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## Foreword

Dr Homi J Bhabha, founder of India's atomic energy programme envisaged a purchase and stores division for the Department of Atomic Energy exempting it from the purview of Central Purchase Organization, considering its special and strategic requirements. The Purchase and Stores Division was later on constituted as an independent service organisation of the Department and named as Directorate of Purchase and Stores on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1972. Over a period of time, the Units of the Department have grown into multi disciplinary R&D and Industrial organisations with primary objective of nuclear power generation and applications like defence, medicine, industry, agriculture, water management, etc.

Considering the diverse requirement and inventory of industrial and R&D units of the Department and the necessity in maintaining uniformity in the procedure in all the units for its storage, preservation, verification, disposal and accounting, an initiative was taken to prepare a new stores manual in the year 2016 and it was completed in the current year.

I take this opportunity to compliment all those who have contributed directly and indirectly for the preparation of the stores manual. I hope the stores manual shall be useful for the officers and staff of the Department as a reference document and the manual shall be updated as and when required.

The stores manual will come into force from December 01, 2020.

(K. N. Vyas)

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