COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2018-2019)

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

28

TWENTY EIGHTH REPORT

[Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee in their Ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha)]

Presented on 18 December, 2018



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

December, 2018/ Agrahayana, 1940(Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2018-2019)

Shri Chandrakant Khaire Chairperson MEMBERS 2. Shri Dushyant Chautala 3. Shrimati Veena Devi Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar 4. 5. Shri Laxman Giluwa 6. Shri Choudhary Mohan Jatua 7. Shrimati Mausaum Noor 8. Shri Bheemrao B. Patil 9. Shri Sanjay Kaka Patil 10. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray 11. Shri Uday Pratap Singh 12. Shri Virendra Singh 13. Shri P.R. Sundaram 14. Shri Manohar Untwal 15. Vacant **SECRETARIAT** Joint Secretary 1. Dr. Preeti Srivastava -2. Smt. Rita Jailkhani Director

Committee Officer

Additional Director

Smt. Maya Lingi

Smt.Rajni Bhagat

3.

4.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, having been

authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Twenty

Eighth Report on the action taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations

contained in the Ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee.

2. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 12

December, 2018 and the Minutes of the sitting are given at Annexure.

3. For facility of reference, Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been

printed in bold type in the body of the Report.

NEW DELHI <u>December, 2018</u> Agrahayana, 1940 (Saka) Chandrakant B. Khaire,
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

(v)

<u>REPORT</u>

This Report of the Committee deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the

recommendations/observations made in their Ninth Report (16th Lok Sabha) which was presented to

Lok Sabha on 08.12.2016.

2. The Ninth Report dealt with delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of

University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

3. The Action Taken Notes have since been received from the Government in respect of all the

recommendations/observations contained in the aforesaid Report. Accordingly, the Statement

showing the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the

Ninth Report (16th Lok Sabha) are given in Appendix.

4. The Committee in their Ninth Report had pointed out the failure of the Ministry of Human

Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) regarding timely laying of the Annual

Report and Audited Accounts of the UGC for the years 2006-2007 to 2013-2014.

5. The Committee are happy to note that the Government have accepted all the

recommendations of the Committee made in the said Reports and have also taken effective steps

for the their implementation, due to which notably due to computerization of the Annual Accounts of

UGC, they were able to lay their Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the years 2014-15 to

2016-2017 on the Table of the House within stipulated time period. The Committee expect that

concerted efforts of the Government shall continue to ensure timely laying of the documents of the

aforesaid Organizations in future also.

NEW DELHI

December, 2018

Agrahayana, 1940(Saka)

CHANDRAKANT B. KHAIRE,

Chairperson,

Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

(Vide Para 2 of the Report)

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE CONTAINED IN THEIR NINTH REPORT (16TH LOK SABHA)

University Grants Commission (UGC)

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 15)

The Committee note with deep concern the recurring delays in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the University Grants Commission on the Table of the House, inspite of its repeated emphasis to comply with the recommendation of the Committee contained in its First & Second Report of 5th Lok Sabha and 5th Report of 6th Lok Sabha so as to enable the Members of Parliament to get a complete picture of activities of the Organisation. However, the Committee regret to note that the University Grants Commission, has failed to comply with the statutory provision and specific recommendations made by the Committee in its Reports presented to the House in the past. This is clearly evident from the fact that Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the University Grants Commission pertaining to the years from 2006-2007 to 2013-2014 were laid on the Table of the House with delays ranging from $2^{1/2}$ months to $11^{1/2}$ months. In its 9th Report of 6th Lok Sabha) and 11th Report of 10th Lok Sabha, the Committee brought out the Ministry's failure to adhere to the time schedule of laying UGC's documents. The Committee are distressed to point out that the Department of Higher Education has not cared all these years to evolve any mechanism to ensure timely laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts and prompt discharge of their responsibility towards Parliament in respect of laying of the documents of the UGC. This only shows that there is lack of concerted and coordinated efforts on the part of all those

involved in the process. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend the Ministry to pay utmost attention to the most pertinent recommendations of the Committee by making all out efforts to ensure that Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the UGC are laid on the Table of the House within stipulated time in future.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry has written to the University Grants Commission (UGC) from time to time to ensure that Annual Accounts of the UGC are submitted to the Office of Director General of Audit (Central Expenditure) within the stipulated time i.e. within a period of three month after close of the accounting year, for timely Audit. UGC has also been asked to submit its Annual Report and Audited Annual Accounts to the Ministry so as to enable the Ministry to lay the same in the Parliament within the stipulated time i.e. within nine months after the close of the Accounting Year. In response, UGC has intimated that its accounts have been computerized and are compiled in the prescribed format in the Tally software from 2014-15 onwards and are being sent to the office of Director General of Audit (Central Expenditure) for audit within the stipulated time. The Ministry has also requested to the Director General of Audit (Central Expenditure) for timely Auditing of Annual Accounts of the UGC. As a result of which, the Annual Report and the Audit Accounts of the University Grants Commission (UGC) for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 have been laid on the Table of the House on 21.12.2015 and 16.12.2016 respectively, within the stipulated time.

(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education: O.M. No. 8-2/2017-U1A dated: 22 August, 2017).

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 16)

The Committee also note with anguish that the Ministry/UGC did not care to lay a Statement explaining the reasons as to why the Reports/Accounts could not be laid for the aforesaid years within the presented period. Nevertheless, while examining the reasons for delays in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of UGC on the Table of the House for the years 2006-2007 to 2013-2014, the Committee note that though finalisation of Annual Accounts, translation of documents in Hindi Version and getting approval of documents from Competent Authorities were the minor

reasons for delay, the main reason for delay in laying the documents for these years was stated to be the delay in auditing the accounts and issue of final Audit Report. The representatives of the Ministry/UGC during the course of evidence explained to the Committee that the Audit Authorities took more than 160 days in the process of auditing of Annual Accounts and furnishing of Final Audit Report for the last two years as against 109 days prescribed by Comptroller & Auditor General for the purpose. The representatives of the Ministry/UGC also apprised the Committee that they had personally taken up the matter for early auditing of Annual Accounts and furnishing of Final Audit Report with D.G.(audit). The Committee appreciate that due to efforts made by the Ministry/UGC, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of UGC for the year 2014-2015 have been laid on the Table of the House within stipulated time. However, the Committee also note that if for any reasons, these documents could not be laid in the Table of the House within the stipulated period, then it would be imperative for them to lay a Statement explaining the reasons for the same with a period of 30 days of the expiry of that period of nine months or as soon as the House meets, whichever is later. The Committee also urge the Ministry to evolve an effective mechanism ensuring that documents are laid by the Commission within the stipulated time frame failing which responsibility be fixed and strict action be taken against the erring officials. The Committee also hope that the work relating to complete computerization of Accounts will be expedited to facilitate speedy and timely completion of accounts of the UGC. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Ministry/UGC in this regard.

Reply of the Government

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the stipulated time i.e. within nine months after the close of the Accounting Year. In response, UGC has intimated that its accounts have been computerized and are compiled in the prescribed format in the Tally software from 2014-15 onwards and are being sent to the office of Director General of Audit (Central Expenditure) for audit within the stipulated time. The Ministry has also requested to the director General of Audit (Central Expenditure) for timely Auditing of Annual Accounts of the UGC. As a result of which, the Annual Report and the Audited Accounts of the University Grants Commission (UGC) for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 have been laid on the Table of the House on 21.12.2015 and 16.12.2016 respectively, within the stipulated time.

(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education: O.M. No. 8-2/2017-U1A dated: 22 August, 2017).

EXTRACTS OF THE MINUTES OF THE FIRST SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

The Committee sat on Wednesday, 12 December, 2018 from 15:00 hrs to 15:45 hrs. in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Chandrakant Khaire - Chairperson

MEMBERS

- 2. Smt. Veena Devi
- 3. Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar
- 4. Shri Virendra Singh
- 5. Shri P.R. Sundaram

SECRETARIAT

1.	Dr. Preeti Srivastava -	Joint Secretary
2.	Smt. Maya Lingi	- Additional Director
3.	Shri Munish Kumar Rewari	- Deputy Secretary

- 2. At the outset, Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.
- 3. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following xx xx, six Action Taken Reports and three Draft Reports for consideration:-

xx xx xx xx xx

(iii) Draft Reports relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their **Sixth Report** on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Victoria Memorial Hall Kolkata;

- (iv) Draft Reports relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their **Seventh Report** on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Rail Land Development Authority New Delhi;
- (v) Draft Reports relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their **Eighth Report** on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Delhi Development Authority New Delhi;
- (vi) Draft Reports relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their **Ninth Report** on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the University Grants Commission New Delhi;
- (vii) Draft Reports relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their **Tenth Report** on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Social Defence New Delhi;
- (viii) Draft Reports relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their **Eleventh Report** on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Commission for Women New Delhi;
- (ix) Draft Reports regarding delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Central Pollution Control Board(CPCB), New Delhi;
- (x) Draft Reports regarding delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), New Delhi; and
- (xi) Draft Reports regarding delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Office of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD), New Delhi.
- 4. After deliberations, the Committee adopted the xx xx Reports without modifications.
- 5. The Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to present the same to the Parliament during ongoing Session.

Then the Committee adjourned.