

## **CELEBRATION OF ICONIC WEEK OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**6th June, 2022**

**Subject: Seminar on Appraisal & Monitoring of Infrastructure Projects – Time and Cost Overruns organized by Office of Chief Adviser Cost, Department of Expenditure during Iconic Week of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**

Office of Chief Adviser Cost, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance organized a Seminar on “Appraisal & Monitoring of Infrastructure Projects – Time & Cost Overruns” on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 during the Iconic week of Ministry of Finance for celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

The Seminar was inaugurated by lighting of lamp by Hon’ble Minister of State for Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary followed by Ms. Annie G. Mathew, Special Secretary (Pers.), Dept. of Expenditure, Shri Umesh Kumar Shukla, Chief Adviser Cost and Shri V.K. Jindal, Addl. Chief Adviser Cost. In his inaugural speech, Minister of State stated that Hon’ble Prime Minister’s vision is to make the India as one of the world’s top three economies and bring it closer to developed nation status by the 100<sup>th</sup> year of its independence in 2047. The government has focused on time-bound creation of world class infrastructure and has enhanced the capital expenditure by 35.4% in the budget 2022-23. However, time and cost overrun creates bottleneck in achieving the vision of Hon’ble Prime Minister. While stressing on the need of technology to manage and control the delays in the construction phase, he also emphasized on appraisal of projects before commissioning by involving technical and financial experts. Appraisal/monitoring of projects by an independent group comprising ICoAS Officers at the time of appraisal and during/post completion of the project may speed up in creation of excellent infrastructure during the Amrit Kaal (2022-2047).

The seminar had two technical sessions. In the first technical session, KPMG Team, represented by Ms. Aparajita Tripathi, Director and Mr. Ankur Mishra, Associate Director delivered the presentation, which covered need of project appraisal, approach, methodology and types of project appraisal, global and Indian case studies, and best practices, tools and techniques adopted globally for project monitoring. In the second technical session, Shri Rajesh Yadav, Adviser (Cost), Office of Chief Adviser Cost discussed about the critical issues of time and cost overrun.

The program was also attended by Financial Advisers of Various Departments/ Ministries and ICoAS Officers. The program was also made available through online mode to ICoAS officers.

**6th June, 2022**

**Subject: Interaction of Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure) with participants and Financial Advisers organized by Office of Chief Adviser Cost, Department of Expenditure during Iconic Week of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**

An interactive session of participants and Financial Advisers (FAs) of the Departments/ Ministries with Dr. T.V. Somanathan, Finance Secretary and Secretary (Expenditure) was organised by the Office of Chief Adviser Cost, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for sensitizing the importance of completion of infrastructure projects on time. It was deliberated that the delay in completion of projects not only causes financial burden to the Government, but also results in loss of opportunity to use the services and earn revenue therefrom.

It was pointed out that one of the main reasons for time and cost overrun is inaccurate estimates of cost and/or duration and delay in land acquisition, forest, and other clearances. It was emphasized to involve the technical & finance experts at the DPR stage and regular monitoring during execution of the projects. The program was also made available through online mode to ICoAS officers.