

**COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**  
**(2016-2017)**

**(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**EIGHTEENTH REPORT**

**DISCONTINUATION OF PHYSICAL PRINTING OF GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

**March, 2017/Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)**

**COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**  
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**EIGHTEENTH REPORT**

**DISCONTINUATION OF PHYSICAL PRINTING OF GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS**

**(PRESENTED TO LOK SABHA ON 29.3.2017)**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

**March, 2017/Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)**

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## COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION (16<sup>th</sup> LOK SABHA)

(2016-2017)

1. Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi Chairperson

### Members

2. Shri Idris Ali
3. Shri Birendra Kumar Choudhary
4. Shri S. P. Muddahanumegowda
5. Shri Shyama Charan Gupta
6. Shri Jhina Hikaka
7. Shri Janardan Mishra
8. Shri Prem Das Rai
9. Shri Chandul Lal Sahu
10. Shri Alok Sanjar
11. Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah
12. Adv. Narendra Keshav Sawaikar
13. Shri V. Panneer Selvam
14. Shri Ram Kumar Sharma
15. Shri Nandi Yellaiah

### SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Sudesh Luthra - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ajay Kumar Garg - Director
3. Shri Nabin Kumar Jha - Additional Director
4. Smt. Jagriti Tewatia - Deputy Secretary
5. Smt. Vidya Mohan - Committee Officer

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on Subordinate Legislation having been authorised by the Committee to submit the report on their behalf, do present this Eighteenth Report.

2. The matters covered by this Report were considered by the Committee on Subordinate Legislation at their sitting held on 2.3.2016 during which oral evidence of the representatives of Ministry of Urban Development was taken.

3. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 15.3.2017.

4. Minutes of the Eighth Sitting of the Committee (2015-16) held on 2.3.2016 and Extracts from the Minutes of Eighth Sitting of the Committee (2016-17) held on 15.3.2017 relevant to this Report are included in Appendix-II of the Report.

**DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI**

**Chairperson**

**Committee on Subordinate Legislation**

**New Delhi;  
March, 2017  
Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)**

## REPORT

### PART-I

#### CHAPTER-I

##### **INTRODUCTORY**

In a modern welfare state, governmental activity has pervaded almost every field of human Endeavour, thus, necessitating enactment of multifarious laws to regulate this ever-widening activity. However, the Legislature does not have enough time to deliberate upon, discuss and approve every detail of legislation. Moreover, it is difficult for the legislature to foresee all future contingencies and the flexibility the executive authorities may require to deal with the situations. In the nature of things, what the Legislature does, and can do, is to lay down the policy and the objective of any legislation in hand, leaving it to the Executive to frame, in conformity with those principles, formal and procedural details of the legislative measure in the form of orders/rules. Whether such orders/rules known as subordinate legislation, are in conformity with the legislative intent, is subject to scrutiny by the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Lok Sabha.

2. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation examine all Regulations, Rules, Sub-rules, Bye-laws, etc. commonly known as 'Orders', whether laid on the Table of the House or not, framed in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution or a statute delegating power to a subordinate authority, to make such Orders. For the first time, the Committee was constituted in December, 1953 and has been constituted since then year after year.

## **PROCEDURAL ASPECTS INVOLVED IN THE WORKING OF COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**

3. After an 'Order' is published in the Gazette, it is examined by the Lok Sabha Secretariat to determine whether it is required to be brought to the notice of the Committee on any of the grounds laid down in **Rule 320** of the Rules and Procedures and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha or in accordance with any practice or direction of the Committee. Also under the Manual on Directions by the Speaker, the Branch receives three sets of copies of this part of the Gazette immediately after printing through the authorized sales counter of the Government of India Press, Ministry of Urban Development, like Kitab Mahal.

### **SWITCH OVER TO E- GAZETTE**

4. As per laid down Rules/Directions, all statutory orders framed under the Constitution of India or Acts passed by the Parliament are invariably required to be laid in Parliament as prescribed under the relevant parent Act and the same are also circulated to the Members of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation. However, the Ministry of Urban Development discontinued physical printing of Gazette Notifications vide **GSR 746-E dated 30.9.2015 w.e.f 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2015** in accordance with the provisions of **Section 8 of Information Technology Act, 2000**. With discontinuation of the physical printing of Gazette Notifications, the Committee on Subordinate Legislation are facing practical problems to keep track of all orders especially which are not laid on the Table of the House/published under Article 309 of the Constitution of India/updation of Rules, etc. to effectively discharge its functions. The Committee, therefore, took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development on 2 March, 2016 to ascertain the practical feasibility of e-Gazette vis-a-vis physical printing of the same and of laying of the same in Parliament.

### **REASONS FOR DISCONTINUATION OF PHYSICAL PRINTING OF E-GAZETTE**

5. While giving the brief background for the need of e-gazette, the Secretary of the Ministry of Urban Development submitted before the Committee that the increase in workload of the Government, the printing of Gazette Notifications had started taking time up to three months.



To improve the system, the Government took note of already existing provision of e-gazette in the Information Technology Act, 2000 wherein section 8 deals with publication of rule, regulation, etc. which reads as follows:-

"Where any law provides that any rule, regulation, order, bye-law, notification or any other matter shall be published in the Official Gazette, then, such requirement shall be deemed to have been satisfied if such rule, regulation, order, bye-law, notification or any other matter is published in the Official Gazette or Electronic Gazette."

The Ministry further submitted that they have consulted Ministry of Law and based on the conformity a decision was taken to publish e-gazette and from 1 October, 2015 the e-gazette has been started.

6. Elaborating it further, the Ministry in their written submission stated:-

"On the specific request of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways raising the concerns for the delays regarding publication of important and urgent land acquisition notices for National Highways Projects, the Project Monitoring Group (PMG) in the Cabinet Secretariat also reviewed the matter and directions were issued to examine and expedite the procedure. Accordingly, after detailed discussions and deliberations, Ministry of Urban Development initiated a proposal to switchover to e-publication of all gazettes and discontinuation of physical printing of gazette notification by the printing presses.

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"The publishing of e-Gazette and complete stoppage of physical printing has been implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2015. This new system has been fully accepted by all Administrative departments and Ministries. There has been no complaint or demand from any Ministry or Department for physical printing of Gazette notifications. Under the new system of e-publication, the mandate of publishing of Gazette notification within 5 days has been successfully maintained."

7. Explaining the reasons for switching over to e-Gazette after almost 15 years since the IT Act, 2000 came into existence, the representative of the Ministry submitted before the Committee:-

"It is understood that Section 8 of the IT Act, 2000 is in existence since the promulgation of the Act. Once the digitization of past Gazette was completed, Ministry launched e-Gazette portal in 2012 where simultaneous physical printing and e-publishing was being done. Finally in 2015, switching over to exclusive e-Gazette publishing was achieved. "

## **BENEFITS OF PUBLISHING E-GAZETTE**

8. When enquired about the kind of benefits that are likely to accrue by stopping the physical printing of Gazette notification and switching over to e-Gazette, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-,

"Following benefits are likely to accrue by stopping physical printing of Gazette Notification and switching over to e-Gazette :- (i) time saving (ii) cost saving (iii) paper saving (iv) easy accessibility (v) wider reachability (vi) e-governance.

The Ministry elaborated further as under:-

"An estimated 90 tons of paper will be saved annually by the Government of India Presses on account of stopping of physical printing based on previous years actual quantities.

With e-publishing the outreach of published Gazette notification to general public has increased tremendously. In the earlier system, physical printed copies were available for sale from any selected counters. However, now all the Gazette notifications are instantaneously available at the official website [www.egazette.nic.in](http://www.egazette.nic.in) through internet which can be downloaded free of cost and the printed copy is to be treated as authentic version as per the Information Technology Act, 2000"

9. In this regard, the representative of the Ministry of Urban Development deposed before the Committee as under:-

"Earlier up to 3 months time was being taken for printing of Gazettes. When decision was taken for e-publishing of gazettes, it was told that it would take maximum up to 5 days. Whereas, as per actual practice maximum Gazettes are being published within 24 to 48 hours or 3 days. A Gazette Notification which is of around thousand pages takes time, but still an effort is made to publish it within 3 to 4 days time."

10. On being asked if any study was conducted to assess the overall impact/consequences of stopping physical printing of Gazette Notifications, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

"No specific study was conducted. However informal deliberations and discussions were held with many stakeholders before taking the decision."

11. The Ministry further clarified:-

"The proposal to switchover to e-Gazette was started on the request of stakeholders Ministry/Departments who were requesting for urgent publication of their Gazette notification. This was not possible in the existing scheme of things due to many technical, financial and procedural constraints. Consultations were done with Ministry of

Law and Justice, Department of Legal Affairs before taking up the final decision. Informal discussions and deliberations were held with stakeholders Ministries/Departments."

## **AUTHENTICITY OF E-GAZETTES**

12. During the course of oral evidence, the Committee pointed about the sensitivity of publication of correct Gazette Notifications and desired to know how it is ensured that while uploading a e-Gazette no change i.e even of a comma or full stop, has been made in it. In response, the representative of Ministry of Urban Development submitted as follows:-

"The draft of the Notification to be published comes under the signature of the Joint Secretary of the Ministry concerned . It is a responsible level. It is put in the Page Maker format, and then it is printed and uploaded. The content remains the same which is authenticated by the Joint Secretary of the Administrative Ministry concerned."

13. As regards the safeguards available against someone tampering with the e-Gazette available on the web portal, the Committee were apprised that any such act would amount to a criminal offence. Moreover, the Notification which is uploaded is in 'read only' format. Only computer or cyber criminal can do it but generally it is in highly secured PDF format using the Software and the server of the NIC. Once the gazette is uploaded, nobody can tamper with it by way of amendment because NIC is the custodian. If there is an official change, then it is an amendment which has to come.

14. When enquired if the hardcopy of the draft is kept for record, the representative submitted before the Committee as under:-

"One hard copy comes from the Ministry which is put in the electronic form. There is only one hardcopy which goes into the record, that it, whatever authentic draft received from the Ministry under the signature of the Joint Secretary, which was ordered to be printed, it is kept for record. Then, it is generated in the electronic format."

## **CIRCULATION OF LAYING OF E-GAZETTES**

15. When the Committee desired to know about the mechanism being followed to meet the requirement of supplying of physical copies of the e-Gazette to certain authorities, the Ministry submitted as under:-

"The published e-Gazette can be downloaded and printed by any user. Such copies are to be treated as authentic copies as per Information Technology Act, 2000. Ministry of Urban Development has issued instructions to all concerned directing that the responsibility of timely submission of copies to all authorities mandated by any Law or

regulation lies with the concerned administrative Ministry vide OM dated 25 February, 2016.

16. When the Committee further enquired as to how the requirement of laying of statutory orders on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament would be complied with as per the mandate of various Acts of Parliament, in response the Ministry of Urban Development submitted as under:-

"Ministry of Urban Development had consulted Ministry of Law and Justice, Department of Legal Affairs on this matter before issue of the OM dated 25 February, 2016. This clearly puts an onus of responsibility of submitting and circulating the gazette notifications wherever required by Law or otherwise on the administrative Ministry. The Administrative Ministry has to provide a written undertaking in the prescribed performa for compliance while sending the matter for publication of Gazette notifications. Hence, it is clear that the concerned Administrative Ministry/Department will be responsible to take all the steps to meet the requirement of laying of 'statutory orders' on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament and such other requirements."

## PART-II

### OBSERVATIONS / RECOOMENDATIONS

#### 1. SUPPLY OF STATUTORY ORDERS BY THE CONCERNED MINISTRIES/DEPARTMENTS:

The Committee note that the legislature can lay down only the broad policy and principles of a piece of legislation leaving the details to be worked out by the Executive. Parliament has, however, the inherent right and obligation to see that the powers delegated under the laws enacted or conferred by the Constitution have been exercised by the Executive in accordance with the terms of the statute delegating such powers and also that they are in accordance with the general principles of delegation. The most effective control that Lok Sabha exercises over Subordinate Legislation is through its Scrutiny Committee i.e. Committee on Subordinate Legislation (hereinafter, the Committee) All rules, regulations, sub-rules, bye-laws, etc. hereinafter called 'statutory orders' whether laid on the Table of the House or not framed under delegated legislation fall within the purview of examination of the Committee mandated to scrutinize and report to the House whether the powers delegated by Parliament are being properly exercised within such delegation. In order that the Committee discharges their mandate efficiently and effectively relating to examination of all 'statutory orders', arrangements were made by the Government, asking the Ministry of Urban Development for supplying three sets of the Gazette of India (both Ordinary and Extra ordinary) published in the Gazette of India through their authorized sale counter, Kitab Mahal. This practice has been in vogue since many decades. Out of the three sets of the Gazette so received, one set is used for the purpose of examination and the other two sets are utilized for maintaining an up-to-date record of the 'Statutory Orders' in the Lok Sabha Secretariat. This has been a continuous practice followed for decades. Whenever an amendment Notification is taken up for scrutiny, the original/updated version maintained by the Secretariat is consulted and in the light of that, the new amendment to Notification is examined. The Library of Gazette Notifications maintained by the Secretariat of COSL facilitates the Committee in discharging their functions. However, the Ministry of Urban Development vide their Notification GSR 746-E dated 30.9.2015 discontinued physical printing of Gazette Notifications and started publishing e-Gazette w.e.f 1 October, 2015. According to the Ministry, the proposal to switch over to e-Gazette was initiated on the request of the stakeholders Ministries / Departments who were requesting for urgent publication of their Gazette Notifications. In addition, the Ministry of Law and Justice, Department of Legal Affairs, were also consulted in the matter for switching over to e-Gazette in terms of Section 8 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 which prescribes that the requirement of publishing of rules/regulation/bye-laws etc. in the official gazette shall be satisfied if the same are published in the Electronic Gazette and the new system

has been fully accepted by all Administrative Departments and Ministries of the Government of India.

The Committee, however, are concerned to note that with the discontinuation of physical printing of Gazette Notifications, the existing arrangement of supply of three sets of the same by Ministry of Urban Development has been suspended and the Committee is getting copies of only those Gazette Notifications which are being laid on the Table of the House. These copies, as per the laid down procedure, are to be used for circulation to the Members of the Committee. As a result, the 'Statutory Orders' including those framed under Article 309 of the Constitution of India which are not being laid on the Table of the House, are now not being received by the Committee. Thus due to non-availability of printed copies of such 'Statutory Orders', it is no longer possible for the Committee Secretariat to keep and update the records thereby hampering the functioning of the Committee in discharging their main function of scrutinizing the 'Statutory Order'. As regards their e-availability, the Committee feel that many Gazette Notifications are voluminous also and it will be an arduous task for the Lok Sabha Secretariat, to take print out of all such Notifications from the e-portal of the Ministry as a substitute of printed copies available earlier. Under such circumstances, the Committee feel that as an alternative arrangement the best course of action could be if each administrative Ministry whosoever notify any Statutory Order, also supply 3 copies of the same to Committee on Subordinate Legislation Branch of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in coordination with the Ministry of Urban Development may issue necessary instructions to all administrative Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India to supply to the Lok Sabha Secretariat, three hard copies of all statutory orders and to also send a soft copy on the email at [cosl-lss@sansad.nic.in](mailto:cosl-lss@sansad.nic.in) simultaneously with their notification in e-Gazette format including those framed under Article 309 of the Constitution of India and those published in Part II Section 3 (i), (ii) & 4 of Gazette for scrutiny and upkeep of records. The Committee further recommend that in the case of Notifications amending the earlier statutory orders, the concerned Ministry should also supply by way of suitable annexure the relevant extracts of the provisions which have been amended by the said Notification for the sake of reference during their scrutiny.

The Committee would like the Ministry of Urban Development to intimate the final action taken in the matter.

## **2. NEED FOR SPREADING AWARENESS ABOUT E-GAZETTE:**

The Committee concur in the submission of the Ministry of Urban Development that e-Gazette would help in achieving time saving, cost saving, paper saving, easy accessibility, wider reach-ability and better e-governance besides an environmentally friendly step supporting the concept of 'paperless office' which would help in saving of 90 tons of paper annually. Moreover, it has also enabled the instant availability of the printed copies of all the Gazette Notifications at the official website [www.egazette.nic.in](http://www.egazette.nic.in) which can be downloaded free of cost and the same is treated as authentic version as per the Information Technology Act, 2000. The Committee, however, express their unhappiness at the delayed implementation of e-Gazette publication although the same was made authorized many years earlier after coming into force of the Information Technology Act, 2000. In the considered opinion of the Committee the Ministry could have resorted to e-Gazette publication much earlier. The Committee, however, desire that due publicity be given to this initiative for making the public aware of availability of e-Gazette on the web-portal of the Ministry.

## **3. COMPLIANCE WITH LAYING REQUIREMENT OF STATUTORY ORDERS:**

Laying of the statutory orders before each House of Parliament is an important safeguard against assumption of arbitrary powers by the Executive. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee (Second Report/ 5th Lok Sabha) made in this regard, the following provision has been incorporated in all the Acts passed by the Parliament as well as in the Bills to be introduced, involving provision for delegation of Rule making power:-

**"Every Rule made by the Central Government under this Act shall be laid as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in Session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of session immediately following the session or the successive session aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification to the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have**

effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be, ; so however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule."

However, despite their above recommendation, the Committee are seriously concerned that many Statutory Orders and more particularly those notified under Article 309 of the Constitution are not laid before Parliament by the concerned administrative Ministries. The Committee are, therefore, apprehensive that stoppage of physical printing of 'statutory order' may result in further deterioration of the existing compliance level. In this regard, the Committee note that as per the instructions issued by the Ministry of Urban Development, the concerned administrative Ministries have to provide a written undertaking in the prescribed Performa for compliance of timely 'submitting and circulating ' the Gazette Notification, wherever required by law or otherwise, vide their OM dated 25.2.2016 directing that the responsibility of timely submission of copies to all authorities mandated by any law or regulation lies with the concerned administrative Ministry. The Committee, taking note of the instructions issued by the Ministry of Urban Development, recommend that the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs should also issue necessary instructions to all the Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India drawing their attention to the abovementioned recommendation of the Committee regarding requirement of laying of the statutory orders before the Parliament and also stressing that they will be held responsible for non-compliance. The Committee further recommend that the Ministry may also evolve a mechanism to ensure that their instructions regarding laying of statutory orders before Parliament and supplying of three copies of the same to the Lok Sabha Secretariat, COSL Branch are fully complied with by all the Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India. The Committee would like the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to apprise the Committee about the final action taken in the matter.

New Delhi;  
15 March, 2017  
24 Phalgun, 1939 (Saka)

DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI  
Chairperson  
Committee on Subordinate Legislation



## Appendix-I

No. O-17022/1/2015-PSP-I  
Government of India  
Ministry of Urban Development  
(PSP Division)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated : 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

### OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject : E-publishing of Government of India Gazette Notification –  
Discontinuing of the practice of physical printing.**

The undersigned is directed to refer Ministry of Urban Development Gazette Notification no. G.S.R. 746(E) in Part II Section (3) (i) Extra Ordinary dated 30.09.2015, according to which all the Gazette notifications shall be henceforth only e-published by uploading on the official website and do away with physical printing and sale of hard copies. This was done in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of Information Technology Act, 2000 and in consultation with Department of Legal Affairs.

2. It is brought to the notice of all concerned that there may be statutory or otherwise requirements mandating submission of the Government of India Gazette notifications to various authorities, etc. In particular attention is invited towards requirements of submission of such notifications to Committee on Subordinate Legislation, other requirements of laying such notifications on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament, making these Gazette notifications available for various record keeping purposes including Committee Branch Library, Lok Sabha for updation of principle rules, etc. Above mentioned requirements are only mentioned as an illustration and are not exhaustive.

3. It is clarified that the administrative Ministry/ Department submitting the request for publishing the Gazette notification shall be solely responsible for submitting and circulating the Gazette notification wherever required by Law or

Contd...-2-

otherwise. It is further clarified that published Gazette notification are instantly uploaded on the official website [www.egazette.nic.in](http://www.egazette.nic.in) and the downloaded electronic version as well as the downloaded and printed version of these Gazette notifications are to be treated as electronic versions for all official purposes as per Section 4 and Section 8 of Information Technology Act, 2000

4 Accordingly, the concerned administrative Ministry submitting the request for Gazette notification shall be solely responsible for submitting and circulating the copies of Gazette wherever required by Law or otherwise within the prescribed time frame.

5 This issues in consultation with Department of Legal Affairs.

*S. K. Ram*  
25/1/11

(S. K. Ram)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

To

The Secretary  
All Ministries / Departments of Govt. of India

Copy to :

1. The Chief Secretary, all State Governments.
2. The Administrator, All Union Territories,
3. President's Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi
4. Vice-President Secretariat, New Delhi
5. Prime Minister's Office, South Block, New Delhi.
6. Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi
7. Comptroller and Auditor General of India, New Delhi
8. Central Vigilance Commissioner, New Delhi
9. Secretary, Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi.
10. Secretary, Staff Selection Commission, New Delhi
11. Director, Central Bureau of Investigation, New Delhi
12. Chief Secretary/ Chief Administrator of all Union Territories
13. Registrar, Supreme Court of India
14. Registrar, High Court

## **APPENDIX - II**

**(Vide Para 4 of the Introduction)**

### **MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION (2015-2016)**

The Eighth sitting of the Committee (2015-16) was held on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2016 from 1500 to 1615 hours in Committee Room 'C', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

#### **PRESENT**

1. Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi      Chairperson

#### **MEMBERS**

2. Shri Idris Ali
3. Shri P.P. Chaudhary
4. Shri Birendra Kumar Chaudhary
5. Adv. Narendra Keshav Sawaikar

#### **SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Ravindra Garimella      -      Joint Secretary
2. Shri Ajay Kumar Garg      -      Director
3. Shri Nabin Kumar Jha      -      Additional Director

#### **WITNESSES**

#### **Ministry of Urban Development**

1. Shri Madhusudan Prasad      -      Secretary (UD)
2. Shri Durga Shanker Mishra      -      Additional Secretary (UD)
3. Shri Neeraj Mandloi      -      Joint Secretary (UD)

- |     |                       |   |                           |
|-----|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 4.  | Smt. S. K. Ram        | - | Joint Secretary (PSP)     |
| 5.  | Smt. S. Rukmani       | - | Deputy Secretary (PSP)    |
| 6.  | Shri A.K. Bansal      | - | Director (Printing)       |
| 7.  | Shri G.S. Yadav       | - | JS & LA                   |
| 8.  | Shri Subir Kr. Mandal | - | Controller of Publication |
| 9.  | Shri B. Sahoo,        | - | General Manager (MR)      |
| 10. | Shri D.K. Jain        | - | Manager, GIP, RR&DD       |
| 11. | Shri R.K. Srivastava  | - | Dy. Legal Affairs         |
| 12. | Shri K.K. Puri        | - | DD (B&F)                  |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee.

3. Thereafter, the representatives of Ministry of Urban Development alongwith the representatives of the Ministry of Law (Department of Legal Affairs) were called in. The Chairperson welcomed the representatives to the sitting of the Committee and drew their attention to Direction 55(1) of the Directions by the Speaker regarding confidentiality of the proceedings. The Committee were then briefed by the representatives regarding the discontinuation of the practice of physical printing of Gazette Notification by the Government of India Press vide GSR No. 746-E dated 30 September, 2015.

4. The representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development at the outset briefed the Committee about the background of switching over to e-gazette instead of physical printing as per the provisions contained in Section 8 of Information Technology Act, 2000 and its consequences like mechanism adopted for meeting the requirement of submission of hard copies and their authenticity etc., reasons for delay in switching over to e-gazette.

They further informed the Committee about the benefits likely to be accrued by stopping the physical printing of Gazette Notification like saving of paper, easy and all time accessibility of e-gazette across the country, etc.

5. The representatives of the Ministry furnished clarifications on the queries raised by the Committee. On some of the points, the information on which was not readily available, the representatives were asked to furnish written replies on the same within 15 days to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

6. The Chairperson then thanked the representatives of the Ministry for presenting their inputs on the issue before the Committee.

The witnesses then withdrew.

7. A verbatim record of the proceedings of the sitting has been kept separately.

The Committee then adjourned.

## EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION (2016-2017)

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The Eighth sitting of the Committee (2016-17) was held on Wednesday, the 15th March, 2017 from 1500 to 1600 hours in Committee Room No. 139, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi .

### **PRESENT**

1. Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi Chairperson

### **MEMBERS**

2. Adv. Narendra Keshav Sawaikar
3. Shri Chandu Lal Sahu
4. Shri Shyama Charan Gupta
5. Shri Alok Sanjar
6. Shri Ram Kumar Sharma
7. Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah
8. Shri Birendra Kumar Chaudhary

### **SECRETARIAT**

1. Smt. Sudesh Luthra - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ajay Kumar Garg - Director
3. Shri Nabin Kumar Jha - Addl. Director
4. Smt. Jagriti Tewatia - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee. The Committee then considered the draft Eighteenth Report on 'Discontinuation of Physical Printing of Gazette Notifications' and adopted the same without any modifications. The Committee also authorised the Chairperson to finalise the Report on their behalf and present the same to the House.

3. XX XX XX

4. XX XX XX

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7. XX XX XX

8. XX XX XX

The Committee then adjourned.

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\*\*Omitted portion of the Minutes are not relevant to this Report