

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

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**79**

**SEVENTY-NINTH REPORT**

**[Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Thirty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD), New Delhi.]**

**(Presented to Lok Sabha on 04.04.2022)**



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
April 2022/ Chaitra 1944 (Saka)**

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**COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**LOK SABHA**

**(2021-2022)**

**Shri Ritesh Pandey**

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**Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

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

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Sundar Prasad Das - Director
3. Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj - Additional Director

## **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 Seventy-Ninth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in the Thirty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD), New Delhi.

2. The Thirty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 10.08.2021. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) furnished their replies on 18.11.2021 indicating action-taken on the observations/ recommendations contained in the Thirty-Ninth Report. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 22.03.2022.

3. The Committee place on record their appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

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

**NEW DELHI**  
**28<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**  
**7 Chaitra, 1944 (Saka)**

**Ritesh Pandey**  
**Chairperson**  
**Committee on Papers Laid on the Table**  
**Lok Sabha**

## **COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2021-2022), LOK SABHA** **REPORT**

This Report of the Committee deals with the action-taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table in its Thirty Ninth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) which dealt with the matter of the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD), New Delhi for the years 2011-2012 to 2017-2018 and which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 10.08.2021.

2. The Committee had made 03 Observations/Recommendations in its Thirty Ninth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha). The action-taken replies were received from the Government in respect of all the Recommendations/Observations made in the aforesaid Report. Accordingly, the Statement showing the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Thirty Ninth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix-I.

**3. The Committee note that the NCCD had acted positively on the recommendations made by the Committee in its original Report (pertaining to NCCD, New Delhi) to amend its bye-laws and thereby making it bound to lay its Annual Report and Audited Accounts on the Table of the Parliament within nine months of closure of the financial year.**

**The Committee also note that the NCCD has laid the requisite documents for the year 2020-2021 within the stipulated time.**

**4. The Committee appreciate the efforts made by the NCCD in implementing the recommendations of this Committee and expect that henceforth, the requisite documents of NCCD will be laid before the Parliament within the stipulated time every year. The Committee would like to be informed, once the changes in the bye-laws of the NCCD are brought into effect and further action(s) taken by the Ministry/NCCD in this regard.**

**New Delhi  
22 March, 2022  
1 Chaitra, 1944 (Saka)**

**Ritesh Pandey  
Chairperson  
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table  
Lok Sabha**

**Reply Showing Action Taken on the Recommendations/ Observations Contained in the Thirty Ninth Report of the Committee on Papers on the Table (Lok Sabha), Seventeenth Lok Sabha.**

National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD)

Recommendation Serial No: 17

The Committee is dismayed to note that the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) has shown a lackluster approach in supervising the functioning of National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD), as it is the duty of the Nodal Ministry to ensure that all the Organizations/Institutions etc. under its administrative control follow the Rules regarding timely laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts before the Parliament. The Committee is highly disappointed to note that not only the Ministry had laid the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of NCCD on the Table of the House, Lok Sabha for the years 2011-12 to 2017-18, together, on 30.07.2019 with extensive delays ranging between 07 months to 06 years and 07 months, but also laid the accounts for the said seven years before the Parliament, audited by a Private Auditor instead of Auditors appointed by CAG. Besides, the Committee was also apprised that later, on being requested, the CAG had conducted the audit of accounts of NCCD for the period of 5 years i.e., 2013-14 to 2017-18 in April/May 2019 and a Separate Audit Report was issued in September 2019. However, by that time, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the years 2011-12 to 2017-18 were already laid before the Parliament. This is in complete contradiction with the General Financial Rules and the Recommendations of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table. Also, the requisite documents for the year 2018-19 have now been laid with a delay of over 13 months, which is in contradiction to the assurance given by the Secretary during the evidence. The Committee, therefore, strictly directs the Ministry to lay the pending documents of NCCD for the year 2019-2020\* at the earliest and to ensure timely laying of requisite documents in future. The Committee further instructs the Ministry to get the Accounts of NCCD audited by CAG for all the remaining years since its inception and lay all such pending Separate Audit Reports before the Parliament, without further delay. The Committee is displeased with the apathetic approach of the Ministry, in the instant case, and strictly instructs them to be more vigilant in future to avoid similar instances.

## Reply of the Government

NCCD had received one-time grant of Rs 25 crore from DA&FW/NHB in March/April 2012 for setting up its Corpus. Thereafter, no annual grant was required by NCCD for its expenses. As such, initially NCCD was under the impression that Annual Reports of NCCD are not required to be placed on the Table of House. This matter was later examined by DA&FW in consultation with IFD in 2017-18 and NCCD was advised by the Department for placing its Annual Reports and Audited Accounts since inception i.e. 2011-12 to 2017-18 on the Table of House. Accordingly, Annual Reports for the period 2011-12 to 2017-18 were approved by Governing Council of NCCD in its meeting held on 21-12-2018 and then placed on Table of House on 30-7-2019. As desired, CAG Reports for the period 2013-14 to 2017-18 along with replies of NCCD were submitted on 25-9-2020.

NCCD had submitted during oral evidence before Hon'ble Committee on 4-3-2020 that Annual Report 2018-19 will be placed by April 2020. However, the Parliament session which was convened on 2-3-2020, was adjourned Sine die on 22-3-2020 due to pandemic conditions. There was no session in April 2020. As such, Annual Report was placed by NCCD on the Table of House in the next session on 22-9-2020.

The Annual Report 2019-20 was required to be placed by 31-12-2020. However, Parliament session was not convened in December 2020 due to Pandemic conditions and therefore, Annual Report 2019-20 could be placed on the Table of House in the next session on 4-3-2021.

NCCD has a very small set up. We have directed them to be careful and submit Annual Reports within stipulated time in future.

As directed by the Committee, DA&FW has requested Department of Economic Affairs (Budget Division) on 12-10-2021 to request CAG to conduct audit of NCCD accounts for the remaining years since inception i.e. F.Y. 2011-12, 2012-13, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 (CAG has already conducted audit of 5 years 2013-14 to 2017-18). Audit Reports received from CAG office along with Replies of NCCD shall be placed on the Table of House on receipt.

Details of the communications forwarded to the Secretariat:

1. O.M. No: H.25011/2/2019-M-I, dated 26.07.2019
2. O.M. No: 51-30/2014-NCCD, dated 21.09.2020
3. O.M. No: 51-30/2014-NCCD dated 01.03.2021

*\*Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2019-20 have been laid on 9.3.2021*

(Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare - O.M No. F.No.51-30/2014-NCCD, dated 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2021)



### Recommendation Serial No 18

The Committee was also apprised by the Ministry that the delay in laying of requisite documents of NCCD, before the Parliament, occurred as there was no mention of placing the accounts in Bye laws of NCCD and that NCCD was not aware that Annual Reports are required to be placed before both the Houses of Parliament.

The Committee directs the Ministry/NCCD to make necessary amendment(s) in the Bye laws of the NCCD in accordance with the GFR Rules 238(6) and as per the earlier recommendations of the Committee on Paper Laid on the Table, Lok Sabha.

### Reply of the Government

As stipulated in GFR 238(6), By-laws of NCCD are being amended by incorporating clause 12(viii) in the Bye-laws - after para 12(vii) - as follows:

12(viii) – The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Centre shall be placed on the Table of House within nine months of the close of the succeeding financial year.

The proposal will be placed in the next meeting of Governing Council of NCCD and then submitted to Registrar of Societies, Gurugram for notification.

(Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare - O.M No. F.No.51-30/2014-NCCD, dated 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2021)

### Recommendation Serial No 19

The Committee also strongly impress upon the Ministry to note that in case of delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Organizations/Institutions etc., under its administrative control, 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.

## Reply of the Government

We have noted the directions, a statement indicating the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within prescribed period would be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days of the specified period, as and when required.

(Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare - O.M No. F.No.51-30/2014-NCCD, dated 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2021)

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**Committee On Papers Laid On The Table (2021-2022)**

The Extracts of the Minutes of the sitting of the Committee held on 22.03.2022.

The Committee sat on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2022 from 15:00 to 16:00 in Committee Room "B", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

***Present***

Shri Ritesh Pandey - ***Chairperson***

***Members***

2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
3. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
4. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
5. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
6. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

***Secretariat***

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Sundar Prasad Das - Director
3. Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj - Additional Director

**X X X X X**

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting and apprised them about the agenda.

3. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration, the one draft Report and three Action-taken Reports on the following subjects:-

1. **X X X X X;**
2. **X X X X X;**
3. Action- taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the Committee in their Thirty Ninth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Centre for Cold-chain Development under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare); and
4. **X X X X X**

4. After deliberations, the Report and Action- taken Reports as mentioned above have been adopted by the Committee and the Chairperson has been authorized by the committee, as per the factual verification of (narration portion) the Report/Action- taken Reports,to finalize and present these Reports/Action- takenReports to Lok Sabha.

5 to 11.        X                    X                    X                    X                    X

**The Committee then adjourned.**

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