10.1 Supply and Installation of Wet Type Incinerator

At paragraph 10.2 of the 2006-07 Audit Report, I mentioned that in March 2002, the Judiciary proposed to acquire an incinerator for the destruction of old records, plastic, paper and exhibits, especially drugs. As of October 2007, more than five years after the project was initiated, the equipment was not yet installed and was still lying at the premises of the supplier.

The contract was awarded to a private company in March 2004 for the sum of Rs 2,437,321. The Judiciary had already paid a sum of Rs 1,706,125, representing 70 per cent of its contract value.

Due to problems to find a suitable location for the incinerator, the Police Department was contacted to have the equipment installed at their premises, and in August 2007, it was agreed that the Department would take over the incinerator and pay the balance of the contract value.

However, as of June 2008, the equipment had not yet been installed as complaints from neighbours had been received by the Police Department.

In the meantime, the company had gone into receivership (in April 2008) and a Receiver Manager appointed.

According to the Tender Documents, the balance was payable upon installation and commissioning of the incinerator. With the company being wound up, it might prove difficult to have the equipment installed and commissioned. I have suggested that this should be taken up urgently with the Police Department and the Receiver Manager to ensure that there would be somebody to install and commission the incinerator. As for warranty, there is no hope of having any. I had also stressed on the fact that the state of the equipment might be deteriorating and rusting after staying so long at the company’s premises.

Judiciary’s Reply

Letters were sent to the Receiver Manager requesting him to restore the incinerator to the Police Department, but up to now, no reply has been received.