

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

TWENTY FOURTH REPORT

MINISTRY OF COAL



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2007/Phalguna, 1928 (Saka)

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(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF COAL

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 07.05.2007)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2007/Phalguna, 1928 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Shri Prabhunath Singh — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Shingada Damodar Barku
3. Shri Nandkumar Singh Chauhan
4. Shri N.S.V. Chitthan
5. Shri Anant Gangaram Geete
6. Shri Mohan Jena
7. Shri Wangyuh W. Konyak
8. Shri C. Kuppusami
9. Adv. Suresh Kurup
10. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
11. Kunwar Jitin Prasada
12. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
13. Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia
14. Shri Mansukhbai Dhanjibhai Vasava
15. Shri Paras Nath Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri M. Rajagopalan Nair — *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri J.P. Sharma — *Joint Secretary*
3. Shri A.K. Singh — *Director*
4. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Deputy Secretary*
5. Shri V.P. Gupta — *Under Secretary*

**TWENTY FOURTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on Petitions, having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Twenty Fourth (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee to the House on the Petition requesting for regularisation of contract workers working in Bhojudih Coal Washery, a unit of Bharat Coking Coal Limited.

2. The Committee considered and adopted the draft Twenty Fourth Report at their sitting held on 20th March, 2007.
3. The observations/recommendations of the Committee on the above matters have been included in the Report.

NEW DELHI;

20 March, 2007

29 Phalguna, 1928(Saka)

**PRABHUNATH SINGH,
Chairman,
Committee on Petitions.**

REPORT

PETITION REQUESTING FOR REGULARISATION OF CONTRACT WORKERS WORKING IN BHOJUDIH COAL WASHERY, A UNIT OF BHARAT COKING COAL LIMITED.

1. On 15th March, 2005 Shri Basudeb Acharia, MP presented to Lok Sabha a petition signed by Shri Bhuban Chandra Pramanik, Secretary, Bhojudih Coal Washery, Thikadar Sramik Union, Village & Post Santaldih, District Purulia (West Bengal) requesting for regularisation of Contract Workers working in Bhojudih Coal Washery, a unit of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (*See Appendix*).

2. In his petition, the petitioner *inter-alia* stated that the contractual labourers are working inside the plant premises of Bhojudih Coal Washery (A unit of Bharat Coking Coal Limited under Coal India Limited) at Santaldih, District Purulia (West Bengal) in different departments like Plant maintenance, cleaning, etc. for the last 20 years or more. All these labourers belong to nearby villages of Bhojudih Coal Washery, which are economically very backward areas. These workmen are paid by the different contractors, but their work is directly supervised by the Plant Engineers. According to the petitioner, these contractual workmen are the backbone of Bhojudih Coal Washery, being in the younger age group as most of permanent workmen have already retired or on the verge of retirement and there is no replenishment in the workforce by way of recruitment or transfer.

3. The petitioner further stated that these labourers are most deprived lot as they are getting only the minimum wages without considering their skill and knowledge in the jobs. Even P.F. deduction is not being made from their salary. These persons are very poor hailing from the most backward areas of Purulia District. They have been continuously working against perennial nature of jobs and it will be a justice to them, if their services are absorbed on the roll of the company.

4. The petitioner, therefore, requested to take up the matter with the appropriate authority for regularisation of the contract workers working in Bhojudih Coal Washery.

5. The Ministry of Coal were requested to furnish their comments on the issues raised in the petition.

6. In their response, the Ministry of Coal *vide* their communication dated 16th June, 2005 stated that the plant of Bhojudih Coal Washery was commissioned in the year 1962. Different contractors have been awarded different contractual jobs from time to time, like repair and maintenance of mechanical, electrical and civil job etc. which are not of perennial nature. Workers engaged by the contractors for the awarded job are being supervised and directed by the contractors. However, in order to ensure

quality of work Engineers of the washery conduct regular inspections. Payments of wages to the workers engaged by the contractors are being made as per skill of workers by the contractors themselves or by their nominees.

7. As regards the retirement of permanent workers of Bhojudih washery are concerned, the Ministry stated that replenishment in the manpower is made by transfer of workers from other projects/units of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) as per requirement of the washery. BCCL is having a manpower of 92,268 out of which 9,234 is surplus. During the last five years about 50 workers have been posted at Bhojudih Coal Washery from other projects/units of BCCL on transfer. Thus the manpower requirement of Bhojudih Coal Washery is fulfilled from the available manpower within the company.

8. As regards legal aspect of the claim the Ministry referred to the judgment passed by full constitution bench of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in SLP-C No. 12657-58/98 in the matter of SAIL, in which Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that the claim of contractual workers for regularization on the roll of the principal employer is not automatic as there is no such provision in the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970. According to the Ministry, the demand of petitioner for regularization of contractual workers is not justified in the light of the facts submitted above.

9. The Committee, thereafter, took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Coal on 31st March, 2006.

10. During the course of oral evidence, the Secretary, the Ministry of Coal submitted that they are contract labourers and as per rules they were not eligible for being regularised. Before that some of the perennial workers who were working in the washery were regularised in 1999. Although the list of those 125 people had not been annexed with the petition, some of the contract labourers had moved the Industrial Tribunal and the matter is subjudice before the Tribunal.

11. When the Committee enquired about the time period for which these people have been working and whether the contractors to whom contracts have been given are working regularly or are given break from time to time, the witness, the Chairman, BCCL stated: —

"Out of total ones there were 359 contract labourers who were engaged in perennial and prohibited jobs. All these labourers were regularised in 1999 *i.e.* their jobs were made departmentalised. After that there were 125 people who are engaged in various kinds of civil jobs. Their works are not of perennial and prohibited nature, but they are normal contract workers. For this regard we have a list saying the number of people working there and the nature of jobs in which they are engaged. Now a days 110 people are working there. If we see this list, we will find it that some have one month's jobs or some have two month's jobs. So, such are the jobs in which people are engaged. But the works are changeable and the minor works are always there; so it may be possible that they are the same people who may have been engaged in all these jobs their demand was that they may be regularised. In the meantime,

the Supreme Court verdict regarding SAIL came only due to which regularisation is now not possible. In this regard four cases are pending in the Industrial Tribunal and we have furnished the list of 177 persons regarding it. Since we have no details about those 125 people, so we are not able to match them whether they are included or not in the list of aforesaid 177 people. This is my problem."

12. When the Committee desired to know as to whether the contractors were regular contractors or they have been given break from time to time or they have been awarded new assignments, the witness stated:—

"The contractor does once a job, then it stops, after some time, a new work begins. The names of these 125 labourers are not available to us, so we are unable to contact them."

13. When the Committee observed that according to a direction of the Supreme Court if any person is working in an organisation without a break, then they have got the right to be regulated in that organisation, the witness from BCCL responded as under:—

"To our understanding, right to regularisation is there provided they are working in one of the prohibited or in a perennial shop. These jobs do not fall under that category. That is our understanding."

14. When the Committee desired to know as to whether the work awarded by the BCCL to private contractors falls in the category of core competency, the witness replied as under:—

"... At present we awarded only those works which are not in the core competency area. For that we have got permanent vacancies which are already filled. This is the responsibility of the maintenance department and the petty or civil works are not outsourced whose contract period is three or more than three months, the list regarding the total workers working is with us. We are not responsible to monitor whether the skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers getting the minimum wages guaranteed by State, it is upto the contractor."

15. On the question of involvement of financial/administrative implications in regularisation/absorption of workers in the company, the Ministry in their written reply dated 08.06.2006 submitted as under:—

"If the contractual workers are departmentalised it will open the flood gate for employment claims which will create serious administrative problems and heavy financial burden on the company which is under BIFR and already having surplus manpower. Moreover, this will be in contravention of the recent judgement/law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the case of SAIL."

16. The Committee also undertook on-the-spot study visit to Kolkata on 30th April, 2006. During the study visit, the Ministry in their written replies submitted before the Committee as follows:—

"The Bhojudih Coal Washery which was a unit of Hindustan Steel Limited laterly known as Steel Authority of India Limited was established in the year 1962 and was taken over by BCCL *w.e.f.* 1.10.83 as per Cabinet decision. Different types of contractual jobs used to be awarded and executed in the past including certain perennial nature of works which were prohibited under Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 at this Washery as an ancillary activities of the core activities of washing prime coking coal. However, in the year 1991 Management of BCCL had absorbed all those contractor workers into its regular employment who had been engaged in prohibited category of jobs and accordingly 359 numbers of workers were taken into employment in BCCL. Thereafter only jobs which are not falling under prohibited category are being executed through various contracts on need basis."

17. As regards the number of workers engaged by the Bhojudih Coal Washery during the last 20 years or so, the Ministry commented as follows:—

"The information is not readily available. However, at present 110 contract workers are deployed at this washery in various types of works. Since contract in work specific, information on age, qualification etc. is not available as these details are not maintained by the principal employer."

18. Responding to a question about the number of inspections undertaken by the engineers of the washery, the Ministry replied as under:—

"The inspection of various contract works being executed by contractors at Bhojudih Coal Washery are being done by concerned supervisors/chargemen and engineers from time to time to ensure execution of quality job as per the work order/NIT. No record of such inspection is available."

19. Regarding payment of wages to the workers as per their skill, the Ministry commented that there is a specific order of Government regarding payment of workers to the contractor works as per their skill as laid down in the minimum wages Act applicable in the State. The workers deployed by contractor for various works are being paid by the contractors in presence of the management representative to ensure the payment of minimum wages to the contractor labourer as per their skill.

20. The Committee were also informed during their study tour that the claim of the petitioner is misleading. The list being furnished by him on 24.4.2006 contains names of 62 workers only and some are as young as 25 to 30 years as on date as such question of their deployment since 20 years is not correct. None of the jobs on which these workers are indicated to be deployed falls in prohibited category of jobs. It is again reiterated that no contract workers or contractual workers were ever engaged directly by the Company for execution of various work. It was also informed that as per approved manpower budget for the year 2005-06, the requirement is 433 for plant work

of Bhojudih Coal Washery. Whereas, available manpower is 484. Thus there are surplus of 51 employees. The Committee were also informed that as per the approved manpower budget 2005-06, there are 8902 skilled personnel in shortage in major categories including statutory personnel like Overman and Mining Sirdar in one hand and on the other hand there is 9169 personnel surplus in mainly unskilled categories. In the manpower budget, provisions had been made for training (on the job and off the job) for such surplus personnel so as to redeploy them in the shortage categories and need based deployment is also being made through diversion/absorption in the shortage categories of departmental personnel. The nature of the various works awarded to contractors does not fall under prohibited category of works as per various notifications issued under section 10 of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. The workers deployed by contractor for various works are being paid by the contractors in presence of the management representative to ensure the payment of minimum wages to the contractor labourer as per their skill.

21. As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Coal, the rates of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers of contractors as notified by West Bengal Government which are applicable for Bhojudih Coal Washery are given below. The workers deployed by the contractors for various works are being paid minimum wages as approved by West Bengal Government commensurate to their skill.

Category	Monthly Wages (Rs.) Jan. 2006 to June 2006	Daily Wages (Rs.) (Monthly Wages/26)
Un-skilled	2396.53	92.17
Semi-skilled	2422.00	93.15
Skilled	2550.82	98.11
Highly skilled	2916.60	112.17

22. Explaining about the nature of work against which the contract workers were engaged, the Ministry have informed that the contractor workers regularized in the year 1991 were engaged in the work of slurry removal and transport of middlings which are mainly unskilled nature of job falling under prohibited category as per Gazette Notification, whereas the contractor workers for whom petition has been filled are engaged in plant maintenance, erection and fabrication of pipes and launders etc. which do fall under prohibited category of job. The works performed by the contractor workers do not fall under the core competence area of Bhojudih Coal Washery. Core competence area of Bhojudih Coal Washery is to process prime coking coal to produce washed prime coking coal for the use of steel plant.

23. In reply to a question as to what is meant by "Statutory Duty" assigned to an employee of the Organisation and whether such duties are assigned to the contract labourers, the Ministry of Coal in their written reply stated that 'statutory duty' means the compulsory duty as assigned to the statutory personnel prescribed under the

provisions of any statute. For performance of statutory duty no contract is being awarded to the contractor. As such, statutory duties are not being performed by contract labour. The Ministry also informed that no contract labour has been assigned such duties as on date. No casual labourer is working at Bhojudih Coal Washery. Certain contracts have been awarded to the contractors for the job of plant maintenance, supply of water from in-take well and maintenance of railway siding etc.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

24. The Committee note that the Bhojudih Coal Washery which was a Unit of Hidustan Steel Limited subsequently known as Steel Authority of India Limited was established in the year 1962 and was taken over by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) w.e.f. October 1, 1983. Earlier, at this Washery as an ancillary activity of the core activities of washing prime coking coal different types of contractual jobs used to be awarded and executed in the past including certain perennial nature of works which were prohibited under Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970. The Committee, however, note that in the year 1991 Management of BCCL had absorbed all those contractor workers into its regular employment who had been engaged in prohibited category of jobs and accordingly 359 workers were taken into employment in BCCL. Thereafter only jobs which are not falling under prohibited category are being executed by contracts on need basis and at present 110 contract workers are deployed at this washery in various types of works.

25. In his petition, the petitioner has stated that the contractual workers are working inside the plant premises of Bhojudih Coal Washery in different departments like plant maintenance, cleaning, etc., for the last 20 years or more. All these labourers belong to nearby villages which are economically very backward area. The petitioner further submitted that these workers are paid by the different contractors but their work is directly supervised by the Plant Engineers and as a matter of fact these contractual workmen are the backbone of Bhojudih Coal Washery being in the younger age group as most of the permanent workmen have already retired or on the verge of retirement and there is no replenishment in the workforce by way of recruitment or transfer.

26. The Committee further note from the submission of the petitioner that these labourers are most deprived lot as they are getting only the minimum wages without considering their skill and knowledge in the job and even P.F. is not being deducted from their salaries. The petitioner have requested for regularization of contract workers working in the Bhojudih Coal Washery since they are very poor, hailing from the most backward area for Purulia District and continuously working against perennial nature of jobs.

27. The Committee observe that the petitioner has relied on the following issues while requesting for regularization of contractual labourers working at Bhojudih Coal Washery:—

- (i) The labourers are working at Bhojudih Coal Washery in different departments like plant maintenance, cleaning etc., for the last 20 years or more against perennial nature of jobs.**

- (ii) These labourers are paid by the different contractors but their work is directly supervised by the Plant Engineers.
- (iii) These contractual labourers are backbone of the Washery as there is no replenishment in the workforce either by transfer or recruitment.
- (iv) These labourers are very poor and are getting only the minimum wages without considering their skill and knowledge in the jobs.

28. The Committee note from the reply of the Ministry that different contractors have been awarded contractual jobs from time to time like repair and maintenance of mechanical, electrical and civil job which are not of perennial nature. In a subsequent note, the Ministry has informed that none of the jobs referred to by the petitioner, fall under the prohibited category as notified by the appropriate Government through various Gazette Notifications. The Ministry has further stated that Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 does not prohibit deployment of contract workers on perennial nature of job, if otherwise, not prohibited by the appropriate Government. During the evidence, the Committee were informed that "Right to regularization is there provided they are working in one of the prohibited or in a perennial shop. These shops do not fall under that category. That is our understanding". It was also informed that some of the Contract Labourers had moved the Industrial Tribunal and the matter is subjudice before the Tribunal.

29. As regards the second issue, the Committee observed that there is no difference of opinion on the issue that these labourers are employed by contractor and not by BCCL directly. However, whether their work is supervised by the Engineers of the Washery, the Ministry has submitted that though the awarded jobs are being supervised and directed by the contractors, in order to ensure quality of work, the engineers of the Washery conduct regular inspections.

30. On the issue of Contractual Labourers being the backbone of the Washery as they are a younger lot and there was no replenishment of workforce, the Ministry has stated that the Bhojudih Coal Washery has a surplus of 51 workmen with actual strength of 484 against the sanctioned strength of the 433, as per manpower budget, 2005-2006. It has been further informed that there is shortage of 8902 skilled personnel in major categories including statutory personnel like Overman and Mining Sirdar on one hand and on other hand there is surplus of 9169 personnel mainly in unskilled categories.

31. On the issue of payment of wages to these labourers as per their skill. The Committee were apprised that the workers deployed on various works are being paid by the contractors in the presence of the Management representatives to ensure the payment of minimum wages to the contract labourer as per their skill. The Committee, however, deeply anguished to note that the Ministry could not establish the identity of the actual workers employed by the contractors. This only goes to show that the manpower management of the company is not satisfactory. The Committee also note that though there is 9169 personnel surplus in BCCL including 51 in Bhojudih Coal Washery, there is shortage of skilled personnel in major categories. It is, therefore, inferred that the labourers in Bhojudih Coal Washery fall under skilled category.

32. The Committee further note that Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP-C No. 12657-58/98 in the matter of SAIL, has held that the claim of contractual workers for regularization on the roll of the principal employer is not automatic as there is no such provision for the same in the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.

33. The Committee are constrained to observe that the sham of manpower budgeting in BCCL which has miserably failed to remedy the paradoxical situation wherein the company is burdened with so called surplus manpower of 9169 workmen and at the same time facing shortage of 8902 skill manpower.

34. Ironically, BCCL Management has done precious little even in one of its small unit *i.e.* Bhojudih Coal Washery where 51 workmen are surplus against the sanctioned strength of 433. It is incomprehensible how these many workmen are surplus in the Washery though at the same time 110 (125 as per Petitioner), workmen are deployed in the Washery as contractors labourers. The Committee are anguished at this state of affairs particularly when in the year 1991, 359 contractors labourers were regularized since they were working in prohibited categories of jobs. On the basis of the facts, placed before it, the Committee are convinced that a good number of contract labourers employed in Bhojudih Coal Washery are not only skilled but also deployed in jobs of perennial nature. The Committee are anguished at the lack of transparency in the approach of the Ministry towards a clear cut demarcation about the jobs falling in the categories of prohibited, perennial, etc. As a sequel thereof, jobs are being outsourced indiscriminately thereby impeding the rights of the workmen to secure permanent employment in the company and letting an opportunity to contractors to exploit the workmen.

35. In view of the foregoing and the fact that the issue is *sub-judiced* before the Industrial Tribunal, the Committee are of the view that sincere efforts are needed for resolving this long pending and complex issue expeditiously without precluding the option of out-of-court settlement. The Committee strongly deprecate that there was no proper maintenance of records as a result of which the contract worker have to suffer for such a long time. Knowing fully well the fact that the payment to workers is made in the presence of a representative of the company, the Committee are not convinced with the argument of the Ministry that due to non-availability of proper records of workers they are not able to regularize the services of remaining workers. In the opinion of the Committee, the onus of maintaining the proper records of all categories of workers engaged in the company lies with the company, being the principal employer.

36. The Committee, therefore, strongly desire that manpower budgeting in BCCL be made more realistic with immediate measures for chalking out a time bound programme for imparting training and upgrading the skill of the huge surplus workforce in BCCL in general and Bhojudih Coal Washery in particular. The Committee also desire that an exercise be initiated urgently in consultation with the representatives of the contract labourers for determining the details of contract labourers performing the jobs of perennial nature as to consider their regularization

on the principles followed in the year 1991 when 359 contract labourers were regularised. The Committee would like the said exercise be completed within a period of two months so as to ensure the follow up action for the regularization of services in phases of eligible contract labourers.

NEW DELHI;
20 March, 2007
29 Phalguna, 1928 (Saka)

PRABHUNATH SINGH,
Chairman,
Committee on Petitions.

APPENDIX

(See Para 1 of the Report)

LOK SABHA

PETITION No. 6

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 15.3.2005)

To

Lok Sabha,
New Delhi.

The humble petition of Shri Bhuban Ch. Paramanik, Secretary, Bhojudih Coal Washery, Thikadar Sramik Union, Village & Post Santaldih, District Purulia (West Bengal).

SHEWETH

I, the Secretary of Bhojudih Coal Washery, Thikadar Sramik Union, Village & Post Santaldih, District Purulia (West Bengal), on behalf of the contractual labourers working inside the plant premises of Bhojudih, Coal Washery (a unit of Bharat Coking Coal Limited under Coal India Limited) at Santaldih District Purulia (West Bengal) in different departments like Plant Maintenance, Cleaning, etc. for the last 20 years or more. All these labourers belong to nearby villages of Bhojudih Coal Washery, which are economically very backward areas. These workmen are paid by the different contractors, but their work is directly supervised by the Plant Engineers. As a matter of fact, these contractual workmen are the backbone of Bhojudih Coal Washery being in the younger age group as most of permanent workmen have already retired or on the verge of retirement and there is no replenishment in the workforce by way of recruitment or transfer.

These labourers are most deprived as they are getting only the minimum wages without considering their skill and knowledge in the jobs. Even P.F. deduction is not being made from their salary. These persons are very poor hailing from the most backward areas of Purulia District, and they have been continuously working against perennial nature of jobs, it will be a justice to them, if their services are absorbed in the roll of the company.

I, therefore, submit this petition before you with a request to take up the matter with the appropriate authority for regularisation of the contract workers, working in Bhojudih Coal Washery.

And your petitioner as in duty bond shall ever pray.

Name	Address	Signature
Bhuban Ch. Paramanik	Secretary, Bhojudih Coal Washery, Thikadar Sramik Union, Village & Post Santaldih, District Purulia (West Bengal).	Sd/-

Countersigned by Shri Basudeb Acharia, M.P.

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY FOURTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PETITIONS (FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

The Committee on Petitions sat on Friday, 31st March, 2006 from 1200 hrs. to 1440 hrs. in Committee Room 'C', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Prabhunath Singh — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri N.S.V. Chitthan
3. Dr. M. Jagannath
4. Adv. Suresh Kurup
5. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
6. Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia
7. Shri Vijoy Krishna

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri P. Sreedharan — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri A. K. Singh — *Director*
3. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Under Secretary*
4. Shri M.S. Jaspal — *Assistant Director*

WITNESSES

Ministry of Coal

1. Shri H.C. Gupta — *Secretary*
2. Shri Abhiram Sharma — *CMD, MCL*
3. Shri Pradeep Kumar — *Addl. Secretary*
4. Shri Rajiv Sharma — *Joint Secretary*
5. Shri B.K. Panda — *Director & Commissioner, CMPFO*
6. Shri H.C. Agarwal — *Director*
7. Shri Shashi Kumar — *CMD (CIL)*

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY FOURTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PETITIONS (FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

The Committee on Petitions sat on Tuesday, the 20th March, 2007 from 1500 hours to 1530 hours in Chairman's Room No. 45(II) Ground Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Prabhunath Singh — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri N.S.V. Chitthan
3. Shri Anant Gangaram Geete
4. Shri C. Kuppusami
5. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
6. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
7. Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri A.K. Singh — *Director*
2. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Deputy Secretary*
3. Shri H.R. Kamboj — *Deputy Secretary-II*
4. Shri V.P. Gupta — *Under Secretary*
5. Smt. Jagriti Tewatia — *Committee Officer*

2. The Committee considered the draft Twenty Fourth, , Twenty Fifth and Twenty Sixth Reports and adopted the same.

3. The Committee decided to undertake on-the-spot study tour to Ranchi, Kolkata and Guwahati from 16th April to 20th April, 2007.

4. The Committee also authorised the Chairman to finalise and present the Reports to the House.

The Committee then adjourned.