

**COMMITTEE  
ON  
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE  
(1985-86)**

(EIGHTH LOK SABHA)

**FIFTH REPORT**

[Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee on Papers laid on the Table in their Sixth to Tenth Reports (Seventh Lok Sabha)]

[Presented on 6 December, 1985]



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

*December, 1985/Agrahayana, 1907 (Saka)*

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PERSONNEL OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID  
ON THE TABLE  
(1985-86)

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1. Shri M. V. Chandrashekara Murthy—*Chairman*
2. Shri Jagdish Awasthi
3. Shri Naresh Chandra Chaturvedi
- \*4. Shri Anadi Charan Das
5. Shri Shanti Dhariwal
6. Shri S. G. Gholap
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9. Shri C. K. Kuppuswamy
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13. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh
14. Shri Atish Chandra Sinha
15. Shri V. Tulsiram

SECRETARIAT

Shri M. K. Mathur—*Joint Secretary.*

Shri R. S. Mani—*Senior Legislative Officer.*

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\*Nominated with effect from 3-12-1985 vice Shrimati Manorma Singh,  
M.P. resigned on 8 November, 1985.

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table, having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this their Sixth Report on the Action Taken or proposed to be taken by Government on certain recommendations/observations of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table made in their Sixth to Tenth Reports (Seventh Lok Sabha).

2. The matters covered by this Report were considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 10 July, 1985.

3. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 5 December, 1985.

NEW DELHI;  
*December, 1985*  

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*Agrahayana, 1907 (S).*

M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY,  
*Chairman,*  
*Committee on Papers laid on the Table.*

## REPORT

### ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE IN THEIR SIXTH TO TENTH REPORTS (SEVENTH LOK SABHA)

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The recommendations/observations made in the Sixth to Tenth Reports (Seventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table, on which Government have taken action have been shown in a statement at Appendix.

2. The Committee note that the Government have accepted all the recommendations of the Committee made in the said reports of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. The Committee are also happy to observe that effective steps have been taken by the Ministries concerned towards their implementation, with a view to eliminate delay in laying the Annual Reports and Accounts of the organisations under them.

NEW DELHI;  
December, 1985  

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Agrahayana, 1907 (S)

M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY,  
*Chairman,*  
*Committee on Papers laid on the Table.*

**APPENDIX**

*Statement Showing action taken by Government on recommendations/observations of the Committees on Papers laid on the Table in their sixth to tenth reports (Seventh Lok Sabha)*

Sl. No.	Para No.	Summary of recommendations/observations	Gist of Govt. reply/action taken
1	2	3	4
1	1.8	<p>Sixth Report (7th Lok Sabha) (Ministry of Education &amp; Culture)</p>	<p>The Government have noted the observations of the Committee for compliance. (Vide Ministry of Education and Culture O.M. No. F. 18-9/79-U. 5 dated 21/26 November, 1981).</p>
2	1.9	<p>(Ministry of Education and Culture)</p>	<p>The Committee also note that the Indian Council of Social Science Research is an autonomous organisation fully financed by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare and responsible for promoting research in the field of social sciences, and is presently supporting as many as 17 Research Institutes.</p>
3.	1.10	<p>(Ministry of Education and Culture)</p>	<p>From the information furnished by the Ministry, the Committee find that the Research Institutes do not receive grants directly from the Central Government out of the Consolidated Fund of India but are supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research out of the funds of the Council.</p>

4. 1.11.  
(Ministry of Education and Culture)

In view of the difficulties expressed by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, the Committee do not insist on the requirement of laying of separate Annual Reports/Audit Reports before Parliament in respect of the Research Institutes. The Committee, however, recommend that the Indian Council of Social Science Research, which directly, finances and controls the Research Institutes and whose Annual Report is laid on the Table should, in future, incorporate invariably in its Annual Reports a detailed chapter about the Research Institutes giving an account of the functioning of each Institute/Centre financed by the Council, the amount of grant, both recurring and non-recurring, given to each of them as also the activities pursued by each Institute/Centre during the year.

The Government have accepted the recommendations of the Committee. (vide Ministry of Education and Culture O.M. No. F. 18-9/79-U. 5, dated 21/26 November, 1981).

5. 1.5  
(Ministry of Planning)

The Committee note that the Annual Report of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta for the years 1975-76 and 1976-77 were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha as late as on 7 March, 1979 i.e. after 35 months and 23 months respectively of the close of the relevant accounting year. Similarly, the Annual Reports for 1977-78 and 1978-79 were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 12 August, 1980 i.e. after 28 months and 16½ months respectively of the close of the relevant accounting year. The Committee feel that such delays deprive Members of Parliament of the timely information about the working of bodies/organisations like the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, which receive large sums of money granted by Par-

The Government have accepted the observations/recommendations of the Committee and have stated that action has been taken to ensure that Annual Reports and Accounts of the Indian Statistical Institute are placed before the Lok Sabha within a period of nine months after the close of the accounting year. For this purpose, the regulations of the Institute have been suitably amended so as to provide for

liament. The Committee need hardly point out that the very purpose of laying the Reports and Accounts of organisations before Parliament is defeated if they are not available to members before the demands for grants of the Ministry concerned are voted with a view to enabling them to express their views thereon and caution the Ministry regarding the shortcomings, if any, in the affairs of the organisation.

6. 1.6  
(Ministry of Planning)

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation made in paragraph 3.5 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) which prescribes a period of nine months after close of the accounting year for laying Annual Reports and Accounts of autonomous organisations and hope that a proper time schedule would be laid down to ensure strict compliance with the aforementioned recommendation and to obviate delay at different levels.

7 1.7  
(Ministry of Planning)

The Committee are surprised to find that despite their recommendation made in paragraph 2.15 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) which, *inter alia* lays down that where it is not possible to lay both English and Hindi versions of Reports simultaneously, the version which is not ready should be laid on the Table either in the same session or by the end of next session, the Department of Statistics took as long

completion of the Audited, Statement of Accounts and Annual Report well in time to enable for the Government to place the report before Lok Sabha within nine months from the date of accounting year. (vide Ministry of Planning, Deptt. of Statistics O.M. No. H-12015/2/79-Estt. II/IST dated 7 July, 1981).

The Government have noted the observation of the Committee and have explained that the delay in laying the Hindi version of the Annual Report for 1976-77 after laying the English version thereof has been mainly due to the long time



as 17 months in laying Hindi version of the Annual Report of Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta for 1976-77 after laying English version thereof on the Table of the House. The Committee feel that the Department of Statistics have not taken any concrete steps to ensure expeditious translation of the Reports into Hindi and laying them on the Table of the House in time.

taken by an outside expert who had been entrusted with the job of translating the English version into Hindi. In view of this past experience alternative arrangements are being made for quick translation of English version into Hindi. In fact, the Annual Reports for the years 1977-78 and 1978-79 had been translated well in time and presented to the Lok Sabha along with the English version. Care would be taken in this respect in future also. (*Vide* Ministry of Planning Deptt. of Statistics O.M.No. H-12015/2/79-Estt. II/IST dated 7 July, 1981).

8. 1.8  
(Ministry of Planning)

The Committee, therefore, re-emphasise their aforesaid recommendation made in para 2.15 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) and hope that in future the Ministry would see that the recommendation is implemented in letter and spirit.

The Government have noted the recommendation of the Committee and have assured that it would be implemented in letter and spirit. (*vide* Ministry of Planning, Deptt. of Statistics O.M. No. H-12015/2/79-Estt. II/IST dated 7 July, 1981).

9. 1.9  
(Ministry of Planning)

On perusal of the statement showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Reports of Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta for the years 1975-76 to 1978-

The Government have accepted the recommendation of the Committee and have assured

that in future, the exact date of the events at various stages will be furnished to facilitate easy identification of the stages where delay has occurred. (Vide Ministry of Planning Deptt. of Statistics O.M. No. 12015/2/79-Estt. II./IST dated 7 July, 1981).

79. The Committee find that the Ministry have not specifically mentioned the stages of the Annual Reports and accounts where delay mainly occurred. The Committee, therefore, recommend that in the statements of reasons for delay the Ministry/Department should clearly and invariably mention in Chronological order the dates of finalisation of reports and accounts, their submission on to Audit, issue of Inspection Reports replies given on points raised in the reports and the receipt of audit report from the Audit, their translation and printing and sending copies thereof to Government for laying on the Table of the House, so that the House may identify the stage and extent of delay and suggest remedial measures therefor.

The Committee note that the Audited Accounts of Lalit Kala Akademi for the year 1977-78 were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha as late as 2 February, 1980 i.e., after 22 months of the close of the accounting year. The Committee find that the delay occurred mainly at the stage of compilation of the accounts because the Akademi took about 8½ months (instead of 3 months) in compiling those accounts.

The Committee are concerned to note that despite the assurance given by the Minister of Education and Social Welfare in a statement laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 17 March, 1980 that the Audited Accounts for 1978-79 would be laid dur-

The Government laid on the Table of the House the audited accounts of the Lalit Kala Akademi for the year 1978-79 as under :

10. 2.6  
(Ministry of Education & Culture)

11. 2.7  
(Ministry of Education and Culture)

ing the Winter Session, 1980, the said documents have not so far been laid. The Committee take a serious note of this and feel that no care was taken by the Ministry to implement the assurance given to the House by the Minister. The Committee desire that the Audited Accounts of the Akademi for 1978-79 should be laid on the Table of the House without any further delay.

Lok Sabha on 2-3-1981 and  
Rajya Sabha on 11-3-1981.  
(Vide Ministry of Education  
and Culture Department of  
Culture O.M. No. F. 12-12/81-CH. 4, dated 26  
May, 1981).

2. (7th Report) (Seventh Lok  
Sabha) 2.8  
(Ministry of Education and  
Culture)

The Committee find that as in the case of Annual Accounts for 1977-78, the Lalit Kala Akademi also took quite a long time *i.e.*, about one year. In compiling and submitting the accounts for 1978-79 to Audit. The Committee are not convinced with the reasons advanced by the Department of Culture that it took considerable time to collect requisite information from regional offices of the Akademi. The Committee feel that three months' period prescribed in paragraph 1.16 of Committee's First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha), is quite sufficient for an organisation to collect information from its various branches and offices and to compile that information, provided the books of accounts are maintained properly.

(7th Report) Seventh Lok  
Sabha) 2.9 (Ministry of  
Education & Culture)

While reiterating their earlier recommendation made in paragraph 1.16 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha), the Committee feel that a time bound programme is imperative for completing action at various stages of the Annual Accounts and Reports of the Akademi to ensure laying of Annual Accounts and Reports on the Table of the House within 9 months of the close of the accounting year.

The Government have accepted the recommendation of the Committee and have stated that the time bound programme of completion of various stages has been laid down and the Lalit Kala Akademi has been instructed

14. Eighth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 1.11 (Ministry of Education & Culture)

The Committee note that the Audited Accounts of the Sangeet Natak Akademi for the years 1977-78 and 1978-79 were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha after 22 months and 15 months of the close of the relevant accounting year. The Committee find that the delay occurred mainly at the stage of compilation of the accounts because the Akademi took 8 months and 7 months respectively (instead of 3 months) in compiling and submitting to Audit its above accounts. The Committee have no doubt that had the Sangeet Natak Akademi prepared its accounts within the prescribed time limit and furnished to Audit replies to draft Audit Report with promptitude as also reminded the Audit for expediting the Audit Report, the audited accounts would have been laid on the Table in time.

15. Eighth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 1.12 (Ministry of Education & Culture)

The Committee are of the view that no care seem to have been taken by the Departments of Culture to ensure compliance by the institutions/organisations under their administrative control, of the time limit prescribed by the Committee. The Committee find that despite their repeated recommendations that the

to follow the same. (Vide Ministry of Education and Culture O.M. No. F. 12-12/81-CH. 4 dated 26 May, 1981).

The Department of Culture in consultation with the Sangeet Natak Akademi has streamlined the procedure of accounts approval by the Finance Committee,

Executive Board, so that the accounts are submitted to the Audit well before the prescribed date.

There has been delay in finalising the accounts for 1979-80. The Sangeet Natak Akademi has two constituent units *i.e.* Kathak Kendra, New Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Danc Akademi, Imphal, the accounts of which were delayed due to various reasons and could not be submitted to the Audit in time. The Akademi has assured the Government that the Accounts for 1980-81 will be submitted in time.

(*Vide* office memorandum No. F. 20-24/81-CH (4) dt. 4 Dec., 1981 from Ministry of Education and Culture (Department of Culture).)

Annual/Audit Reports of autonomous organisations/institutions (which are required to be laid on the Table of the House) should be laid within 9 months of close of the accounting year, cases of delay in laying the reports and accounts continue to occur. The Committee feel that there seems to be no realisation on the part of the Ministries/Departments of Government of India to ensure timely laying of Reports/Accounts of the institutions/organisations under their administrative control.

The Committee desire that all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India should have a cell under the charge of a senior officer entrusted with the responsibility to ensure that the Annual Reports Audited accounts of the institutions/organisations under their administrative control are laid on the Table within the period prescribed by the Committee *i.e.*, within nine months of the close of the accounting year.

The Committee note that the Audited Accounts of the Sangeet Natak Akademi for the year 1979-80 were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 7 May, 1981, *i.e.* 13 months after the close of the accounting year. The Committee find that the Department of Culture did not lay on the Table any statement showing reasons why the said accounts could not be laid within the prescribed period of 9 months. The Committee further find that the Department of Culture have not even adhered to their own time schedule drawn for the accounts of 1979-80. The Committee are constrained to observe that it is of no use prescribing

16

1 13  
(Ministry of Education &  
Culture)

17

1 14  
(Ministry of Education &  
Culture)

a time schedule without adhering to it. The Committee trust that the Department of Culture would be very vigilant in future so as to ensure that no lapse will recur and Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Akademi are laid on the Table of the House in time.

18 Eighth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 2.10 (Ministry of Education & Culture)

The Committee find that the audited accounts of the National School of Drama, New Delhi for the years 1977-78 and 1978-79 which ought to have been laid before Parliament by 31st December 1978 and 31st December, 1979 in terms of the recommendation of the Committee made in para 3.5 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) i.e. within nine months of the close of the relevant accounting year, were actually laid on the Table on 15th December, 1980 and 27 April, 1981, after an inordinate delay of 2 years and 1 year and 4 months respectively. Further at the time of laying said audited accounts the Ministry of Education and Culture were expected to lay a statement explaining the reasons for this delay, indicating in chronological order the dates of finalisation of accounts, their submission to Audit, issue of Inspection Reports, replies given on points raised in the reports and finally the receipt of the audit report from the Audit authorities so that the House could identify the stage and extent of delay as these details were not available in the statement laid on the Table on 17-3-1980.

From the information furnished by the Ministry, the Committee find that though the Ministry were aware of the recommendations of the Committee made in their above report presented to Lok Sabha on 8th March, 1976—regarding laying of audited accounts within nine months of the close of the relevant accounting year and in case of delay to inform the House about the reasons for delay no seriousness was shown by the Ministry to act in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee cannot over-emphasise the consideration that inordinate delay in laying of Annual Reports/ audited accounts deprives the Members of Parliament of an opportunity to evaluate the performance of the organisation and the efficient utilisation of the funds given to it and to suggest remedial measures in case of short-comings in time.

The Committee further find that despite the assurance given by the Ministry in their statement laid on the Table on 17th March, 1980 that the audited accounts for the year 1978-79 would be laid on the Table in winter session of 1980 and the matter of delay having been brought to the notice of the Chairman of the National School of Drama Society, the audited accounts for the year 1978-79 were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 27 April, 1981, much after the promised period and that of 1979-80 have not been laid so far. This is ample proof of negligence on the part of the Ministry. The Committee have no doubt that

The Annual Report and the audited accounts for 1979-80 have been placed before both Houses of Parliament. Regarding the accounts for 1980-81 the Government have noted the comments of the Committee and have assured that the accounts of the National School of Drama would be finalised soon and placed before Parliament within the prescribed time limit. [*Vide* Office Memorandum No. F. 25-16/81CH-(4) dt. 9 December, 1981 from Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of Culture.]

had the Ministry been vigilant the accounts would not have fallen into arrears. The Committee take serious note of it.

21 2.13  
(Ministry of Education and Culture)

The Committee find that the relevant rule of the Rules and Regulations of the National School of Drama regarding laying of Annual Report, audited accounts and Audit Report thereon before Parliament was amended in June, 1978 and brought in accord with the recommendations of the Committee. The Committee further find that in spite of the amendment having been made, the audited accounts of the School are not being laid on the Table within the prescribed period.

22 2.14  
(Ministry of Education and Culture)

The Committee, however, trust that earnest efforts will be made to ensure that the audited accounts for the year 1979-80, which are in arrears, are laid on the Table without any further delay, alongwith a statement explaining the reasons for delay and in future the Annual Report, audited accounts and Audit Report of the School for the relevant year would be laid together before Parliament within the stipulated period.

The Annual Report and the audited accounts for 1979-80 have been placed before both Houses of Parliament. Regarding the accounts of 1980-81 the Government have noted the comments of the Committee and have assured that the accounts of the National School of Drama would be finalised soon and placed before Parliament within the prescribed time limit. (Vide Office Memorandum No. F: 25-16/18 CH



(4) dt. 9 December, 1981  
from Ministry of Education  
and Culture, Department of  
Culture)

3 Eighth Report (Seventh Lok  
Sabha) 2.15 (Ministry of  
Education and Culture)

The Committee note that a statement giving in brief reasons for not laying the audited accounts of the National School of Drama for the years 1977-78 and 1978-79 in time before Parliament was laid by the Ministry of Education on 17-3-1980 in the Lok Sabha but at the time of laying the audited accounts on 15-12-1980 no such statement, spelling out the reasons which contributed towards long delay from 17 March, 1980 to 15 December, 1980 was laid along with the audited accounts. In the absence of the requisite details the Committee could not assess the magnitude of delay at different stages.

4 2.16  
(Ministry of Education and  
Culture)

The Committee, therefore, recommend that in such cases where a Ministry lays only a statement in compliance with the recommendation of the Committee made in para 3.5 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) informing the House about its inability to lay a Report/Accounts on the Table of the House within a period of 9 months of the close of the accounting year of an organisation, the Annual Report/Accounts should normally be laid during the same session and if due to certain unavoidable reasons it is not possible to lay the Report/Accounts in that session the concerned Ministry should at the time of laying that paper in a sub-

The Annual Report and the audited accounts for 1979-80 have been placed before both Houses of Parliament. Regarding the accounts for 1980-81 the Government have noted the comments of the Committee and have assured that the accounts of the National School of Drama would be finalised soon and placed before Parliament within the prescribed time limit, (*Vide*

sequent session invariably lay a statement explaining in chronological order the events which led to its delay.

25 Eighth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 2.15 (Ministry of Education and Culture)

From the information supplied by the Ministry the Committee find that auditing of accounts of the School for the year 1977-78 was completed in February, 1980 but the accounts for the year 1978-79, could not be finalised in time due to shortage of staff. The Committee fear that since finalisation of accounts of 1978-79 has been delayed, the accounts of the subsequent years are likely to be delayed. Unless concerted efforts are made to clear the backlog the Ministry can never adhere to the time schedule laid down by the Committee. The Committee, therefore, stress upon the Ministry the need of early clearance of the arrears and strict observance of the time schedule in future.

Office Memorandum No. F. F. 25-16/18-CH (4) Parliament, 9 December, 1981 from Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of Culture).

26 3.12 (Ministry of Education and Culture)

The Committee feel concerned to note that despite the clear guidelines laid down by them in their recommendation contained in paragraph 3.5 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) for finalisation of accounts and Annual Reports and their laying before Parliament, the Annual Reports, Audited Accounts and Audit Reports thereon for the years 1977-78 and 1978-79 of none of the Regional Engineering Colleges were laid on the Table within the stipulated period, i.e. within 9 months of the close of the relevant accounting year. From the information

The Government have explained the reasons for delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Regional Engineering Colleges for the respective years. The Reports and Accounts have since been laid on the Table of the House. (Vide Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of Culture O.M.

furnished by the Ministry in respect of the Regional Engineering colleges located at Calicut and Durgapur it is clear that the colleges did not make serious efforts to compile the accounts for the years 1977-78 and 1979-80 within 3 months of the close of the year as recommended by the Committee.

3.13  
(Ministry of Education and  
Culture)

An analysis of the dates of laying of Annual Reports and audited accounts of the Regional Engineering Colleges reveals that the period of delay involved in laying the Reports and accounts for 1977-78 ranges from 3 months to 24 months and for 1978-79 from 3 months to 15 months. It is regrettable that in spite of the fact that the recommendation of the Committee was communicated to the Ministry as far back as 8-3-1976. Neither the colleges nor the Ministry took prompt action to ensure laying of Reports and accounts of the Colleges in time. It is distressing that the audited accounts of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur for the year 1978-79 have not so far been laid.

Eighth Report (Seventh Lok  
Sabha) 3.14 (Ministry of  
Education & Culture)

The Committee note that the audited accounts for 1979-80 of the Regional Engineering Colleges situated at Rourkela, Silchar, Srinagar, Surat and Durgapur which ought to have been laid by 31st December, 1980 have not so far been laid since audit reports in respect of these colleges are still awaited as stated by the Ministry in a statement laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 9-3-1981. The Committee are not satisfied with the reasons advanced by the Ministry of Education and Culture in their statement for not laying the audited accounts of the defaulting Regional Engineering Colleges in time

The Government have informed that the Audit Report and audited accounts in regard to Regional Engineering Colleges at Rourkela, Silchar, Srinagar and Surat for the year 1979-80 have been laid on the Table and position obtaining in regard to Durgapur has been explained. (Vide Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of

before Parliament. The Committee find that these colleges did not even observe the time schedule in laying the accounts for the years 1977-78 and 1978-79 also. It is surprising that despite the Ministry's repeated instructions to all the Regional Engineering Colleges for adhering to the time schedule in finalising their accounts for the year 1979-80 and their laying before Parliament in time, the audited accounts of the above 5 colleges are still in arrears.

Culture O.M. No. H. 11019/4/81-T.4 dated 4 December, 1981.

29 3.15 (Ministry of Education and Culture)

The Committee, therefore need hardly stress that the audited accounts of the Regional Engineering Colleges at Rourkela, Silchar, Srinagar, Durgapur and Surat for the year 1979-80 should be laid on the Table without any further delay, with a detailed statement explaining the reasons for delay in respect of each college.

The Government have informed that the Audit Report and audited accounts in regard to Regional Engineering Colleges at Rourkela, Silchar, Srinagar and Surat for the year 1979-80 have been laid on the Table and Government have explained the position, obtaining in regard to Durgapur. (vide Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of Culture O.M. No. H. 11019/4/81-T. 4 dated 4 December, 1981)

30 Eighth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 3.16 (Ministry of Education and Culture)

The Committee fail to understand how in the absence of audited accounts the Ministry of Education and Culture allocates funds to the Colleges for the subsequent years without knowing how the funds of the

Government have noted the observation of the Committee. (Vide M/o Education & Culture, Department of Education

previous years have been utilized by them. The Committee hope that in future the Ministry of Education and Culture will keep a close report with each of the Regional Engineering Colleges to watch finalisation of their accounts, their auditing etc. to ensure observance of the time schedule at every stage. The Committee are of the view that if the Ministry is vigilant there is no reason why the accounts cannot be finalised and laid before Parliament in time.

1 3.17  
(Ministry of Education and Culture)

The Committee regret to note that generally Annual Reports, Audited Accounts and Audit Reports, there on of the Regional Engineering Colleges are not laid before Parliament-together. The Committee further note that Annual Reports for 1979-80 (both versions) of all the Regional Engineering Colleges have been laid on the Table but the audited accounts of five colleges namely Rourkela, Silchar, Srinagar, Durgapur and Surat have not so far been laid. The Committee feel that unless both Annual Report and Audited Accounts of every college are laid together the very purpose of laying these papers on the Table is defeated because the Members will not be able to assess performance of each college in its true perspective. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Annual Reports, audited accounts and Audit Report therein in respect of each college should be laid on the Table simultaneously within the period prescribed by the Committee in their recommendation made in paragraph 3.5 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha).

O.M. No. H. 11013/4/81-T.4  
dated 4 December, 1981

The Government have accepted the observation. (Vide Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of Education O.M. No. H. 11013/4/81-T.4 dated 4 December, 1981).

32 Ninth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 1.23  
(Ministry of Education and Social Welfare)

The Committee feel concerned to note that the audited accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur for the years 1975-76, 1976-77, 1977-78 and 1978-79, which were required to be laid on the Table within 9 months of the close of the relevant accounting year as per recommendations of the Committee made in paras 1.16 and 3.5 of their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) were actually laid on the 15th May, 1978, 9th April, 1979, 28th January, 1980 and 3rd September, 1981 i.e. after a delay of 16½ months, 15 months, 13 months and 20 months respectively. It is regrettable that although the audited accounts for the year 1980-81 have become due for laying yet the audited accounts for 1979-80, which ought to have been laid by 31st December, 1980 have not so far been laid.

33 Ninth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 1.24  
(Ministry of Education and Social Welfare)

The Committee further note from the statement that the position in respect of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, is no better. The audited accounts of the Institute for the years 1975-76, 1976-77, 1977-78 & 1978-79 were laid on the Table after a delay of 15½ months, 8 months, 13 months and 6 months, respectively and of 1979-80 are yet to be laid. The Committee also find that the audited accounts of the last 5 years in respect of none of the Institutes have been laid on the Table within the period prescribed by the Committee. The Committee also find that their recommendations for laying the audited accounts within 9 months of the close of the accounting year were

circulated by the Ministry to all the Institutes on 8-4-1976 but the delays still persist and no serious and concerted efforts seem to have been made either by the concerned Institute or the Ministry to eliminate delays and to adhere to the time schedule laid down by the Committee. The Committee need hardly point out that such delays deprive Members of Parliament of timely information about the financial health and working of the Institutes.

1·25  
(Ministry of Education and  
Social Welfare)

The Committee are, therefore, constrained to observe that such inordinate delays are unpardonable and are not justifiable by any standard.

1·26  
(Ministry of Education and  
Social Welfare)

The Committee hope that the audited accounts and Audit Reports thereon in respect of Indian Institutes of Technology, Kanpur and Kharagpur for the year 1979-80 would be laid on the Table without any further delay, along with a statement giving reasons for the delay, and audited accounts for 1980-81 would be laid before Parliament in time. The Committee trust that such delays would not recur.

The Audit Report of IIT Kanpur for the year 1979-80 and 1980-81 would be placed before Parliament as soon as it is received in the Ministry. The Audit Report of IIT, Kharagpur for the years 1979-80 and 1980-81 are expected to be placed before Parliament in the current Session. (*Vide* Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of Education, O.M. No. F. 5-9/82-T. 6 dated 17 March 1982).

36 Ninth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha)

1.27

[Ministry of Education and Social Welfare]

From the information supplied by the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Committee note that the annual accounts for the year 1976-77 were finalised by the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur and given to Audit for checking in June, 1978 *ie* 15 months after the close of the accounting year. The accounts were checked and audited by the Accountant General, Uttar Pradesh in July, 1978, but the certified accounts and Audit Report thereon were received on 7th February, 1979 *i.e.* after 6 months. Again the annual accounts for 1978-79 were reconciled in March, 1980 (after one year) and were audited by the Accountant General in June, 1980. The Audit Report was received in July, 1981 after 13 months.

The Government have explained the reasons for delay and have stated that the IIT, Kanpur authorities have taken effective steps to avoid delays and have assured that in future the accounts would be submitted for audit well within the stipulated time. (Vide Ministry of Education and Culture Department of Education, O.M.No. F 5-9/82. T 6 dated 17 March, 1982)

1.28

37 [Ministry of Education and Social Welfare]

From the chain of events the Committee find that apart from the Audit being responsible for taking a long time in auditing the accounts and furnishing Audit Reports thereon, the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur was mainly responsible for contributing towards delay because the Institute took inordinately long time in finalising the accounts every year. The Committee have no doubt that if the Institute takes more than a year to finalise its accounts, the audit also will take some time in auditing them and giving their Audit Report on the accounts. The representative of the Ministry had also admitted during evidence that



Basically it is for the IIT itself to ensure that within the stipulated time the accounts are submitted.

The Government have stated that the strict time schedules have been laid down by the Ministry for submission of the Annual Reports and Audit Reports as stipulated by the Committee. Vigilant checks are also kept on these time schedules and the Institutes and the A.Gs concerned are constantly reminded (*Vide* Ministry of Education and Culture Department of Education O.M.No. F.5-9/82 T.6 dated 17 March 1982)

The Committee are, therefore, of the view that unless proper time schedules are laid down at every stage, right from the finalisation of accounts to their laying before Parliament and periodic checks are exercised by the Ministry of Education and Culture to see that these are being strictly observed no appreciable improvement is likely to be made and the Institutes will never become up-to-date

The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Education and Culture should lay down a time-bound programme in consultation with the concerned Institute and the Audit authorities, to complete all formalities within the time limit prescribed by the Committee and watch its implementation with a view to ensure that the audited accounts of all the institutes of Technology are laid before Parliament in time.

The Government have stated that every effort is being made to lay the Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Audit Report in respect of each Institute on the Table simultaneously, within the period prescribed by the Committee (*Vide* Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of Culture O.M. No. F.5-9/82-T.6

The Committee note that the Annual Reports, audited accounts and Audit Reports thereon of all the Institutes are not laid before Parliament together. The Committee further note that the audited accounts of the institutes are laid much after laying their Annual Reports. The Committee feel that unless both the Annual Report and audited accounts of each Institute are laid together before Parliament a complete picture about the working and activities of the Institute does not emerge. The very purpose of laying these papers is defeated because the Members will not be able to

98 Ninth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 1.29 [Ministry of Education and Culture]

39 1.30 [Ministry of Education and Social Welfare]

40 1.31 [Ministry of Education and Social Welfare]

dated 17 March, 1980.)

assess performance of every Institute in its true perspective and express their views thereon at the time of voting on demands for grants of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The Committee, therefore recommend that the Annual Report, audited accounts and Audit Report in respect of each Institute should be laid on the Table simultaneously within the period prescribed by the Committee.

41 Ninth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 2.29 [Ministry of Steel and Mines]

The Committee are distressed to note that the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited for the Years 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80, which in terms of the recommendation of the Committee made in para 4.16 of their Second Report (fifth Lok Sabha) should have been laid by 31.12.1978, 31.12.1979 & 31.12.1980, i.e. within 9 months of the close of the relevant year were actually laid on 13.6.1980, 19.12.1980 and 18.12.1981, after a long delay of 17½ months in the first case and of about one year in each of the latter two cases. The Committee further note that the Annual Report and the Audited accounts for 1980-81 have also become due for laying.

42 2.29 [Ministry of Steel and Mines]

As regards delay in finalisation of accounts the Committee were informed that since the financial condition of IISCO was in complete shambles, the Government were compelled to take over the management of the

The Government have stated that the observations of the Committee have been conveyed to M/s Indian Iron and Steel

Company Limited for strict compliance. The need for timely submission of Annual Report before the Parliament has been duly impressed upon M/s Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited who have assured the Government that every effort would be made by them to ensure timely submission of accounts within the prescribed period in future (Vide Ministry of Steel and Mines, Department of Steel O.M.No. 1(41)/81-KI-DRII dated 19 April 1982)

Company on 14-7-1972 and on 17-7-1976 it was decided to acquire shares held by private persons and an Act to that effect was passed. The Delay in finalisation of accounts started from accounting year 1976-77, as the introduction of certain major changes and reforms in the Company led to Industrial relations problems which were sorted out and settled in May, 1981. The Committee were assured that the accounts in future would be prepared promptly and laid on the Table of the House in time.

The Committee are not convinced with the arguments advanced by the Ministry in support of delay on the part of the Company in the finalisation of accounts because industrial relations problem is not a new phenomenon prevalent only in the Indian Iron and Steel Company but a routine affair in every industry. The Committee have no doubt that the delay in finalisation of accounts occurred year after year due to lack of planning and foresight on the part of the management of the Company. The Committee are of the view that the accounts of the Company had fallen into arrears because the management did not attach due importance to this aspect. The Ministry of Steel and Mines cannot absolve itself of the responsibility because they also did not impress upon the Company the need of finalising the accounts in time.

43. 2.31 [Ministry of Steel and Mines]

44. Ninth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 2.32 [Ministry of Steel and Mines] }  
The Committee are, therefore, constrained to observe that despite the clear guidelines laid down by them as far back as 12-5-1976 in para 4.16 of their Second Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) for laying Report 10 }

Government Companies on the Table, the prescribed schedule has not been adhered to by the Company and the Ministry of Steel and Mines.

The Committee need hardly stress that such inordinate delays keep Parliament in the dark about the financial position of the Company where huge sums of money are invested by Government. The very idea of accountability of the Government to Parliament is frustrated if Parliament is not informed by the Government about the performance, achievements and shortcomings of the companies under their control within a reasonable time after the close of the accounting year. In the absence of such information Parliament finds itself totally helpless in fully appreciating the performance of the Company.

The Committee trust that the Annual Report and audited accounts of the Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited for the year 1980-81 would be laid on the Table without any further delay along with a detailed statement spelling out the reasons for delay. The Committee also hope that in future the prescribed time limit will be observed by IISCO and the Ministry will watch progress of finalisation of Reports and Accounts from time to time with a view to ensure that these do not go into arrears.

The Government have stated that the observations of the Committee have been conveyed

45. 2.33 (Ministry of Steel and Mines)

46. 2.34 (Ministry of Steel and Mines)

47. Ninth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 2.35 (Ministry of Steel and Mines)

From the information supplied by the Ministry (Appendix II), the Committee find that the Company Law Board appointed Statutory Auditors for 1977-78

on 14-4-1978, but the draft accounts were handed over to them by the Company on 22-12-1978, i.e. after 8 months. Similarly, the Statutory Auditors for 1978-79 were appointed by the Company Law Board on 23-7-1979 and the draft accounts were handed over to them by IISCO on 3-4-1980, again after 8 months

The Committee strongly deprecate the persistent delays on the part of IISCO in finalising the annual accounts and making them available to Statutory Auditors for auditing.

The Committee hope that in future the Indian Iron and Steel Company will finalise the accounts, get them audited and lay the Annual Report and the audited accounts before Parliament within the period prescribed by the Committee in para 4.16 of their Second Report (Fifth Lok Sabha), i.e. within 9 months from the date of closing the accounts.

The Committee note that out of all the institutions/bodies enumerated in their communication dated 17 April, 1980, the Planning Commission lay before Parliament the Annual and Audit Reports of only one institution namely Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi. The Committee further note that the Annual and Audit Reports of other institutions/bodies are not laid on the Table of the House because the commission do not exercise any financial or administrative control over them in as-much as the grants to those institutions/bodies are given to

ed to M/s Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited for strict compliance. The need for timely submission of Annual Report before the Parliament has been duly impressed upon M/s Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited who have assured the Government that every effort would be made by them to ensure timely submission of Accounts within the prescribed period in future. (Vide Ministry of Steel and Mines, Department of Steel O.M.No. 1(41)/81-RI-DRII dated 19 April, 1982).

48. 2.36 (Ministry of Steel and Mines)

49. 2.37 (Ministry of Steel and Mines)

50. Tenth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 1.3 (Ministry of Planning)

meet expenditure on some specific purpose or some specific research study assigned to them by the Commission. The Committee also note that in respect of the grants given by the Commission, the requirement of Audit i. e. issue of utilisation certificate and statement of audited accounts, is met.

51. Tenth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 1.4 (Ministry of Planning)

The Committee are satisfied with the explanation of the Planning Commission that as the Commission had no financial or administrative control over the institutions to whom grants were given for specific research work, the laying of Annual Reports and Audited accounts of the institutions, under reference may not be insisted upon. The Committee, however, desire that the Planning Commission should, in future, include in their own Annual Reports a brief Chapter showing the quantum of funds provided to each of these Institutions/bodies alongwith the purpose for which the funds were sanctioned for the information of Members of Parliament.

The Government have noted the recommendation of the Committee for compliance in future. (Vide Planning Commission O.M. No. F. 8/2/80-Parl. dated 20 April, 1982).

52. 2.10 (Ministry of Energy)

The Committee note that the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Organisation does not receive any funds from the Government and that the expenditure of the Organisation is met from the Coal Mines Labour Housing and General Welfare Fund which is a Statutory Fund and which is constituted with income from cess on all coal and coke despatched from collieries. The Committee further note that there are 12 Central Coal-

The Government have noted the recommendation of the Committee and have stated that in future the information in respect of the Coal Mines Stores and Credit Societies functioning under the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation in-

*alia* giving brief account of the functioning of the Co-operative Stores for which loans have been given from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund along with the funds kept at their disposal during the relevant accounting year, would be included in the Annual Report of the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation. (Vide Ministry of Energy Department of Coal, O. M. No. M. 15015/1/79-M-II-CMW dt. 16 April, 1982).

ative Stores and 197 Credit Societies financed from the General Welfare Accounts of the Coal Mines Labour Housing and General Welfare Fund of the Organisation.

Since the Co-operative Stores and Credit Societies functioning under the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Organisation do not receive any funds from the Government, the Committee do not insist upon the laying of their Annual and Audit Reports on the Table of the House. The Committee, however, desire that the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Organisation should in their future Annual Reports give a brief account of the functioning of these Cooperatives alongwith the funds kept at their disposal during the relevant accounting year, or the information of Members of Parliament.

The Committee are surprised to note that the Annual Reports and Audit Reports of the Indian Society International Law, New Delhi are not laid before Parliament even though the Ministry of External Affairs meet 60 per cent to 75 per cent of the annual expenditure of the Society by way of grant-in-aid. It is very strange that the Annual Report of the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi though prepared and placed before the Annual Meeting of the Society is not submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs. The Committee fail to understand as to how the Ministry of External Affairs evaluate the research projects the Society in the absence of its Annual Reports since Annual Reports are the only media through which Government could know the functioning of an organisation to whom it gives grant.

53. 2.11 (Ministry of Energy)

54. Tenth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 9.9 (Ministry of External Affairs)

55. 3.10 (Ministry of External Affairs)

The Committee are not at all convinced with the argument advanced by the Ministry of External Affairs that exemption might be granted to the Society from laying its Annual Reports and Audit Reports before Parliament on the ground that the position of the Indian Society of International Law as a research Institute is much the same as of Research Institutes supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) which have been exempted from laying their separate Annual Reports and Audit Reports. The Committee are of the view that no parallel can be drawn between the Research Institutes supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and the Indian Society of International Law inasmuch as the Research Institutes under ICSSR receive funds from the Council and not from the Government whereas the Indian Society of International Law receives grant-in-aid directly from the Ministry of External Affairs.

56. Tenth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 3.11 (Ministry of External Affairs)

The Committee, therefore, do not find it a fit case for giving exemption to the Ministry of External Affairs from the requirement of laying before Parliament Annual Reports and Audit Reports of the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi. The Committee desire the Ministry of External Affairs which meet major portion of the Society's annual expenditure, to comply with the recommendations contained in paragraph 3.5 of their First Report

The Government have stated that the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi has been asked to furnish the (i) Annual Reports for the year 1981-82, Receipt and payment Accounts, Income and Expenditure accounts and balance sheet for the



57. 3-12 (Ministry of External Affairs)  
 (Fifth Lok Sabha) and paragraph 1.12 of their Second Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) and lay before both Houses of Parliament Annual Reports and Audit Reports of the said Society within nine months of the close of the relevant accounting year.
- The Committee also desire the Ministry of External Affairs to amend the rules of the Indian Society of International Law to provide for laying of its Annual Reports and Audit Reports before Parliament within nine months of the close of the accounting year. The Committee hope that the Ministry would take necessary steps in this direction.
58. 4-7 (Ministry of External Affairs)  
 The Committee note that the Notification, issued by the Assam Government on 17 November, 1981 declaring certain services in connection with the production, supply and distribution of electricity including other services under the Assam State Electricity Board constituted under the Electricity Supply Act, 1948 to essential services within the state of Assam for the purpose of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980, under sub-section (2) of Section 2 of the said Act, as amended by the Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981, was laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 30 November, 1981. The Committee also note that in accordance with the above provisions of the Act the Notification should have been laid before both Houses of Parliament on the first day of the Seventh Session (Seventh Lok Sabha) i.e. on 23 November, 1981 but it had been laid on 30 November, 1981, after a delay of 7 days.
- year 1981-82 both in Hindi and English for placing on the Table of Houses within nine months of closure of financial year starting from 1981-82, and (ii) to amend their rules to the effect for future compliance. [Vide Ministry of External Affairs O.M. No. L/742(2)/81, dated 7 June, 1982].

The Government have stated that the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been brought to the notice of the Government of Assam. The State Government have been requested to issue suitable instructions impressing on all concerned the gravity of any delay in the matter of apprising Parliament of contents of notifications in fulfilment of statutory requirements and also the need for prompt action, from the beginning to ensure that such statutory requirements are met in full in letter and spirit. In particular, it has been impressed on the State Government that whenever it is considered necessary to issue a notification under Section 2 of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980, the Ministry should be kept fully in the picture from the beginning and simultaneous with the issue of

From the information supplied to Lok Sabha, the Committee feel concerned to note that the Notification issued by the Government of Assam on 17 November, 1981, was received in the Ministry of Home Affairs late in the evening of 24 November, 1981, i.e. after 7 days. The Committee are not satisfied with the explanation given by the Government for delay in laying the Notification and are of the view that if the Government of Assam had moved quickly in the matter and the Ministry of Home Affairs had kept proper rapport with the Assam Government, the delay in laying the Notification could have been avoided and the statutory requirement of laying the Notification before Parliament on the first day of the Session met. The Committee take serious note of the non-compliance of the statutory provision of the Act by the Government. The Committee feel that the Ministry of Home Affairs should have been vigilant and ensured that the statutory provision of the Act was strictly adhered to in laying the said Notification before Parliament.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that Government should observe such statutory requirements of the Act, wherever they exist, in their letter and spirit. The Committee, however, hope that such lapses will not recur.

59. Tenth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) 4.8 (Ministry of Home Affairs)

60. 4.9 (Ministry of Home Affairs)

such notification a sufficient number of copies thereof should be sent on the same date by air parcel to the State Government's Resident Commissioner in Delhi with the instruction that the same should be delivered to the Ministry of Home Affairs without loss of time. The Ministry of Home Affairs is maintaining constant vigilance to ensure that the Notifications are laid in time on the Table of the House under Section 2 of the Act. (*Vide* Ministry of Home Affairs, I.S. Division, U.O. No. 1/11025/43/81-I-S. U-S.D.-II, dated 24 May, 1982).

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