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

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

29

TWENTY NINTH REPORT

[Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their Tenth 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
- 4. Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar
- 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

- 1. Dr. Preeti Srivastava Joint Secretary
- 2. Smt. Rita Jailkhani Director
- 3. Smt. Maya Lingi Additional Director
- 4. Smt. Rajni Bhagat Committee Officer

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 Thirtieth Report on the Action

Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Tenth 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 December, 2018

Agrahayana, 1940 (Saka)

Chandrakant B. Khaire,
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

(v)

REPORT

This Report of the Committee deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations made in their Tenth Report (16th Lok Sabha) which was presented to Lok Sabha on 24 March, 2017.

- 2. The Tenth Report dealt with delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of National Institute of Social Defence, 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 Statements showing the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Tenth Report (16th Lok Sabha) are given in Appendix.
- 4. The Committee have dealt with the action taken by the Government on some of their Recommendations/Observations in the succeeding paragraphs.
- 5. In paragraphs 18 and 20 (10th Report, 16th Lok Sabha) relating to delay in laying of the documents of **National Institute of Social Defence**, **New Delhi** the Committee had recommended as follows:-
 - "18. The Committee also note that after completion of internal audit by internal auditor, for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13, the Institute approached the Audit Authorities (CAG) to depute the audit team. But the Audit Authorities took two and half and three and half months respectively for appointment of audit team for auditing Annual Accounts of the Institute for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively. The reasons for taking inordinate delay in appointment of auditors and completing the Audit Report have not been given by the Institute. The Committee therefore, urge the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to take up the issue with authorities concerned for appointment of audit team and completion of audit in time so as to avoid consequential delays in laying of the documents before the Parliament. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.
 - 20. The Committee also impress upon the Ministry that if for any reasons, the annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NISD could not be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time; a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within prescribed period should be laid strictly within 30 days as recommended by the Committee in its earlier Report."
- 6. In their Action Taken Note, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, National Institute of Social Defence have stated as under:-
 - " 18. The Ministry would like to acquaint the Committee that the matter has been taken up with higher authorities in CAG through personal liaisoning. Evidently the initiatives taken by the Ministry have started to produce result.

It is submitted that there has been regular follow up by NISD as well as by the Ministry with the CAG Authorities for timely audit of Accounts of NISD. As a result CAG has deputed audit team for auditing the Institute's Accounts for the financial years 2014-15 & 2015-16 concurrently. The Auditing has commenced from 5th April, 2017 onwards.

Further, the Accounts of the Institute for the year 2016-17 are under preparation. It is envisaged that the Annual Report & Audited Accounts of the Institute for financial Year 2016-17 should be laid within the stipulated time frame."

- 20. The Ministry reassures that the recommendations of the Committee would be complied with if Annual Report and Audited Statement of Accounts of NISD for the year 2016-17 could not be laid within the prescribed period."
- In their 10th Report (16th Lok Sabha), the Committee noted recurring delays in laying 7. of the Annual Reports and audited Accounts of the National Institute of Social Defence, New Delhi for the years 2011-12 to 2015-16. The Committee had accordingly urged upon the Ministry to ensure that the requisite documents of the Institute be laid within in the stipulated time of nine months from the close of the Accounting year. It was also recommended by the Committee in that Report that if for any reasons, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the NISD for any year could not be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time; a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within prescribed period should be laid strictly within 30 days. The Committee express displeasure that the Ministry/Institute failed to fulfill the assurance given to the Committee that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Institute for the years 2016-17 would be laid on the Table of the House within stipulated time. Neither these documents were laid nor the statements as mentioned above have been laid by the Ministry in this regard. Taking a very serious note thereof the Committee directs the Ministry to explain the reasons for delay within a month from the date of presentation of the Report.

NEW DELHI

<u>December, 2018</u> Agrahayana, 1940(Saka) CHANDRAKANT B. KHAIRE, Chairperson, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE CONTAINED IN THEIR TENTH REPORT (16TH LOK SABHA)

National Institute of Social Defence, New Delhi

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 16)

The Committee have time and again emphasized that both the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of an Organization should be laid on the Table of the House simultaneously so as to enable the Members of Parliament to get a complete picture of the working and activities of the Organization. However, the Committee are disappointed to note that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has failed to comply with the statutory provisions and specific recommendation of the Committee in laying the requisite documents of the National Institute of Social Defence, New Delhi before Parliament during the years 2010-2011 to 2014-2015. The Committee consider it as grave irregularity on the part of the Administrative Ministry/Authority and cannot be overlooked. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Ministry NISD should make all out efforts to plug the systemic loopholes so as to eliminate avoidable delays and formulate an action plan to ensure that requisite documents are laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time period. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken/being taken by the Ministry in this regard.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry has recently appointed a Director and one Deputy Director (Admn. & planning) in NISD by transfer on deputation. As a result, the overall functioning of NISD since the appointment of these two incumbents has been streamline. In the last one year, the prime focus of the Institute was to support and reorganise various functional processes, including reconciliation of Accounts and concurrent monitoring of programmes, so as to ensure financial discipline in day to day matters. These measures have resulted in yielding the desired result.

However, to promote excellence NISD requires functioning to its full strength. At present there are 29 vacant posts out of total sanctioned strength of 58. Sustained efforts are being made to fill up these vacant posts. In order to enhance the activities of the Institute at National & International level and to bring the manpower in sync with the present job requirements in respect

of various posts, proposal for modification of Recruitment Rules (RRs) and re-classification of posts- especially creation of some posts at middle level- was prepared. This proposal has been examined by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure). They have now asked the Ministry to refer the proposal to them only after the review of the Autonomous Bodies by Niti Ayog is completed.

Regarding laying of Annual Report & Audited Accounts on the Table of both the Houses for the year 2014-2015 & 2015-2016, repeated follow up was made with the Office of CAG as a result auditing of Accounts by CAG team has commenced with effect from 5th April, 2017.

(Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, O.M. No. 48/05/2017 dated 18 April, 2017).

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 17)

While examining the reasons for delay in laying of the documents of the Institute for the years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013, the Committee note that there were major delays on account of collection and compilation of data/information and accounts thereof from RRTCs/collaborating agencies. They delay was also attributed to the appointment of audit team of CAG. Besides, acute shortage of Staff particularly in Accounts and administration divisions and other supporting staff and absence of a regular Director of the Institute for monitoring and overseeing its functioning, were also the reasons for delay in laying of requisite documents. During evidence it was explained by the Ministry that in order to curtail delay, the Institute has recruited consultants for reconciliation of accounts. It was also apprised that a regular Director has also been deputed to monitor and oversee the functions of the Institute. The Recruitment Rules for various categories of posts are also almost ready. However, the Committee note the despite the remedial measures taken by the Administrative Ministry, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Institute for the year 2013-2014 were laid on the Table of the House only on 19 July, 2016 i.e. after a delay of 19 months. This sorry state of affairs reinforce the fact that the corrective measures undertaken by the Ministry are not enough to check inordinate delay in the matter. The Committee, therefore, recommend that effective measures be undertaken by the Ministry ensuring that the documents are laid well within the prescribed period. The Committee would like to be apprised to the effective and conclusive action taken by the Ministry in this regard.

Reply of the Government

Same as replied to in respect of recommendation No. 16

(Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, O.M. No. 48/05/2017 dated 18 April, 2017).

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 18)

The Committee also note that after completion of internal audit by internal auditor, for the years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013, the Institute approached the Audit Authorities (CAG) to depute the audit team. But the Audit Authorities took two and half and three and half months respectively for appointment of audit team for auditing Annual Accounts of the Institute for the years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 respectively. The reasons for taking inordinate delay in appointment of auditors and completing the Audit Report have not been given by the Institute. The Committee therefore, urge the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to take up the issue with authorities concerned for appointment of audit team and completion of audit in time so as to avoid consequential delays inlaying of the documents before the Parliament. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry would like to acquaint the Committee that the matter has been taken up with higher authorities in CAG through personal liaisoning. Evidently the initiatives taken by the Ministry have started to produce result.

It is submitted that there has been regular follow up by NISD as well as by the Ministry with the CAG Authorities for timely audit of Accounts of NISD. As a result CAG has deputed audit team for auditing the Institute's Accounts for the financial years 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 concurrently. The Auditing has commenced from 5th April, 2017 onwards.

Further, the Accounts of the Institute for the year 2016-2017 are under preparation. It is envisaged that the Annual Report & Audited Accounts of the Institute for financial Year 2016-2017 should be laid within the stipulated time frame.

(Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, O.M. No. 48/05/2017 dated 18 April, 2017).

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 19)

In its 10th Report of 6th Lok Sabha, the Committee had recommended that in the "Statement of reasons of delay" the Government should invariably indicate in chronological order the dates of

finalisation of reports and accounts, their submission to audit, issue of inspection report, replies given on points raised in the report and finally the receipt of audit from the audit authorities so that the Committee may indentify the stages and extent of delay and suggest remedial measured thereof. However, the Committee are disappointed to note that the delay statements given by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2013-2014 does not contain the information in chronological order as recommended by the committee in its earlier Report. While reiterating their earlier recommendation, the Committee urge the Ministry to follow the guidelines laid down by it in all its future submission.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry intends to assure the committee that the "Statement of reasons of delay" in respect of Annual Reports for the years 2014-2015 and 2015-2016, which are ready to be tabled in both Houses of Parliament in the ensuing Monsoon Session, would contain a chronology of events leading to finalisation of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of National Institute of Social Defence (NISD).

(Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, O.M. No. 48/05/2017 dated 18 April, 2017).

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 20)

The Committee also impress upon the Ministry that if for any reasons, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NISD could not be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time; an statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within prescribed period should be laid strictly within 30 days as recommended by the Committee in its earlier Report.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry reassures that the recommendations of the Committee would be complied with if Annual Report and Audited Statement of Accounts of NISD for the year 2016-2017 could not be laid within the prescribed period.

(Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, O.M. No. 48/05/2017 dated 18 April, 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 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.