

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
(2023-24)**

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

167

167th REPORT

[Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 107th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Goa]

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 20.12.2023)



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
December, 2023/, Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)**

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COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
(2023-24)

Shri Girish Chandra - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Shri ShafiqurRahmanBarq
3. Dr. A. Chellakumar
4. Shri PallabLochan Das
5. Shri Choudhury Mohan Jatua
6. ChoudharyMehboob Ali Kaiser
7. Dr. AmolRamsingKolhe
8. Shri JamyangTseringNamgyal
9. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
10. Shri T.N. Prathapan
11. Shri SellaperumalRamalingam
12. Shri SaptagiriSankarUlaka
13. Shri Devendrappa Y.
14. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.K. Suryanarayanan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
3. Shri Rahul Singh - Deputy Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-24), having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this 167th Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations made by the Committee in their 107th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Goa.

2. The 107th Report (17th Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 27 March, 2023. The Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) furnished their replies on 10 August, 2023 indicating the action-taken on the observations/ recommendations contained in the 107th Report. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 13 December, 2023.

3. The Committee place on record their appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

4. The Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters at the end of the Report.

New Delhi;
13 December, 2023

22 Agrahanaya, 1945 (Saka)

Girish Chandra
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

Report

Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Observations / Recommendations made by the Committee in their 107th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Goa.

This Report of the Committee deals with the action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the observations/recommendations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-2024) in their 107th Report (17th Lok Sabha) which dealt with the matter of delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Goa and which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 27 March, 2023.

2. The Committee had made five observations/recommendations in their 107th Report (17th Lok Sabha). The action-taken replies to all the observations/recommendations have been received from the Government vide OM –F.No. 19-13/2021TS-1 dated 10 August, 2023.

3. The observations/recommendations made by the Committee, the Action taken by the Government thereon and further comments of the Committee are given in following paragraphs.

Recommendation No. 19

4. The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that the Indian Institute of Technology, Goa was established in the year 2016 and has been receiving funds from the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) since its inception. As per recommendation of the Committee contained in Paras 1.16 and 3.5 of its First Report (5th Lok Sabha), Paras 4.16 and 4.18 of Second Reports of 5th Lok Sabha and Paras 1.12 and 2.6 to 3.8 of Second Report of 6th Lok Sabha presented to the House on 08-03-1976, 12-05-1976 and 22-12-1977 respectively and General Financial Rules the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Institute are required to be laid on the Table of the House within nine months from the closure of the accounting year. However, the Committee observe that the requisite documents of the Institute for the years 2018-2019 to 2020-2021 were laid with delays of 13, 11 and 7 months respectively. As regards laying of the requisite documents of the Institute for the year 2016-2017 and 2017- 2018, no reply has been given by the Ministry. The Committee feel that the Ministry should have furnished all the records regarding laying of the requisite documents of the Institute since its inception as desired by the Committee. The Committee, therefore, recommend to take note the directions of the Committee.”

5. The Ministry in its action taken reply has stated as under:-

“The details for the year 2016-17 and 2017-18 are as under:

S.No.	Points	Year-wise details for the financial years from 2016-17 & 2017-18	
		2016-17	2017-18
1	Date of approach to the audit authorities	NA	NA
	Time taken after the closure of accounting year	NA	NA
2	Date of appointment of statutory auditors	NA	NA
	Time taken after the approaching the audit authorities for appointment of auditors	NA	NA
3	Date of compilation of annual accounts	31.05.2017	19.09.2018
	Time taken after the closure of the accounting year	02 months	06 months
4	Date of submission of annual accounts to auditors	15.01.2018	23.10.2018
	Time taken after closure of respective accounting year	10 months	07 months
5	The date and duration for auditing the annual accounts by statutory auditors	15 th - 31 st Jan `18	29 th Oct-26 th Nov `18
6	The date of queries raised by auditors during auditing/ after completion of the annual accounts	15 th - 31 st Jan `18	29 th Oct-26 th Nov `18
	Time taken by auditors in raising the queries during auditing/after completion of the annual accounts to audit authorities	15 th - 31 st Jan `18	29 th Oct-26 th Nov `18
7	The date on which the replies to the audit queries were furnished to the Auditors	15 th - 31 st Jan `18	29 th Oct-26 th Nov `18
	The time taken to resolve the queries	15 th - 31 st Jan `18	29 th Oct-26 th Nov `18
8	The date on which draft Audit Report was issued by Audit Authorities	10.04.2018	13.12.2018
	Time taken after auditing of the annual accounts	03 months	01 month
9	The date on which the final audit report received by the Institute	20.06.2018	06.02.2019

	Time taken after issue of draft report	03 months	02 months
10	Total time taken by the audit authorities after receiving of the annual accounts to furnishing the final audit report to the Institute	06 months	04 months
11	Date of finalization of the annual report	11.09.2017	10.07.2018
	Time taken after the closure of the financial year; and also	06 months	04 months
	Time taken after the receipt of the final audit report	NA	NA
12	The date on which documents were got approved from the Competent Authority	20.06.2018(Annual Accounts) 11.09.2017 (Annual report)	16.07.2019 (Annual Accounts) 14.11.2018 (Annual report)
	Time taken after finalization of Annual Report	NA	NA
	Time taken after receipt of Final Audit Report	01 month	06 months
13	The date on which documents were taken up for translation & printing	20.07.2018 (Annual Accounts) 28.11.2017 (Annual Report)	15.04.2019 (Annual Accounts) 20.07.2018 (Annual Report)
	The time taken for completing the task at each stage.	01 month	01 month
14	The date for sending the documents to the Ministry for being laid in House after the completion the task at each stage.	23.07.2018	07.05.2019
	Time taken by the organisations in sending the documents of the Ministry	01 month	01 month
15	The date of laying the documents to the House.	LS- 07.01.2019 RS- 03.01.2019	LS- 09.12.2019 RS-12.12.2019
	Time taken after receipt of the documents from the Organization	06 months	08 months

6. The Committee are dismayed to note that the Ministry has not furnished the appropriate written reply to the recommendation made by the Committee in their original Report in respect of laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the IIT, Goa for the years 2016-17 and

2017-18. The Ministry has also not given any reason why it took 6 months' time in getting approval of the requisite documents from the Competent Authority as mentioned at Sl. No. 12 of the reply to the recommendation Serial No. 19 (Year-wise details for the financial year 2017-18) after finalisation of Report. The Ministry took 6 months & 8 Months' time in laying of the same after the receipt of documents from the organisation. The Ministry has merely furnished the statement without giving reasons for the delay and remedial measures to be taken in future. In the given situation, the Committee reiterate that every effort should be made to adhere to the recommendations made by the Committee in this regard.

Recommendation No. 20

7. The Committee had recommended as under:-

“The Committee examined the reasons for delay in laying of the requisite documents of the Institute for the years 2018-2019 to 2020-2021 and observe that there are three different reasons of delays. For the year 2018-2019, it has been observed that the Institute had submitted their requisite documents to the Ministry on 13 March, 2020. However, these documents were laid on the Table of the House on 08 February, 2021 with delay of near about one year. The reasons for delay in this regard have not been furnished by the Ministry. The task of preparation of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the financial year 2019-20 to 2020-21 was significantly affected due to COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee are of the considered opinion that the long time taken by the Ministry in laying the requisite documents could not be justified on any ground. The Committee, therefore, recommend for paying utmost attention to the General Financial Rules as well as the recommendations of the Committee towards timely laying of the requisite documents.”

8. The Ministry in its action taken reply has furnished the following remedial measures to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents of the Institute:-

“The suggestions of the Committee have been noted for compliance. Several measures are being taken by the Ministry and the Institutes to ensure timely laying down of the requisite documents on the table of the house. Utmost care will be taken to adhere to the timelines for laying of Annual Report & Audited Accounts.”

Recommendation No. 21

9. The Committee had recommended as under:-

“The Committee also note that though the Institute has compiled the Annual Accounts for the year 2020-2021 within three months as recommended by the Committee, the Annual Accounts of this year were submitted by the Institute to Audit Authorities on 1.12.2021. The Committee are not convinced with the reason put forth by the Ministry that the delay in this regard was due to Covid-19 as submission of Annual Accounts to Audit Authorities is hardly a work which could have been redressed with proper planning. The Committee firmly believe that the delay at this stage has been due to lack of concern on the part of Institute. The Committee,

therefore, recommend that the Ministry may strengthen its monitoring mechanism at each stage to ensure that inordinate delays in laying the documents do not occur in future.”

10. The Ministry in its action taken replies has stated as under:-

“Monitoring mechanism being followed by Ministry is as under:

(i) Monitoring at the level of Secretary (Higher Education)/ Joint Secretary (Technical Education).

(ii) Timelines are conveyed regularly to the institutes for preparation, finalization and submission of AAs and ARs.

(iii) A portal has been launched by the Ministry which reminds the Institutes on regular intervals to complete the data entry and sends daily reminders 7 days prior to deadline. Further, an e-mail is sent a day before the last day.”

Recommendation No. 22

11. The Committee had recommended as under:-

“Getting the documents of the Institute translated in Hindi version and printing thereof is stated to be another reason for delays. However, the Committee observe from the replies that the Institute took less than 01 month, 2 days and 7 days for the year 2018-19 and 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively for translation and printing and therefore this should not be an excuse for delay in laying the documents in time. The Committee, therefore, recommend that concerted efforts should be made by the ministry and the Institute for timely laying of documents.”

12. The Ministry in its action taken replies has stated as under:-

The suggestion of the Committee has been noted for compliance.

Efforts made are as under:

(i) Timelines are conveyed to institutes for preparation, finalization and submission of AAs and ARs.

(ii) Reminders are being sent to the institutes for submission of AAs and ARs from time to time.

(iii) In urgency, Institutes take approval of Finance Committee and Board of Governors for ARs and AAs through circulation to avoid delays.

13. The Committee note that the Ministry has accepted the recommendations of the Committee and has informed that several measures are being taken by them to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents of the Institute on the table of the House. The Committee appreciate that the Institute has overcome several issues faced earlier and has managed to reduce the overall

delay period to a considerable extent. However, the Committee note that the requisite documents of the IIT, Goa for the year 2021-22 have been laid on 06 February, 2023 with delay of 01 month and 06 days. The Committee feel that the Ministry/Institute must put in extra effort to completely eliminate such minor delays to fulfill its requirement towards the Parliament.

Recommendation No. 23

14. The Committee had recommended as under

“The Committee hope and trust that the Ministry/Institute would abide by the assurance given by them to the Committee so that the documents of the Institute are laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated period of nine months after close of the accounting year in future.”

15. The Ministry in its action taken replies has stated as under:-

“Ministry and the institutes would abide by the assurance given to the committee. Ministry and Institutes are taking utmost care in ensuring that these documents are laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated period, which are detailed in the responses as mentioned against above recommendations also.”

16. The Committee note the assurance given by the Ministry and various steps taken by the Ministry to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents of the Institute. The Committee hope that with these measures, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Institute for succeeding years could be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time in future.

Recommendation No. 24

17. The Ministry in its action taken replies has stated as under:-

“The Committee also impress upon the Ministry that if due to some unavoidable reasons, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Goa could not be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within the prescribed period should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days or as soon as the House convenes, whichever is later.”

18. The Ministry in its action taken replies has stated as under:-

As recommended by the committee above, in case of any such delay due to unavoidable reasons, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within the prescribed limit will be laid on the table of the house.

19. The Ministry has accepted the recommendation made by the Committee. However, the Committee desire that in case of unavoidable delay, when the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Institute cannot be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents cannot be laid within the prescribed time period should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days after the expiry of the stipulated time or as soon as the House convenes whichever is later.

New Delhi

13 December,2023

22 Agrahayana,1945 (Saka)

Girish Chandra

Chairperson

Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2023-24)

**Extracts of the Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-2024)
held on 13.12.2023.**

The Committee sat on Wednesday, 13th December, 2023 from 1445 hours to 1540 hours in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

Shri Girish Chandra - ***Chairperson***

Members

(Lok Sabha)

2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
3. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
4. Shri Devendrappa Y.
5. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

Secretariat

1. Shri R.K. Suryanarayanan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
2. xx xx xx xx

3. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following two Original and eight Action-taken Reports for consideration and adoption:-

i. to vii

viii. Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 107th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Goa;

ix. to x

The ten draft Reports were adopted unanimously. The Hon'ble Chairperson was authorized by the Committee to finalize and present these Reports to the Lok Sabha on a date convenient to him.

4. to 6 xx xx xx xx

A Copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting is kept.)

The Meeting then adjourned.