 be completed at the earliest so that all work bill payments be done only by direct linking of contract management module on eProcurement to Khajane 2. It is recommended that Finance department may issue orders that all works bills to be paid only through linking of eProcurement contract management system with Khajane 2..**
54. Whatever is placed in the public domain in MGNREGA works can also be put in public domain for eProcurement works. **Therefore, it is recommended to upload all such documents available on the eProcurement portal to the public domain so that RTI applicants can pay the necessary fees and download the required documents.** A new module may be developed with permitted fields and data available in the public domain. Finance department may issue suitable guidelines to E Governance department about the documents, fields and data that may be placed in the public domain. This will considerably reduce the workload on the staff.
55. **It is therefore recommended that UDD issue orders to all ULBs to fix building approval fees, development fees, road cutting charges and material storage charges as a percentage of the estimated cost of the building or guidance value of the site instead of fixing absolute amounts. When the order is implemented by ULBs, it will considerably increase their revenues.**

Law department

56. A unified portal should be developed by E Governance department for each department through which the government advocates/panel lawyers can submit all their professional fee bills/requests at the same time directly, with a login provided to the Law department and Legal cell. The professional fee invoices need to be cleared on a monthly basis and payments disbursed to the lawyer directly into their designated bank account (and not through cheques). This portal could also be made available online, where lawyers can raise their professional bills online and the government department/board/authority releases their payments expeditiously.

Actions taken by the Departments on the 5 reports of the Commission

1. The Commission has already submitted 5 reports to the government.
2. A total of 3,630 recommendations have been made in respect of 23 departments. The details of action taken and reported so far on the online monitoring system by the concerned departments on them are summarized below. Reports on action taken on the remaining recommendations are being obtained.

Total recommendations made by the KARC2	Number of Recommendations implemented or under implementation
3630	350