

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(2005-2006)

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

TENTH REPORT

[Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/
observations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table
in their Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)]

(Presented on.....)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

May, 2006/Jyaistha, 1928 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
(2005-2006)

Shri Hannan Mollah — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri A. Sai Prathap*
3. Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana
4. Shri Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa
5. Shri K. Francis George
6. Shri Jai Prakash
7. Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah
8. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
9. Shri Jaisingrao Gaikwad Patil
10. Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao Renge Patil
11. Shri Tarachand Sahu
12. Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma
13. Shri Bagun Sumbrai
- *14. Shri Dalpat Singh Paraste
- **15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.C. Ahuja — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri R.K. Bajaj — *Deputy Secretary*
3. Shri K. Jena — *Under Secretary*

*Shri Dalpat Singh Paraste has been nominated as member of the Committee *vice* Shri Suresh Chandel *w.e.f.* 8 May, 2006.

**Consequent upon the resignation of Shri Pallam Raju *w.e.f.* 29 January, 2006.

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 Tenth Report on the action taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table.

2. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 1 June, 2006.

NEW DELHI;
31 May, 2006

10 Jyaisitha, 1928 (Saka)

HANNAN MOLLAH,
Chairman,
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table.

REPORT

This Report of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in their Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports (13th Lok Sabha) which were presented to Lok Sabha on 23.12.2003.

2. The Fifteenth Report dealt with delay in laying Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of (i) National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi; (ii) Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh (Ladakh) J&K; (iii) Central Instructional Media Institute, Chennai; and (iv) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar regional engineering College, Jalandhar (Punjab).

3. The Sixteenth Report dealt with delay in laying Annual Report and Audited Accounts of (i) National Institute of 'homoeopathy, Kolkata; (ii) Regional Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur; (iii) Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi; (iv) Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi; (v) Regional Engineering College, Silchar and (vi) Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad.

4. Action Taken Notes have been received from the Government in respect of all the recommendations/observations contained in the above two Reports. Accordingly, a statement showing the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports (13th Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix-I & II respectively. A scrutiny of these replies given by the Ministries indicates that the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in respect of some of the recommendations is either incomplete or not satisfactory.

5. The Committee desire that final reply in respect of the recommendations for which only interim reply has been given by the Government, ought to be furnished to the Committee at the earliest.

6. The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on a few of such recommendations/observations in succeeding paragraphs.

7. The Committee had recommended in para No. 1.9 (15th Report) relating to NIFT, New Delhi as under:—

"The Committee regret to note that there was a delay ranging from 4 to 11 months every year in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) right from the year 1997-1998 onwards. The documents for the year 2001-2002* which were required to be laid on the Table by 31.12.2002 have not been laid till the matter was considered by the Committee. Such recurring delays exhibit lethargic approach of the Institute in finalizing its Annual Reports and

* Laid on the Table of the House 25.11.2005. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 3.3.06 and 23.5.2006 respectively.

Audited Accounts. It appears that administrative Ministry also have not been paying due attention to the matter of timely laying of documents and the Members of Parliament have been denied timely information year after year about the working of the premiere Fashion Institute of India."

The Ministry of Textile in their Action Taken Reply dated 13th May, 2004 have stated as under:—

"NIFT has been making all out efforts to finalize the Accounts in time and submit the same to the Audit for further necessary action. The delay in laying the Annual Accounts as per schedule has been mainly on account of the fact that consequent on establishing six new centers, the reconciliation, compilation and consolidation of the Annual Accounts took some time which resulted in delay in finalising the Accounts. Besides, the audit of accounts and the issue of audit Certificate by the Office of Principle Director of Audit, Economic & Services Ministries also took considerable time.

All the formalities prior to laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2001-2002 on the Table of both Houses of Parliament were completed. However, before they could be sent to Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat for laying the same on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament, the Lok Sabha got dissolved. The Annual Report and Audit Accounts would be laid on the Table of the both Houses of Parliament in the sittings to be convened after constitution of 14th Lok Sabha."

The Committee express their displeasure over the fact that despite the remedial measures taken by the Ministry of Textiles, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Institute for the year 2001-2002 were laid on the Table of the House on 25.11.2005 after a delay of 35 months. The action taken reply of the Ministry also does not throw any light on the time further required for finalization and laying of the requisite documents for the subsequent years *i.e.* 2002-2003, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005. This sorry state of affairs reinforces the fact that the Institute has not yet overcome the problems relating to finalization of accounts that arose after establishment of six new centres and the Ministry and the Institute have allowed the things to take their own time, leading to inevitable delay in the matter. The Committee deprecate apparent absence of any effective intervention by the Ministry in the matter of monitoring the time schedule in letter and spirit to ensure that the documents are laid within the prescribed period. It appears that the Ministry have taken the matter of delay in laying the documents with year after year very lightly. The Committee, therefore, would like to be apprised of the effective and conclusive action taken by the Ministry in this regard to avoid delay in laying of the documents.

8. In para 2.12 of the 15th Report (13th LS) relating to Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh (Ladakh) J & K, the Committee had recommended as under:—

"The Committee are distressed to note that no time schedule indicating the time limit for completion of task involved in each stage of finalization of the documents of the Institute has been laid down by the Ministry so far. The Committee urge that this should be done forthwith in consultation

with the Institute and Audit Authorities laying down target dates for finalization of accounts, completion of auditing, approval of reports and audited accounts, translation & printing, dispatch to the Ministry, processing by Ministry and laying on the Table. The Committee also stress that the time schedule so drawn up should be strictly adhered to both by the Institute and the Ministry and it should be ensured that the documents are laid in time future."

The Ministry while in their Action Taken Reply dated 24.8.2004 have stated as under:—

"Even though no formal orders have been issued by Department of Culture laying down time-schedule for finalization or submission of annual report and audited accounts, each organization has been instructed to submit annual accounts before release of the 2nd instalment of grant and revised estimate is finalized *i.e.* in October every year, so that the organizations complete the process well before the target date of laying their annual report and audited accounts in Parliament."

The Committee are unhappy to know that the Department of Culture have not laid down a formal time schedule even after a recommendation was made to this effect in the report. Instead, the Department gave a casual reply stating that no formal order has been issued laying down such a schedule. The Committee take strong exception to the casual attitude of the Department because it is not clear how, in the absence of a formal time schedule and its proper and regular monitoring at a senior level, the Ministry would ensure timely finalization and laying of the documents. The Committee, therefore, reiterate that the time schedule should be laid down forthwith and senior officer entrusted with the job of monitoring the schedule on a regular basis. The Committee would like to be apprised of the positive and conclusive action taken in this regard within 3 months from the date of presentation of the Report.

9. In para 3.11 of the 15th Report (13th LS) relating to Central Instructional Media Institute, Chennai, the Committee had recommended as under:—

"The Committee note with some satisfaction that a time schedule has been formulated indicating target dates for completion of various stages involved in preparation of Annual Report and Audited Accounts. The Committee urge that the time schedule should be strictly adhered to and a senior officer in the Central Instructional Media Institute and the Ministry of Labour should be entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress made at each stage of finalisation of the documents and to ensure that the documents are laid in time."

In their Action Taken Reply dated 12 April, the Ministry of Labour (DGE & T), 2004 have stated as under:—

"Recommendations of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table have been noted for compliance. A senior officer each in the Central Instructional Media Institute and the Ministry of Labour (DGE & T) have been entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress made at each stage of finalisation of the documents and to ensure that the documents are laid in time.

The activities related to laying of Annual Reports & Audited Accounts of Central Instructional Media Institute, for 2002-2003 were monitored in accordance with the time schedule with the result that the reports were placed on the table of Lok Sabha on 22.12.2003, within the stipulated time period."

The Committee are glad to note that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Institute for the year 2002-2003 were laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha within stipulated period. However, Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2003-04 & 2004-05 have not been laid so far. It is not clear why the Ministry have failed to sustain monitoring of the time schedule for the subsequent years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 to ensure timely laying of the documents. The requirement of laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Institute is not a one time activity. It needs to be ensured regularly year after year. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the time schedule drawn should be monitored strictly in letter and spirit for all the years and the documents for the years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 should be laid without further loss of time. The Committee desire to know the effective steps taken by the Ministry in this regard within 3 months from the date of presentation of the report.

10. The Committee had recommended in para Nos. 1.19 (16th Report) relating to National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata as under:—

"Incidentally, the Committee note that delay in according approval to the annual accounts by Governing Bodies/Executive Committee is the main reason for delay in laying of documents by a number of organizations. These include Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur under the Ministry for Youth Affairs and Sports, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad under the Ministry of Rural Development and a score of organizations under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Governing Bodies/Executive councils of all these organizations are stated to be headed by the Union Ministers and due to their preoccupation they could not spare time to hold periodical meetings of Governing Bodies/Executive Councils. Consequently, not only the documents requiring approval of these bodies got delayed, there was also consequential delay in their being laid on the Table of the House. Such avoidable delays, the Committees feel lead to inevitable adverse impact on the efficient functioning of these organizations. The Committee, therefore, feels that the question of Ministers heading Governing Bodies of various organizations under the control of their respective Ministries should be reviewed at the highest level and if the review brings out any need for corrective measures, suitable steps be taken in the light thereof."

In their Action Taken Reply dated 25.3.2005 the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have stated as under:—

"The Department is of the view that there is need for Minister to continue to be at the helm of affairs of Institute under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare since they not only happen to be National level bodies but also are

being evolved as Centres of Excellence. These organizations can work more efficiently with effective guidance and timely interventions from the highest level in the Govt. However, it will be ensured by the Department that the frequency of meetings of GBs/Boards etc. is increased. The concerned Directors of the Institutes who are Member/Secretaries of the GBs have been advised to ensure timely submission of proposals for meetings."

The Ministry have further replied "it is proposed to maintain status quo regarding Minister remaining the head of the Governing Body of the autonomous bodies. The present Minister of Health & Family Welfare is taking steps to conduct the meetings of the Governing Bodies periodically by deputing the Minister of State or the Secretary (Ayush) to chair these meetings as per schedule."

The Committee note with satisfaction that in order to avoid delay in according approval to the annual accounts by the Governing Bodies, the Ministry is taking steps to conduct the meetings of the Governing Bodies periodically by deputing the Minister of State or the Secretary (AYUSH) to chair these meetings as per schedule. The Committee find that there are several other organizations, like Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, National Institute of Rural Development Hyderabad, etc. which are headed by the Union Ministers and due to their pre-occupation they could not spare time to hold the periodic meetings of Governing Bodies/Executive Council. The Committee desire that in order to avoid delay in taking approval, to the annual accounts of Executive Committees/Governing Bodies which are headed by the Minister, a similar procedure as devised by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare may be adopted by them. The Committee also feel that in order to eliminate such avoidable delay in laying the documents on the Table of the House, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs may bring this procedure to the notice of all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

11. In para 2.12 of their 16th Report (13th LS) relating to Regional Institute of Jamshedpur, the Committee have noted as under:—

"It appears from the Ministry's response that no time schedule had been laid down by them indicating normative time for completion of task at each stage involved in finalisation of the document viz. finalisation/completion of annual accounts and report auditing of accounts, approval of the documents from the competent authority, translation and printing, processing at Ministry for being laid on the Table of the House. The Committee urge that a time schedule on the above lines should be prepared and laid down and it should be ensured that the time scheduled is adhered to strictly."

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary and Higher Education) in their Action Taken Reply dated 28.8.2004 have stated as under:—

"The reasons for delay have been reviewed in the Ministry and it would be ensured to submit the reports in time in future."

From the reply of the Ministry it is evident to the Committee that a time schedule for completion of the task at various stages of finalisation and laying of the documents of the Institute has not been drawn up by the Ministry/Institute. It is not clear how in the absence of a time schedule, the Ministry would be able to monitor the timely finalization and laying of the documents. The Committee would therefore, like the Ministry/Institute to draw up a time schedule and ensure its strict adherence by them. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

12. The Committee had recommended in para 5.13 of 16th Report (13th L.S.) relating to Regional Engineering College, Silchar as under:—

"The Committee also note that after receipt of documents in the Ministry on 22.4.2002, some discrepancies were found and it took 11 months for the Ministry to get the discrepancies rectified and to place the documents on the Table of the House. The Committee fail to understand the unreasonable time taken by the Ministry in this regard. The Committee would like to know the nature of discrepancies found and the efforts made by the Ministry in getting those discrepancies rectified expeditiously."

In their Action Taken Reply, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary and Higher Education) have stated as under:—

"As regards para 5.13 of Sixteenth Report (13th LS), it may be stated that the discrepancies were due to the Institute not furnishing the date of the approval of Accounts by the Inspecting Officer, date of dispatch of Audited Accounts by AG, Assam. Due to this reason, the Department could not even lay the Annual Report and Annual Accounts of *2001-2002 & 2002-2003 to both the Houses of Parliament till date*. However, the Institute assured that they would furnish the required documents as early as possible so as to enable us to lay the same during the coming Budget Session."

The Committee regret to point out that the Ministry took 11 months to obtain from the Institute, the dates of approval of accounts by the inspecting officer and dispatch of Annual Accounts by A.G. Assam which was not justifiable on any ground. The Committee urge them to be more careful in future to prevent recurrence of such avoidable delays. The Committee, however, note with satisfaction that the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the College for the year 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 were subsequently laid on the Table. The documents for the year 2003-2004 were also laid on the Table on 15.3.2005. The Committee expect the Ministry to sustain the improved position in the matter of laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the College in future too.

NEW DELHI;
31 May, 2006
10 Jyaistha, 1928 (Saka)

HANNAN MOLLAH,
Chairman,
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table.

*Since laid on 23.7.2004 and 25.8.2004 respectively. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2003-2004 were laid on 15.3.2005.

APPENDIX-I

(Vide Para 4 of the Report)

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE MADE IN THEIR FIFTEENTH REPORT (13TH LOK SABHA)

Recommendation (Para No. 1.9)

The Committee regret to note that there was a delay ranging from 4 to 11 months every year in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) right from the year 1997-98 onwards. The documents for the year 2001-2002* which were required to be laid on the Table by 31.12.2002 have not been laid till the matter was considered by the Committee. Such recurring delays exhibit lethargic approach of the Institute in finalizing its Annual Report and Audited Accounts. It appears that administrative Ministry also have not been paying due attention to the matter of timely laying of documents and the Members of Parliament have been denied timely information year after year about the working of the premiere Fashion Institute of India.

Reply of the Government

NIFT has been making all out efforts to finalise the Accounts in time and submit the same to the Audit for further necessary action. The delay in laying the Annual Accounts as per schedule has been mainly on account of the fact that consequent on establishing six new centres, the reconciliation, compilation and consolidation of the Annual Accounts took some time which resulted in delay in finalizing the Accounts. Besides, the audit of accounts and the issue of Audit Certificate by the Office of Principal Director of Audit, Economic & Services Ministries also took considerable time.

All the formalities prior to laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2001-2002 on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament were completed. However, before they could be sent to Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat for laying the same on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament, the Lok Sabha got dissolved. The Annual Report and Audit Accounts would be laid on the Table of the both Houses of Parliament in the sittings to be convened after constitution of 14th Lok Sabha.

[Ministry of Textiles O.M. No. 1/45/2000-Exports-II dated 13 May, 2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 1.10)

The Committee examined the reasons for delay particularly w.r.t. the year 2000-2001. NIFT has taken about 5 months for compilation of their accounts as against the

*Laid on the Table of the House on 25.11.2005. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 3.3.2006 and 23.5.2006 respectively.

prescribed period of 3 months. The audit of accounts commenced in December, 2001 and completed in February, 2002. 2 months were taken to revise the accounts in consultation with audit team. After completion of audit, it took 3 months for C&AG to issue necessary audit certificate. In all, 11 months have been taken in auditing of accounts and issue of audit certificate by C&AG. The Committee would like to know what necessitated the revision of accounts of NIFT and also the efforts made both by the Institute and the Ministry in getting the audit requirements completed in time.

Reply of the Government

As the Audit was not satisfied with the classification and the presentation of the accounts, the accounts had to be revised to distinctly depict various items in the balance sheet. The revision was required to be effected in consultation with the Internal and Government Auditors. The issue of Certificate by Audit also took considerable time.

[Ministry of Textiles O.M. No. 1/45/2000-Exports - II dated 13 May, 2004]

Comments of the Committee

Please see paragraph 07 of the Report

Recommendation (Para No. 1.11)

The Committee note with satisfaction that a time schedule covering various stages of the finalisation of the documents has been put in place. However, there is a need to adhere to the schedule in strict earnest. The Committee hope that the Institute and the Ministry will not be found wanting in this respect in future.

Reply of the Government

The Annual Report & Audited Accounts for the year 2002-2003 were to be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha by 31.12.2003. However, the Audit Team of Office of the Principle Director of Audit, Economic & Service Ministries has conducted the audit during the period January to March, 2004 and preliminary audit observations are being processed and replies would be submitted to the O/o the Principal Director of Audit, Economic & Services Ministries. Accordingly the Audit Certificate is expected to be received in few months' time thereafter. Subsequently, the audited annual accounts for the year 2002-2003 would be laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament. Ministry of Textiles has already requested the Committee on Papers Laid in Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha to grant extension of time for submission of the documents by 31st August, 2004. Rajya Sabha Secretariat has already conveyed extension of time for laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2002-03 upto 31.8.2004.

It has always been the endeavour of NIFT and Ministry of Textiles to finalize the Annual Report and Audited Accounts as per the schedule and to lay the same on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament in time. Ministry of Textiles has already written to Principal Director of Audit, Economic & Services Ministries emphasizing the need for adherence of the schedule in conducting of audit and issue of audit certificate in time.

[Ministry of Textiles O.M. No. 1/45/2000-Exports - II dated 13 May, 2005]

Recommendation (Para No. 2.10)

The Committee regret to note that there was a delay of 23 months in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS), Leh for the year 1997-98 and delay of 11 months each in respect of the year 1998-99 and 2000-01. The documents for the year 2001-2002 which were due for laying by 31.12.2002 were actually laid only on 18.8.2003 *i.e.* seven months after the stipulated date.

Reply of the Government

Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS), Leh has been warned and asked to make efforts to ensure that the documents required to laid before Parliament are laid within the stipulated date.

[Ministry of Tourism & Culture (Department of Culture) O.M. No. F-1-15/2003-BTI dated 12 April, 2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 2.11)

The Committee's examination of the reasons for delay in laying the documents pertaining to year 2000-2001 reveal that there was a delay of 2 months in finalisation of accounts and there was considerable delay in getting the audit report. It has been stated in this connection that the CIBS being located in Leh is connected to outside world by road link for only six months and that there is no qualified Chartered Accountant in Leh who can help the Institute. It is only now that Ministry has instructed the Institute to appoint a Chartered Accountant for internal audit. The Committee hope that the accounts and auditing of the Institute will be completed in time in future and the documents laid on the Table within the stipulated date.

Reply of the Government

CIBS, Leh had made considerable efforts. As a result of this Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2002-2003* were received in this Department in January, 2004 and will be laid before Parliament as soon as the next Session begin.

[Ministry of Tourism & Culture (Department of Culture) O.M. No. F-1-15/2003-BTI dated 12 April, 2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 2.12)

The Committee are distressed to note that no time schedule indicating the time limit for completion of task involved in each stage of finalisation of the documents of the Institute has been laid down by the Ministry so far. The Committee urge that this should be done forthwith in consultation with the Institute and Audit Authorities laying down target dates for finalisation of accounts, completion of auditing, approval of reports and audited accounts, translation & printing, dispatch to the Ministry, processing by Ministry and laying on the Table. The Committee also stress that the time schedule so drawn up should be strictly adhered to both by the Institute and the Ministry and it should be ensured that the documents are laid in time in future.

*Laid on the Table of the House on 16.12.2004. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 were laid on the Table of the House on 21.4.2005 and 18.5.2006 respectively.

Reply of the Government

Even though no formal order have been issued by Department of Culture laying down time-schedule for finalisation or submission of annual report and audited accounts, each organization has been instructed to submit annual accounts before release of the 2nd instalment of grant and revised estimate is finalized *i.e.* in October every year, so that the organizations complete the process well before the target date of laying their annual report and audited accounts in Parliament.

[Ministry of Tourism & Culture (Department of Culture) O.M. No. F-1-15/2003-BTI dated 12 April, 2004]

Comments of the Committee

Please *see* paragraph 08 of the Report

Recommendations (Para Nos. 3.8 to 3.11)

The Committee note that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Central Instructional Media Institute (CIMI), Chennai for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 were laid on the Table on 9.5.2003 *i.e.* after a delay of about 28 months and 16 months respectively.

From the information furnished by the Ministry of Labour, the Committee find that the accounts of the Central Instructional Media Institute, Chennai for the year 1999-2000 were compiled nearly one year after the closure of the accounts as against 3 months recommended by the Committee for this purpose. Eight months were taken for placing the audited accounts of 1999-2000 as well as of 2000-2001 before the General Body for their approval. The Committee regrets to note that the action for appointment of auditors for auditing of accounts of the Institute was taken on 23.5.2002 *i.e.*, nearly 2 months after closure of the financial year and the auditors were actually appointed ten months thereafter. Ten months were lost on this account due to protracted correspondence between CIMI and the organization such as Accountant General, C&AG, Government of Tamil Nadu and the Government of India. While admitting that there was delay in completing initial formalities like approval from C&AG, entrustment of audit for superimposed audit. The Ministry has attributed the delay to the fact that the Institute was in transition stage of converting from a Govt. department to an autonomous body (Society). The Committee are not convinced of this reason. It is evident that no serious efforts were made to quicken the process of appointment of auditors.

The Committee regrets to note that no 'delay statement' was laid within 30 days of expiry of the prescribed period of laying documents as recommended by the Committee in para 3.5 of First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha). The Committee urge that in case any delay is anticipated in laying documents, a delay statement should be laid within 30 days of expiry of the stipulated date for laying of documents.

The Committee note with some satisfaction that a time schedule has been formulated indicating target dates for completion of various stages involved in preparation of Annual Report and Audited Accounts. The Committee urge that the time schedule should be strictly adhered to and a senior officer in the Central Instructional Media

Institute and the Ministry of Labour should be entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress made at each stage of finalisation of the documents and to ensure that the documents are laid in time.

Reply of the Government

Recommendations of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table have been noted for compliance. A senior officer each in the Central Instructional Media Institute and the Ministry of Labour (DGE&T) have been entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress made at each stage of finalisation of the documents and to ensure that the documents are laid in time.

The activities related to laying of Annual Reports & Audited Accounts of Central Instructional Media Institute, Chennai for the year 2002-2003 were monitored in accordance with the time schedule with the result that the reports were placed on the Table of Lok Sabha on 22.12.2003, within the stipulated time period.

[Ministry of Labour & Culture (D.G.E.&T) O.M.No. DGE & T 35 (6)(13)/2000-PCT-CPE dated 4 March, 2004, dated 12 April, 2004]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Paragraph 09 of the Report

Recommendations (Para Nos. 4.9 to 4.12)

The Committee regret to note that there was a delay of 16 months in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar for the year 2000-2001. The documents for the year 2001-2002* are expected to be laid in Winter Session of 2003 *i.e.* 12 months after the stipulated date.

The Committee note that the College had taken 6 months in finalizing their accounts for the year 2000-2001 and handling them over to auditors as against 3 months prescribed for this purpose. The delay at this stage was stated to be due to new format of accounts prescribed by the Comptroller & Auditor General. It is observed that Audit had taken 6 months in furnishing the audited accounts to the College after completion of inspection of accounts. The reasons for delay in this regard are not clear. The Committee would like to know whether there was any delay on the part of the College in furnishing clarifications required by audit.

The Committee are unhappy to note that unduly long time of 3 months has been taken by the College in getting approval of the accounts by the Finance Committee of the College and seven months in dispatching the audited accounts to the Ministry for laying. This is indicative of lack of seriousness on the part of the College in getting the documents laid on the Table of Lok Sabha in time. The Committee need hardly to stress that such inordinate delay in laying the documents before Parliament deprives the members of an opportunity to examine the accounts of the College during the discussion of Demands for Grants of the administrative Ministry.

*Laid on the Table of the House on 23.7.2004. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 25.8.2004 and 23.8.2005 respectively.

The Committee urge that Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) must draw up a time schedule indicating the time limit for completion of task at various stages *viz.* appointment of auditors, auditing of accounts by auditors, finalisation of Annual Report, approval of the document by the competent authority and dispatch of the documents to the Ministry for laying. A senior officer in the Ministry as well as College must be entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress at each stage of finalisation of the documents. With these measures, the Committee hope that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the College will be laid in time.

Reply of the Government

As regards paras 4.10 & 4.11 of the Fifteenth Report (13th Lok Sabha), it is stated that there was delay on the part of the College in submitting the required documents to audit as the then Principal of the College continued to stay in Office beyond 30.09.2001 *i.e.*, date of superannuation in spite of the refusal of the Central Government to grant him extension. Due to this reason the annual report in Hindi version could not be prepared in time by the College.

Further, the time schedule to be adhered to by the National Institutes of Technology in furnishing the Annual Report & Audited Statement of Accounts to be laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament, it is informed that this Department has already circulated guidelines to all the NITs in the country *vide* our D.O. letter No.25-2/2003-TS III dated 21.7.2003, a copy of which is also enclosed for information (Annexure-I).

In the light of the above clarifications, it is requested that the issue may please be closed now. It is further ensured that utmost care shall be taken for laying the Annual Report & Audited Statement of accounts of the NITs on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament in the scheduled time in future.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M. No. F-7-2/2003. TS.III dated 15 June, 2004.]

APPENDIX-I

(Vide Para 4 of the Report)

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS, OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE MADE IN THEIR SIXTEENTH REPORT (13TH LOK SABHA)

Recommendations (Para No. 1.15)

The Committee regret to note that there has been inordinate delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata year after year. There was delay of 26 months in laying the documents for the year 1998-99, delay of 23 months for the year 1999-2000 and 12 months for 2000-2001. The documents for the year 2001-2002* had not been laid until the matter was considered by the Committee. The reasons for delay in laying the documents were discussed with the Institute during the study visit of the Committee to Kolkata in May, 2003, as well as during oral evidence held on 11 July, 2003.

Reply of the Government

The observations made by the Committee have been noted. The pre-emptive actions *viz.* laying down a schedule, periodical review and monitoring systems have already been put in the place to ensure that such instances do not repeat.

[Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) O.M.No. H-11013/
02/2003-HD dated 25.3.2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 1.16)

It transpired that the main reason for delay in laying the documents was that the Governing Body of the National Institute of Homoeopathy which is to approve the accounts of the Institute had not met for seven years and the President of the Governing Body *viz.* the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare exercising Emergency Powers used to approve accounts every year. This was being objected to by audit and resulted in delay. Under the rules, the Governing Body is required to ratify the action taken by the President in exercise of emergency powers. Sadly, this was not done for the past seven years until the matter was taken up by this Committee.

*Laid on the Table of the House on 7.7.2004. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 24.8.2005 and 30.11.2005 respectively.

Reply of the Government

The point made by the Committee has been noted. It is being ensured that the meetings of the Governing Body (GB) are held on time, and the emergency powers of the President of GB are used only occasionally.

[Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) O.M.No. H-11013/02/2003-HD dated 25.3.2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 1.17)

The Committee are glad to note that the meeting of the Governing Body of the Institute has since been held after the Committee went into the matter and the Health and Family Minister has reportedly now taken a stand that the Governing Body will meet periodically as required and that emergency powers will not be used as a routine matter.

Reply of the Government

Being complied with, all the Institutes and councils attached to the Department have been issued directions to this effect.

The Bye-laws of National Institute of Homoeopathy provide that the Governing Body should meet at least once in a year. The Department of AYUSH has taken steps to ensure that the provisions regarding holding of the Governing Body meeting of the National Institute of Homoeopathy are fully complied with. As such during the financial year 2003-2004, one meeting of the Governing Body was held on 10.7.2003 another, meeting is scheduled to be held shortly.

[Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) O.M.No.H-11013/02/2003-HD dated 25.3.2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 1.18)

Another reason for delay in laying of the documents is stated to be the absence of regular Director for the Institute since 1996. It is only now that a Director on contractual basis has been appointed. The Ministry's handling of the Institute as brought out in this and the preceding paragraphs leaves much to be desired. The Ministry have now drawn up a schedule indicating time limit for various stages involved in approval of the annual accounts and annual report and to ensure laying of the documents on the Table of the House without delay. The Committee urge that the Ministry should ensure strict adherence to the time schedule and timely laying of document in future.

Reply of the Government

Noted and the recommendations will be followed strictly in future by the Department.

The Bye-laws of National Institute of Homoeopathy provide that the Governing Body should meet at least once in a year. The Department of AYUSH has taken steps to ensure that the provisions regarding holding of the Governing Body meeting of the National Institute of Homoeopathy are fully complied with. As such, during the financial

year 2003-04, one meeting of the Governing Body was hold on 10.7.2003 another meeting is scheduled to be held shortly.

[Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) O.M. No. H-11013/02/2003-HD dated 25.3.2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 1.19)

Incidentally, the Committee note that delay in according approval to the annual accounts by Governing Bodies/Executive Committee is the main reason for delay in laying of documents by a number of organizations. These include Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of youth Development, Sriperumbudur under the Ministry for Youth Affairs and Sports, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad under the Ministry of Rural Development and a score of organizations under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Governing Bodies/Executive councils of all these organizations are stated to be headed by the Union Ministers and due to their preoccupation they could not spare time to hold periodical meetings of Governing Bodies/Executive Councils. Consequently, not only the documents requiring approval of these bodies got delayed, there was also consequential delay in their being laid on the Table of the House. Such avoidable delays, the Committee feel lead to inevitable adverse impact on the efficient functioning of these organizations. The Committee, therefore, feels that the question of Ministers heading Governing Bodies of various organizations under the control of their respective Ministries should be reviewed at the highest level and if the review brings out any need for corrective measures, suitable steps be taken in the light thereof.

Reply of the Government

The Department is of the view that there is need for Minister to continue to be at the helm of affairs of Institute under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare since they not only happen to be National level bodies but also are being evolved as Centres of Excellence. These organizations can work more efficiently with effective guidance and timely interventions from the highest level in the Govt. However, it will be ensured by the Department that the frequency of meetings of GBs/Boards etc. is increased. The concerned Directors of the Institutes who are Member/Secretaries of the GBs have been advised to ensure timely submission of proposals for meetings.

[Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) O.M.No.H-11013/02/2003-HD dated 25.3.2004]

The Ministry have further replied "it is proposed to maintain *status quo* regarding Minister remaining the head of the Governing Body of the autonomous bodies. The present Minister of Health & Family Welfare is taking steps to conduct the meetings of the Governing Bodies periodically by deputing the Minister of State or the Secretary (AYUSH) to chair these meetings as per schedule."

Comments of the Committee

Please see paragraph 10 of the Report

Recommendations (Para Nos. 2.10 to 2.12)

The Committee regret to note that there was a delay of about 16 months in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Regional Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur for the year 2000-2001. There had also been a delay ranging from 4 to 11 months in laying the documents pertaining to the years from 1997-98 to 1999-2000. The documents for the year 2001-2002 *Which were due for laying by 31.12.2002 had not been laid till the matter was considered by the Committee on 7 November, 2003.

The Committee examined the reasons for delay with particular reference to the year 2000-2001. It is observed that 8 months were consumed by auditors in auditing of accounts and furnishing their audit report and another 3 months were taken by the Institute for getting the documents printed. The Committee are of the view that the time taken for printing of documents is unreasonable. It has been stated that there was no regular principal of the college since 1999-2000 and the College faced conversion of Regional Institute of Technology into National Institute of Technology. It has also been stated that these documents were earlier sent to Parliament for laying on 6.8.2002 but these could not be laid due to *sine die* adjournment of the House. This however does not explain why the documents were not presented during Winter Session of Parliament in the year 2002. The documents were laid only in the Budget Session on 22.4.2003.

It appears from the Ministry's response that no time schedule had been laid down by them indicating normative time for completion of task at each stage involved in finalisation of the document viz. finalisation/completion of annual accounts and report auditing of accounts, approval of the documents from the competent authority, translation and printing, processing at Ministry for being laid on the Table of the House. The Committee urge that a time schedule on the above lines should be prepared and laid down and it should be ensured that the time scheduled is adhered to strictly.

Reply of the Government

As far as delay in submission of the accounts for 1997-98 to 1999-2000 is concerned, it may be stated that there was no regular Principal in 1997-1998 and 1999-2000. Even though a principal was appointed in 1998-1999, there was a Court case challenging his appointment. Due to this problem the Institute could not initiate adequate follow-up measures for timely submission of Annual Reports. Further, due to bifurcation of the State of Bihar into two States viz. Bihar and Jharkhand during 2000-2001, the Institute fell into the share of the new State of Jharkhand. Bifurcation of the state also led to the reconstitution of Board of Governors as both Bihar and Jharkhand laid claim to the post of Chairman of the Board of Governors. Ultimately, the institute was taken over as a fully funded Institute of the Central Government from the financial year 2003-2004 vide Notification No.F.35-1/2002-TS-III dated 14.5.2003.

*Laid on the Table of the House on 25.8.2004. The annual reports and Audited Accounts for the year 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 21.12.2004 and 23.8.2005 respectively.

With reference to the observation of the Committee about not laying the Report in Winter Session of Parliament in 2002 even though the report was sent to Parliament on 6.8.2002 it may be clarified here that a new bundles on the copies of the Report, which were sent to Parliament on the above date got mixed up with other reports in the Parliament House due to adjournment and could not be retrieved. Therefore, the requisite number of the copies of the Report had to be reprinted which caused the delay in not being able to lay the same during the Winter Session.

The reasons for delay have been reviewed in the Ministry and it would be ensured to submit the Reports in time in future.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M.No. F.8-5/2002-75-III dated 24 August, 2004]

Comments of the Committee

Please *see* paragraph 11 of the Report

Recommendation (Para No. 3.7)

The Committee regret to note that there has been inordinate delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. There was a delay of 11 months each for the years 1996-97 and 1997-98 and 16 months each for the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000. In respect of the year 2000-2001 the extent of delay came down to 4 months. The documents for the year 2001-2002* which were required to be laid on the Table by 31.12.2002 have not been laid till the matter was considered by the Committee. The Committee express their serious concern over persistent delay in this regard which denies timely information to members for use during budgetary discussion in Lok Sabha.

Reply of the Government

The delay in respect of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the years 1996-1997, 1997-1998, 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is sincerely regretted and all out efforts are being made to ensure that such delay does not recur. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for 2001-02 have since been laid before Parliament on 13.8.2002.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M.No. F. 10-15/2000-TSI dated 20.1.2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.8)

The Committee's examination of the reasons for 16 months delay in laying the documents pertaining to the year 1998-99 reveal that there was considerable delay in getting the audit of accounts completed and there was also delay in finalisation of the Annual Report. After receipt of the accounts from IIT on 18.6.1999, the auditors took one month to commence the audit and more than 3 months thereafter to complete the audit task. IIT, New Delhi took about 11 months for finalisation of the Annual

* Laid on the Table of the House on 13.8.2003. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the year 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 7.12.2004 and 16.8.2005 respectively.

Report which should have been finalized within six months after close of the accounting year. The Annual Report was got approved alongwith audited accounts at the AGM held on 8.12.2000. The Committee also find that after approval of the documents in their AGM, the Institute took 2 months for completing translation and printing work of the documents which exhibit lackadaisical attitude of the Institute in finalisation of their documents. The Committee are unhappy to note that after receipt of the documents from the Institute, the administrative Ministry took 2 months in preparing 'review', 'delay statement' and getting the documents authenticated from their Minister.

Reply of the Government

The Annual Report/Audited Accounts pertaining to 1998-99 were received in the Ministry on 12.3.2001. The delay in laying of the Reports was due to late receipt of the Hindi version of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts from the Institute (14.2.2001) and chronological events (12.3.2001). All out efforts will be made to reduce the time taken by the Ministry in preparation of review delay statements an authentication by Minister.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M.No. F 10-15/2000-TSI dated 20.1.2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.9)

The Committee regret to note that no 'delay statement' was laid by the Ministry within 30 days of expiry of the prescribed period for laying documents as had been recommended by the Committee in para 3.5 of First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha). The Committee urge that in case delay is anticipated in laying documents, a delay statement should be laid within 30 days of expiry of the stipulated date for laying of documents.

Reply of the Government

The delay in laying the delay statement is sincerely regretted and effort will be made to ensure that the delay statement is laid on the Table of the House within 30 days of the expiry of the prescribed period for laying the documents.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M.No. F 10-15/2000-TSI dated 20.1.2004]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.10)

The Committee are distressed to note that no time schedule indicating time limit for completion of task involved in each stage of finalisation of the documents of the Institute has been laid down by the Ministry. The Committee urge that this should be done forthwith. The time schedule must lay down target dates for finalisation of accounts, for completion of auditing, approval of reports and audited accounts, translation & printing of the documents, dispatch to the Ministry, processing by Ministry and laying on the Table. The Committee also stress that the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) should take up the matter suitably with Comptroller & Auditor General to ensure timely completion of audit task and ensure that the documents to the Institute are laid in time in future.

Reply of the Government

A time schedule for finalization of the Annual Reports/Audited Accounts has been drawn up and placed at *Annexure-II*. Target dates for each stage of action have been laid down therein and the Institutes have been asked to ensure adherence to this time schedule. The Ministry of HRD is also taking up the matter suitably with the Comptroller and Auditor General to eliminate delay in completion of Audit tasks.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M.No. F 10-15/2000-TSI dated 20.1.2004]

Recommendations (Para Nos. 4.6 & 4.7)

The Committee are concerned to note that there has been inordinate delay in laying the Annual Reports & Audited Accounts of Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi every year since 1996-1997. The delay was 13 months for the year 1996-1997, 14 months for the year 1997-98, 16 months for the year 1998-1999, 11 months each for the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001. The documents for the year 2001-2002* that were due for lying by 31.12.2002 have not been laid till the matter was considered by the Committee.

The Chairman, ICPR was candid enough to admit that there was some laxity on the part of ICPR which resulted in delay in laying the documents and mentioned in this connection the factors such as absence of Member Secretary in the Council for quite some time, paucity of Hindi Translators and laxity on the part of some subordinate staff. The Committee are of the view that these factors are within the control of the management/Ministry and that these should be resolved at the earliest. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) has since laid down a time schedule for completion of various stages involved in finalization of the documents. The Committee urge that the time schedule should be adhered to strictly and it should be ensured that the Annual report and Audited Accounts are laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time.

Reply of the Government

In compliance with the direction of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House, following time schedule has been prepared and communicated to ICPR for strict compliance.

- (i) Finalization of accounts by 31st May
- (ii) Completion of the audit of the accounts by C & AG by 31st July Finalization of Annual Report of the Institute including Hindi Version by 31st July
- (iii) Approval of the Audited Accounts by the Finance Committee/Governing Body of the Council by 30th September

*Laid on the Table of the House on 30.7.2003. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 25.8.2004 and 26.8.2005 respectively.

- (iv) Forwarding the requisite number of printed copies of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts to the Ministry of Human Resource Development by 31st October.
- (v) Forwarding the copies duly authenticated by Hon'ble Minister to Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat by 30th November.

The schedule was communicated to ICPR in July, 2002 and has been reiterated again.

Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi for 2001-2002 were laid in Lok Sabha on 30 July, 2003.

Annual Accounts of Indian Council of Philosophical Research for 2002-2003 were submitted by the Council to Directorate General of Audit, Central Revenues (DGACR), New Delhi on 12 September, 2003. After repeated follow-up by the Council, the audit was conducted on 3-23 December, 2003. Audit report from DGACR is awaited by the Council.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M.No. F 4-2/2004-U.3 dated 10 March, 2003]

Recommendation (Para No. 5.12)

The Committee note that though the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Regional Engineering College, Silchar were laid on time in the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000, for the year 2000-2001 these were laid on 22-4-2003, *i.e.* 16 months after the stipulated date. The documents for the year 2001-2002* which were to be laid by 31.2.2002 have not been laid till the matter was considered by the Committee on 7 November, 2003. The Committee regret to note that the College had taken 6 months for compilation of their accounts of 2000-2001 and another three months to hand over the accounts to auditors as against 3 months prescribed for this purpose. The delay is stated to be due to non-cooperation/strike by faculty & staff of the College and undue delay in holding the meeting of Board of Governors to approve the annual report and accounts.

Reply of the Government

As regards para 5.12 of the Sixteenth Report (13th LS), it is stated that there was delay on the part of the College in submitting the required documents to audit as there was non-cooperation/strike by the faculty and staff of the College and due to disturbed situation of the State of Assam, no Central Government representatives can attend the Board of Governors meeting. Hence, the undue delay in holding the meeting of the BOGs to approve the annual report and accounts, which plays a vital role.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M.No. F 12-11/2000-T.S.III dated 15 June, 2004]

* Since laid on 23.7.2004. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the years 2002-2003 & 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 25.8.2004 and 15.3.2005 respectively.

Recommendation (Para No. 5.13)

The Committee also note that after receipt of documents in the Ministry on 22.4.2002, some discrepancies were found and it took 11 months for the Ministry to get the discrepancies rectified and to place the documents on the Table of the House. The Committee fail to understand the unreasonable time taken by the Ministry in this regard. The Committee would like to know the nature of discrepancies found the efforts made by the Ministry in getting those discrepancies rectified expeditiously.

Reply of the Government

As regards para 5.13 of the Sixteenth Report (13th Lok Sabha), it may be stated that the discrepancies were due to the Institute not furnishing the date of the approval of Accounts by the Inspecting Officer, date of dispatch of Audited Accounts by AG, Assam. Due to these reasons, the Department could not even lay the Annual Report and Annual Accounts of 2001-2002 & 2002-2003 to both the Houses of Parliament till date.* However, the Institute assured that they would furnish the required documents as early as possible so as to enable us to lay the same during the coming Budget Session. Thus, Lok Sabha Secretariat may kindly agree to lay the same in the ensuing Budget Session as the situation was beyond our control.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education) O.M.No. F 12-11/2002-T.S.III dated 15 June, 2004]

Comments of the Committee

Please *see* paragraph 12 of the Report

Recommendation (Para No. 5.14)

The Committee regret to note that no time schedule has been laid down by the Ministry indicating normative time for completion of task at each stage *viz.* appointment of auditors, compilation of auditors, compilation of accounts and handing over to auditors, auditing of accounts, finalisation of Annual Report, approval of the documents from the competent authority, translation and printing and processing at Ministry for being laid on the Table of the House. The Committee urge that this should be done forthwith. A senior officer both in the college and Ministry should also be entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress made at each stage of the finalisation of the documents and to ensure timely completion of the work. With these measures, the Committee hope that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Regional Engineering College, Silchar would be laid within the stipulated period of nine months after close of the accounting year in future. The Committee desire that a schedule of time limits so prepared be furnished to the Committee for their information.

Reply of the Government

Further, the time schedule to be adhered to by the National Institutes of Technology in furnishing the Annual Report & Audited Statement of Accounts to be laid on the

*Since laid on the Table of the House on 23.7.2004 and 25.8.2004 respectively. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 15.3.2005.

Table of both the Houses of Parliament, it is informed that this Department has already circulated guidelines to all the NITs in the country *vide* our D.O. letter No.25-2/2003-TS III, dated 21.7.2003, a copy of which is also enclosed for information in *Annexure-III*.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education), O.M.No.F 12-11/2002 T.S. III, dated 15 June, 2004]

Recommendations (Para Nos. 6.7 & 6.8)

The Committee note that there was delay of 12 months in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad for the year 1998-1999. It has been stated that it was for the first time that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of ISM were laid before the Parliament and the delay was mainly due to change in the format of accounts and due to shifting of office of AG from Patna to Ranchi.

The Committee are glad to note that the extent of delay in laying the documents has been substantially brought down in the subsequent years and the delay in laying the documents for the year 2001-2002* was two months. The Committee hope that as assured during oral evidence it would be ensured that all formalities including compilation of accounts, approval of documents from the authority, translation & printing, would be completed in a time bound manner and the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of ISM are laid on the Table of the House within nine months of the close of the accounting year in future.

Reply of the Government

As acknowledged by the honourable Committee, the delay in laying the Annual Reports of the Institute for the year 1998-99 was mainly due to change in the format accounts and due to shifting of office of AG from Patna to Ranchi.

By consistent persuasion by the Ministry with the Institute, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2002-03 of ISM, Dhanbad could be obtained by 19th January, 2004. These were further processed for laying in the Parliament. However, due to very short time left, these could not laid in the Parliament during the second part of the 14th session of the 13th Lok Sabha and 200th Session of Rajya Sabha commenced from 29th January 2004 and 30th January, 2004 respectively and lasted till 5th February 2004. The documents will be laid in the next Session of Parliament.

[Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Secondary & Higher Education), O.M. No. F 3-15/2003 T.S. II, dated 2 April, 2004]

* Laid on the Table of the House on 4.3.2003. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 were laid on the Table of the House on 20.7.2004 and 29.11.2005 respectively.



S.K. BISWAS
Director(NIT)
TEL. 23385915

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
माध्यमिक और उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग
भारत सरकार
शास्त्री भवन

नई दिल्ली-110 001

D.O.No. 25-2/2003-TS III

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY &
HIGHER EDUCATION
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI-110 001

Dated: July 21, 2003.

Dear Directors/Principals,

As you are aware the Committee of Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha on the papers laid on the Table of the Parliament in its recommendations has stipulated that the Annual Reports and Audited Statement of Accounts be laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament within 9 months of the close of the Financial Year *i.e.* before 31st December of every year. It is being observed that these documents are received in the Ministry much later than the targeted date.

2. To ensure that the Reports do not get delayed the following time schedule were prescribed by the Ministry *vide* letter No. 18-18/97-TS.III dt. 14th May, 1997:—

- (1) Annual Accounts be finalized before 31st May for submission to A.G. (Audit) (the year following the close of financial year)
- (2) Audit Report be obtained before 31st July. This, obviously, will require pursuing the matter with Auditors concerned for which an officer may be entrusted to see that delay do not occur.
- (3) Audit Report alongwith Annual Report be submitted to the BOGs for its approval before 30th September.
- (4) The printing of the Annual/Audit Report (both in Hindi and English) should be completed by 31st October. The Audit Report should form part of the Annual Report.
- (5) Fifty copies each of Reports (Hindi & English version) be sent to the Ministry by the first week of November, positively alongwith information in *Annexure-I*.
- (6) The Reports shall be printed on A-4 size paper.
- (7) The Hindi translation of Annual/Audit Report be done simultaneously while preparing these documents to minimize the delay.

3. I shall be grateful if necessary steps are taken to ensure that the Annual Accounts and Reports are finalized by the College as per the schedule indicated above in this year too and the final Audited Statement of Accounts & reports must reach this Ministry by 30.11.2003.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(S.K. Biswas)

The Directors/Principals
All NITs/RECs

ANNEXURE-II

**A TIME SCHEDULE RELATING TO ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED
ACCOUNTS OF INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, DELHI**

Sl. No.	Stage	Stipulated Date
	<i>I-Annual Report</i>	1st/2nd week of December
	<i>II-Annual Accounts & Audit Report</i>	
1.	Date of Finalisation of Accounts of the Institute	31st May
2.	Date of submission of Accounts to A.G.	31st May
3.	Commencement of Inspection of Accounts by A.G.	July 1st week
4.	Date of completion of inspection of Accounts by inspecting Officer	October 1st week
5.	Date of approval of Accounts by Inspecting officer	October 1st week
6.	Date of despatch of Audited Accounts by A.G.	7th November
7.	Date of despatch of Audited Report and Audited Accounts by Institute to MHRD	December



S.K. BISWAS
Director (NIT)
TEL. 23385915

D.O.No. 25-2/2003-TS III

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
माध्यमिक और उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग
भारत सरकार
शास्त्री भवन
नई दिल्ली-110 001

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY &
HIGHER EDUCATION
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI-110 001

July 21, 2003

Dear Directors/Principals,

As you are aware the Committee of Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha on the papers laid on the Table of the Parliament in its recommendations has stipulated that the Annual Reports and Audited Statement of Accounts be laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament within 9 months of the close of the Financial Year i.e. before 31st December of every year. It is being observed that these documents are received in the Ministry much later than the targeted date.

2. To ensure that the Reports do not get delayed the following time schedule were prescribed by the Ministry *vide* letter No. 18-18/97-TS.III dt. 14th May, 1997:—

- (1) Annual Accounts be finalized before 31st May for submission to A.G. (Audit) (the year following the close of financial year).
- (2) Audit Report be obtained before 31st July. This, obviously, will require pursuing the matter with Auditors concerned for which an officer may be entrusted to see that delay do not occur.
- (3) Audit Report alongwith Annual Report be submitted to the BOGs for its approval before 30th September.
- (4) The printing of the Annual/Audit Report (both in Hindi and English) should be completed by 31st October. The Audit Report should form part of the Annual Report.
- (5) Fifty copies each of Reports (Hindi & English versions) be sent to the Ministry by the first week of November, positively alongwith information in *Annexure-I*.
- (6) The Reports shall be printed on A-4 size paper.
- (7) The Hindi translation of Annual/Audit Report be done simultaneously while preparing these documents to minimize the delay.

3. I shall be grateful if necessary steps are taken to ensure that the Annual Accounts and Reports are finalized by the College as per the scheduled indicated above in this year too and the final Audited Statement of Accounts & reports must reach this Ministry by 30.11.2003.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(S.K. Biswas)

The Directors/Principals
All NITs/RECs