COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2021-2022)

59

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

FIFTY NINTH REPORT

[delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Patna]

(Presented on 15.12.2021)



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT NEW DELHI DECEMBER, 2021, AGRAHAYANA, 1943(SAKA)

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<u>COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE</u> (2021-2022)

Shri Ritesh Pandey

Chairperson

MEMBERS

- 2. Dr. Shafiqur Rehman Barq
- 3. Shri Margani Bharat
- 4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
- 5 Chowdhury Mohan Jatua
- 6 Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
- 7. Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe
- 8. Dr. A. Chella Kumar
- 9. Shri Raja Amareshwara Naik
- 10. Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal
- 11. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
- 14. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
- 15. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- 1. Smt. Suman Arora
- 2. Smt. B. Visala
- 3. Shri Munish Kumar Rewari
- 4. Shri Kundan Kumar
- 5. Miss Vandana

- Joint Secretary
- Director
- Additional Director
- Committee Officer
- Committee Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House (2020-21), having been authorized by the Committee to present this Report on their behalf, present this Fifty Ninth Report in respect of delays in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Patna

2. In terms of the recommendations of the First Report and the Second Report (05th Lok Sabha) and the Second Report (06th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, presented to the House on 08th March, 1976: 12th May, 1976 and 22nd December, 1977 respectively, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Organisation/company are required to be laid on the Table of the House within nine months of the closure of accounting year.

3. The Committee considered the matter of delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Patna and took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Education and the Authority at their sitting held on 05thJanuary, 2021.

4. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 06th December, 2021.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Education and the National Institute of Technology, Patna for furnishing the written replies and other material/information for placing their views in the matter before the Committee.

6. The Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters at the end of the Report.

New Delhi <u>8th December , 2021</u> 17 Agrahayana, 1943(Saka) Ritesh Pandey Chairperson Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

<u>Report</u>

Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Patna.

The National Institute of Technology (NIT), Patna is one of the 31 National Institutes of Technology in the country functioning under the administrative aegis of the Ministry of Education. The National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) Act, 2007, which was enacted by the Parliament of India on 5th June, 2007 declares all NITs including the NIT, Patna as Institutions of National Importance. The governance of the NIT, Patna is carried out in accordance with this Act. The NIT, Patna is a fully funded autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Education. The Grants-in-Aid released by the Ministry of Education to NIT, Patna during 2015-16 to 2019-20 is given at **Annexure-I**.

2. The Papers of the institute are laid on the Table of the House as per Clause 22(4) of the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) Act, 2007 which provides as under: -

"The accounts of every Institute as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) or any other person appointed by him in this behalf together with the audited report thereon, shall be forwarded to the Central Government and the Government shall cause the same to be laid before the Houses of Parliament in accordance with such procedure as may be laid down by the Central Government."

3. The Ministry of Education is following the Schedule as laid down by the Ministry of Finance in respect of autonomous bodies for laying their Annual Reports & Audited Accounts on the table of the Lok Sabha as well as the Rajya Sabha, as there is no such provision and time line for laying these Papers on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament in the NITSER Act, 2007.

4. The scrutiny by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (Lok Sabha) reveals that the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NIT, Patna for the years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 have been laid on the Table of the House with the delays of 7, 25, 14 and 15 months, respectively. The dates of laying and the extent of delay in laying of the Annual Reports/Audited Accounts of the NIT, Patna have been given at <u>Annexure-II</u>.

Audited Accounts of the NIT Patna for the years 2015-2016 to 2018-2019 are given at Annexure- III.

6. As regards the reasons for delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Institute, the Ministry, in its written reply, informed that: -

"During the year 2015-16 to 2017-18, the delay happened due to (a) late receipt of Separate Audit Report (SAR) from Comptroller Auditor- General (C&AG) in the Institute (b) Hindi Translation and printing of Annual Reports and Annual Accounts from outside agency (c) time taken by the Institute to send Annual Reports and Audited Accounts to the Ministry.

For 2018-19, the Annual Report and Annual Accounts are to be laid before both the Houses of the Parliament since the same has been received late from the Institute which is due to late receipt of Separate Audit Report SAR) from Comptroller Auditor- General (C&AG) in the Institute and time taken in Hindi Translation from outside agency and printing of Annual Reports and Annual Accounts.

It has been observed that time taken by the Office of C&AG for auditing the accounts and translation of the Annual Report and Annual Accounts is large leading to a considerate delay in laying the same before both the Houses of the Parliament."

7. On being enquired as to whether the Ministry/Institute have identified the stages in which delays have occurred during all these years and what respective measures are being taken to curtail delays in future, the Ministry in its written reply stated as under: -

"The delay happened due to (a) late receipt of Separate Audit Report (SAR) from Comptroller Auditor- General (C&AG) in the Institute; (b) Hindi Translation and printing of Annual Reports and Annual Accounts from outside agency (c) time taken by the Institute to send Annual Reports and Audited Accounts to the Ministry.

This Ministry proposed to reduce delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts by (a) active co-ordination with the Office of the C&AG by respective NIT; (b) continuous monitoring at the level of Director of the Institute concerned and the Ministry and (c) identifying the agency for translation and printing of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts so that the same could be finalized in time."

8. The Committee examined the matter of delays in laying Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the

NIT Patna for the years 2015-16 to 2018-19 in detail and took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Education and the NIT, Patna in this matter on 5th January, 2021. The Committee enquired specifically about the year 2016-17, where there has been delay in respect of all the parameters. The Secretary, referring to the written reply of the Ministry, apprised the Committee as under:-

"I think C, D, E and even G, where the delay is much more, are related to the job of the auditors. The queries are to be raised by the auditors. He has taken time to raise the query. The reply has been promptly given by the NIT. I presume that this is an issue with regard to the auditor and not to the NIT per se. But we will find out as to what were the reasons for the delay."

9. The NIT, Patna furnished the explanation for the delay during the period as under: -

"In fact, as the Secretary has just told the Committee that in the year 2016-17, the auditor -- which was appointed by the C&AG for auditing of NIT-Patna -- has also been assigned some other work. So, sometimes he comes to NIT-Patna and sometimes he goes to other institutions. Therefore, it took time for completion. We have given several reminders to the auditor also. But he has some constraints. So, that is why, this thing is being reflected in 2016-17. Even we have given some accommodation to him in the Institute so that he can complete the work as he comes from Ranchi. He has been assigned work in several other institutes of Ranchi and Patna. That caused delay."

10. Not being satisfied with the reply, the Committee asked if any accountability has been fixed in the matter. The Secretary, MoE informed that "*the responsibility of appointing the auditor is with the C&AG and the institutions do not have any control.*"

11. Observing and recalling the previous instances of repeated delays at several stages, in case of various other organisations as well, the Committee asked the Ministry to take up the matter in writing with the C&AG. The Secretary submitted that,-

"The C&AG appoints the auditor based on the panel. They have a panel of auditors. We have to ask the C&AG as to why this auditor has been given a number of institutions to audit which he is not able to do. As advised by the hon. Chairperson and hon. Member, we will raise this matter with the C&AG as to why this delay has occurred. We would also ask whether any action has been taken against the auditor. We will write to the C&AG and find out from them. As far as the Institution is concerned, they have tried to remind the auditor. They have also given him the facility. That is what they have done." The Secretary further assured that "as the hon. Chairperson has advised, we will have a closer monitoring and we will have more interactions with the C&AG whenever such delays occur. We will send them reminders. They can pull up the auditor if there is a delay. Those steps will be taken and we are putting those steps as a part of our SOPs also."

12. When asked about the steps taken by the Institute to ensure the auditing of accounts and finally, timely receipt of the final Audit Reports from the Audit Authorities, the Ministry, in their written reply, submitted that: -

"The Institute has been requested to keep close liaison with the A.G. office through periodic contacts / visits and discussions across the table so as to remove all the reason of delay and ensure clearance of the reports by Office of the CAG in time. They have been advised to develop an effective system in this regard. The Ministry is maintaining a check-list (i.e. Status of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of all NITs) and reminders are being issued to the Institute from time to time and whenever necessary even telephonic reminders are sent to Director of the concerned NIT."

13. With regard to the problems faced in connection with the translation of documents and subsequent printing thereof, the Ministry, in their written reply, submitted the following: -

"Yes, the Institute has faced problem with translation of the documents in Hindi since the same is being done by the outside agency which takes lots of time. Moreover, printing work of Annual Report have also been done after following due procedure by hiring out the printing agency. Now, the Institute has been advised to identify some nearby agency who could do translation work as well as typing and printing of the Report so that the problem could be mitigated to considerable extent."

14. When asked about the restorative measures taken to contain the problems faced in connection with the translation of documents of the NIT Patna, the Secretary, Ministry of Education, during the course of evidence, informed the Committee as under: -

"I may submit, Sir, that the earlier procedure was that we used to prepare the Annual Report in English and then hand it over for translation. Now, as explained by the Director, they are preparing it parallelly. So, the task then becomes not so onerous. If you have the entire document and then you go for translation, you may again have the challenge of staff. Now, it is parallelly being produced in both the languages. Each unit will be preparing both the English and the Hindi version. If there is a delay, this cannot be cited as an excuse. It is our responsibility to see that it is done in time. That cannot be cited as an excuse. The very fact that the processes have been changed and both are being prepared simultaneously, each staff will be preparing its own chapter. So, it becomes easier. Earlier, the entire Annual Report used to be prepared, approved and then handed over to the Hindi person to translate it. That would not have been possible to do internally. That kind of resources they may not have. But if each person does his own job, it becomes easier. I assure that the Ministry will monitor that the timelines are followed."

15. In this regard, the Hon'ble Chairperson on behalf of the Committee, asked the Secretary to duly incorporate this procedural change and forward the same to the NIT, Patna, in writing, to make it a permanent practice. The Secretary gave assurance to comply with the directions by affirming that "the advice is well received. We will put everything in writing so that such excuses are not there."

16. Upon inquiring by the Committee into the specific reasons behind the considerable time taken in translation and printing of the documents pertaining to the period under examination, the Secretary submitted that they have to appoint printer by open tender and only after finalization of printer, they could give them for printing.

17. On being asked by the Committee about the corrective steps taken, specifically by the Ministry to curb the invariable printing delays, the Ministry submitted as under: -

"A Chartered Accountant firm is engaged by the Institute for internal auditing purpose and for preparation of account statements. This Ministry has advised the Institute to identify some nearby agency who could do translation work as well as typing and printing of the Report so that the same could be laid within the prescribed period of nine months from the close of the accounting year.

The Institute has also been requested to keep close liaison with the A.G. Office through periodic contacts / visits and discussions across the table so as to remove all the reason for delay and ensure clearance of the reports by Office of the C&AG in time."

18. During the evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Education threw some more light on the submitted reply as under: -

"Yes, we have the overall supervision but the model of supervision is followed, as the Joint Secretary said, through the Board meetings where our nominees are there. Only in extreme cases which come up, like placing the Annual Report on time, we send the reminders. Normally, the Ministry does not get into specific operational issues unless there is a report of malfeasance, etc. Only then the Ministry steps in respecting the

autonomy of educational institutions. But through the meeting of the Board of Governors, the Ministry nominee tries to monitor what is happening and advise how things should be scheduled. But formally, I do not think that the Ministry has gone into why the printers has been delayed. But if the Chairman advises, we can look into why this has taken place."

19. The Committee also pointed out at the escalating delays on account of the time taken in forwarding documents to the Ministry by the Institute after printing and approval by the Board of Governors. The Secretary deposed before the Committee in terms as mentioned below :-

"Sir, as you say, there has been delay and there is acceptance that there has been a slackness on the part of all stakeholders, not only the auditor but also the institution and also on the part of the Ministry. So, we are taking steps to see that standard operating procedure is prescribed so that those delays do not occur in future."

20. As regards the enormous delay caused during 2016-17 in sending the printed documents to the Ministry for being laid in the House, a representative from the Ministry of Education deposed before the Committee as under :-

"You were saying there is a delay of 442 days for 2016-17. In that context I am saying that in the Ministry we received the Annual Report on 26th June, 2018. But we found that the separate Audit Report was not attached with the Annual Report. I will kindly submit that SAR is a part of the Annual Report and without that we cannot place before the Parliament. So, we brought this to the notice of the Institute telephonically, then the Institute sent us the corrected copy on 5th July, 2019. Even then we found that that was not authenticated by the competent authority of the Institute; we again wrote to the Institute and then they finally sent the complete Annual Report and Audited Accounts on 19th November, 2019. That is why, there was a delay."

21. The Secretary, MoE added further as under: -

"For 2016-17, we accept that it was the flaw of the Institute because they should not have sent the Annual Report without the SAR and when they sent it, they should not have sent it unauthenticated. That shows a lackadaisical approach of the authorities at that point of time. I think one year before it was alright. But the improvement took place subsequently. As advised by you, the Government nominee in the Board will be tasked with more responsibility for seeing that these things are also monitored apart from the performance of the Institute." 22. As regards the finalization of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NIT, Patna for the period of 2019-20, Audit work has already been carried out by the C&AG Audit Team from 29th September to 20th October 2020 and draft SAR is awaited from them.

Observations/Recommendations

23. The Committee note with concern that there have been continuous delays in laying Annual Reports and Audit Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Patna for the years 2015-2016 to 2018-2019, as these were laid on the Table with delays of approximately 07, 25, 14 and 15 months respectively.

24. The Committee further note that during the years 2015-16 to 2017-18, these delays have occurred mainly due to the late receipt of Separate Audit Report (SAR) from the Comptroller & Auditor-General in the Institute, Hindi Translation and Printing of Annual Reports and Annual Accounts from outside agency, and time taken by the Institute to send Annual Reports and Audited Accounts to the Ministry. And for the year 2018-19, the responsible factors have been the late receipt of the documents from the Institute, consequent upon the delay in receiving of Separate Audit Report (SAR) from the Comptroller & Auditor-General in the Institute and time taken in Hindi Translation and printing of Annual Reports and Annual Accounts from outside agency.

25. The Committee are perturbed to note the incessant delays almost at every stage of the entire process, during all the years under scrutiny. The only stage completed within time is the compilation stage of Annual Accounts by the NIT, Patna. This trend is particularly noticeable in the years 2016-17 and 2017-18, where there have been considerable delays and the Institute has not been able to keep up with the stipulated time frame. Noticeably, the delay in the appointment of auditors at the very first stage has also cascaded upon the remaining stages as well. The most astounding has been the sheer neglect of 442 days during 2016-2017 in sending the approved documents to the Ministry by the institute. The Ministry should ensure that no such lackadaisical delays occur in future.

The Committee however note with satisfaction that the Ministry have taken the restorative steps to mitigate these delays and have accordingly asked the Institute to keep close liaison with A.G. office through periodic contacts/visits and discussions across the table to ensure timely clearance of the reports. In cognizance of the same, the Committee recommend to the Ministry to take up the matter with the C&AG in writing to contain such delays in future. The Committee also direct Ministry to closely monitor the progress itself at each stage and be more interactive with the C&AG at the very first inkling of the possible delays.

26. The Committee also note that a lot of time is being wasted in the translation and printing of the documents, as the same is being done by an outside agency. The Secretary, MoE has assured the Committee that delays in translation work would be effectively curbed from now on as the Annual Reports are now being prepared and translated simultaneously in both the languages in the Institute. The Committee recommend to the Ministry/Institute that this change in procedure may be duly incorporated in the Standard Operating Procedure and due adherence to the timelines may be ensured by the Ministry.

27. The Committee feel hugely disappointed at the oblivion of the Ministry of Education about the relevant statutory provision of clause 22(4) of the NITSER Act, 2007 for laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Patna on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament, though the Committee has brought the relevant provision in the notice of the Ministry in their previous reports as well. The provision in the Act, clearly provides for the same. The Committee direct the Ministry/Institution to comply with the statutory provisions of the NITSER Act, 2007 and to ensure that the documents of the NIT-Patna from the year 2019-20 onwards are laid within stipulated time. The Committee desire to be informed of the compliance of the directions by the Ministry in this matter.

28. The Committee also impress upon the Ministry to note that in case of delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NIT-Patna due to unavoidable reasons, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within prescribed period should be laid on the Table of the House strictly within 30 days as recommended by the Committee in its earlier reports.

New Delhi <u>13 th December , 2021</u> 24 Agrahayana, 1943 (Saka) Ritesh Pandey Chairperson Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, Lok Sabha

<u>Annexure-I</u> vide para 01 of the Report

Statement showing the funds/ Grant-in-aid released by the Ministry to the National Institute of Technology, Patna for the years 2015-16 to 2019-20.

Year	Grant-in-aid released (Rupees in Crores)
2015-2016	104
2016-2017	101.8
2017-2018	121.89
2018-2019	87.68
2019-2020	97.05

<u>Annexure-II</u> vide para 04 of the Report

Statement showing the dates of laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Patna for the years 2015-16 to 2018-19.

Year	Date by which required to be laid	Date of laying of Annual Reports and	Extent of delay
		Audited Accounts	
2015-2016	31.12.2016	31.07.2017(LS)	07 months
		03.08.2017(RS)	
2016-2017	31.12.2017	10.02.2020(LS)	02 years 01 month &10
		06.02.2020(RS)	days
2017-2018	31.12.2018	16.03.2020(LS)	01 year 02 months
		19.03.2020(RS)	& 16 days
2018-2019	31.12.2019	22.03.2021(LS)	01 year 02 months
			& 22 days

Annexure-III

vide para 05 of the Report

Activities 2015-16 2016-2017 2017-2018 2018-2019 The date on which 26.7.2016 30.06.2017 29.06.2018 28.06.2019 a the Institute Date of Date of Date of Date of approached the Audit appointment appointment appointment appointment Authorities to appoint the auditors 29.08.2016 28.08.2017 24.07.2018 21.08.2019 for auditing the accounts and the date 142 days of their 150 days 149 days appointments; 115 days Time taken in Appointment after closure of F/Y The date of 25.06.2016 29.06.2017 29.06.2018 27.06.2019 b compilation of Annual Accounts No delay No delay of the Institute; No delay No delay Time taken after closure of F/Y The date on which 26.07.2016 30.06.2017 29.06.2018 28.06.2019 c the Annual Accounts were submitted to 29 days 51 days Auditors for 20 days 21 days auditing; Time taken after compilation of Accounts The date and d 29.08.2016 28.08.2017 24.07.2018 21.08.2019 duration for to to to to auditing the Annual 27.09.2016 18.10.2017 13.08.2018 11.09.2019 Accounts of the Institute by Auditors. 20 days 21 days 29 days 51 days

The chronological sequence in respect of finalization of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Patna for the year 2015-16 & 2018-19.

e	The date of queries raised by Auditors during auditing of Annual Accounts;	26.09.2016	10/10/17	13.08.2018	06/09/19
f	The date on which the replies to the audit queries was furnished to the Auditors;	27.09.2016	11/10/17	30.08.2018	06/09/19
с) •	The date on which draft Audit Report was issued by Audit Authorities.	06.10 2016	10/11/17	05/10/18	20.09.2019
h	The date on which the final Audit Report received by the Institute;	11.01.2017 03 months and	16.01.2018 02 months and	31.01.2019 03 months and 28	07/01/20 03 months and
	Time taken after auditing of Annual Accounts	07 days	07 days	days	9 days
i	The date of finalization of Annual Reports;	10.02.2017 30 days	14.06.2018 151 days	02.08.2019	19.6.2020
	Time taken after receipt of final Audit Report	50 days	151 uays	183 days	164 days
j	The date on which documents were got approved from the Competent	10.02.2017	29.06.2017	29.06.2018	28.06.2019
	Authority; Time taken after finalization of Annual Report	Same day	04 days	Same day	Same day
k	The date on which documents were taken up for	Printing: 12.01.2017	Translation & Printing: 20.02.2018	Translation & Printing: 20.02.2019	Translation & Printing: 20.02.2020
	translation & printing and the time taken for	to 05.02.2017 (24 days)	to 14.06.2018: (114 days)	to 20.09.2019: (212 days)	to 19.06.2020: (120 days)

	completing the task;				
	The date on which documents were sent to the Ministry for being laid in Parliament and the reasons for delay, if any. Time taken after documents were got approved from the Competent Authority	15.02.2017 05 days	20.06.2018 05.09.2019 (SAR in Hindi) 19.11.2019 (Authenticated copy) 06 days 442 days 75 days	22.11.2019 63 days	16.09.2020 89 days
•	The date of laying of the documents on the Table of the House and delay if any, on the part of Ministry in this regard.	31.07.2017	LS 10.02.2020 02 years 01 month &10 days	LS 16.03.2020 01 year 02 months & 16 days	LS 22.03.2021 01 year 02 months & 22 days
П М С	Fime taken by the Ministry after receipt of the Annual Report and Audited Account	03 08 2017	(RS) 06.02.2020 02 year 01 month & 06 days	(RS) 19.03.2020 01 year 02 months & 19 days	

EXTRACTS OF THE MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2020-2021)

The Committee sat on Tuesday, 05th January 2021 from 11:00 hrs to 13:20 hrs. in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Ritesh Pandey - Chairperson

MEMBERS

- 1. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
- 2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
- 3. Shri T.N. Prathapan
- 4. Shri Saptagiri Ulaka
- 5. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Suman Arora	- Joint Secretary
2. Shri Munish Kumar Rewari	- Additional Director
3. Shri R. K. Chaudhary	- Under Secretary

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION), and NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (NIT), PATNA.

- 1. Shri Praveen Kumar Secretary (In charge)
- 2. Shri Madan Mohan Additional Director General (Statistics)
- 3. Prof. P.K. Jain Director (NIT Patna)

4. Asit Narayan - Registrar (NIT Patna)

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION), and GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY (GKCIET), MALDA.

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	SPOR	,		, , ,	DELHI.		
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA (SAI), NEW DELHI.							
XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting and explained the purpose of convening the meeting.

3. The Committee, first, called the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the National Institute of Technology(NIT), Patna to take oral evidence with regard to delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of NIT, Patna for the years 2015-2016 to 2018-2019.

4. The Chairperson welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Education and NIT, Patna to the sitting of the Committee and explained to them that the meeting had been called to enquire about the reasons for the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of NIT, Patna for the aforesaid years. The Chairperson also explained to the witnesses, the provisions of Direction 58 of Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha regarding confidentiality of the proceedings.

5. The Secretary (*In charge*) of the Ministry, while introducing himself and his colleagues, submitted before the Committee that the regular Secretary was on leave during that period and that he was given the additional charge of the Ministry of Education. The Secretary (*In charge*) admitted the delay on the part of both the Ministry and the Institute and submitted the reasons for the delays, i.e., in appointment of the auditors, resolving the queries raised by the auditors, translation, printing and sending it to the Ministry.

The representative submitted before the Committee that steps had been taken to rectify the reasons for the delay and that the requisite documents for the year 2019-2020 would be laid as soon as the Budget session started. The representative also assured that the directions given by the Committee would be well accepted and an SOP would be put in process for ensuring that such delays did not occur in future.

Thereafter, the Hon'ble Chairperson thanked the representatives of the Ministry for the useful discussion in connection with the examination of the subject.

The witnesses then withdrew.

6-13 XX XX XX XX XX XX XX

A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting of the Committee has been kept on record.

The Committee then adjourned.

XX MATTER NOT RELATED WITH THIS REPORT

<u>THE MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE</u> <u>COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2021-2022)</u>

The Committee sat on Monday, 06th December 2021 from 15:00 hours to 16:30 hours in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

- Chairperson

MEMBERS

- 2. Dr. Shafiqur Rehman Barq
- 3. Dr. A. Chella Kumar
- 4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
- 5 Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser

Shri Ritesh Pandey

- 6 Shri T.N. Prathapan
- 7. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
- 8. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

SECRETARIAT

2. 3.	Shri Munish Kum Smt. Manjinder P		Additional Directo Under Secretary	r
	X	X X	Χ	Χ

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

X	X	X	X	X
11	11	2 L	21	11

3. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration, the eleven draft Reports (Original/ATR) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the following organisation :-

1. -6

7. National Institute of Technology, Patna;

8-11

X X X X X

4. After deliberations, the Committee adopted all the eleven (11) Reports without modifications.

5. The Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to present these Reports to the Parliament.

X X X X X

The Committee then adjourned.