

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(2021-2022)

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

89

EIGHTY NINTH REPORT

[Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)]

(Presented to Lok Sabha 05.08.2022)



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
August 2022/ Sravana 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

(iii)

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2021-2022), having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Eighty-Ninth Report in respect of the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi under the administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan).

2. In terms of the recommendations of the First Report (5th Lok Sabha) of the Committee, presented to the House on 8th March, 1976 and the Second Report (5th Lok Sabha) of the Committee, presented to the House on 12th May, 1976 and the Second Report (6th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, presented to the House on 22nd December, 1977, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the all Statutory/Autonomous, Institutes, Companies, Public Undertakings, Corporations, Joint Ventures, Societies, etc. are required to be laid on the Table of the House within nine months of the closure of accounting year i.e., by 31 December.

3. The scrutiny by the Committee revealed that the requisite documents of the RCI, New Delhi for 2015-2016 to 2020-2021 were presented to Lok Sabha with continuous delays. The Committee considered the matter of delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the RCI, New Delhi and took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) at their sitting held on 6th December, 2021.

4. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 01.08. 2022.

5. The Committee wishes to express their thanks to the offices of the RCI, New Delhi and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) for furnishing the written replies and other material/information for being placed before the Committee.

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

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

New Delhi
03 August 2022
12 Sravana 1944 (Saka)

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

Committee Branch-II
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

Report

Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan).

Rehabilitation Council was initially set up as a registered society in 1986. Subsequently, it was brought under an Act of Parliament namely, the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) Act, 1992 enacted in September, 1992 for the purpose of regulation of rehabilitation education and rehabilitation professionals. The RCI became a statutory body from 22.06.1993. The Rehabilitation Council is responsible for regulating and monitoring the training of rehabilitation professionals and personnel, maintenance of a Central Rehabilitation Register of rehabilitation personnel/professional, promotion of research in rehabilitation and special education and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

To fulfill the purpose of the RCI Act, 1992 (as amended in 2000), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJ&E), Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), [DEPwD] has constituted a General Council. An Executive Committee has also been constituted from amongst the members of the General Council. RCI is headed by the Chairperson. Chairperson, RCI is the Chairperson of the General Council. The Council consists of a Chairperson and 28 other members appointed by Central Government. The Council has constituted an Executive Committee from amongst the Members of the General Council as per the provisions of Section 7(1) of the Act.

The Council is mainly financed by Grant-in-Aid from Government of India, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) to achieve its objectives. The accounts of the Council are audited under section 19(2) of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions & Service) Act 1971.

2. On being asked to state the Act, Rule, Regulation under which Papers of RCI, New Delhi are being laid on the Table of the House, the MoSJ&E, in its written reply, has submitted that:

"As per regulation 21(5) of Rehabilitation Council of India Regulations, 1997 the annual Accounts of RCI certified by the C&AG of India or any person authorized by him are laid on the Table of House. Further in accordance with Rule 238 (6) of GFR, 2017 the Annual Report together with Audited Accounts is required to be laid."

3. With regard to the question of the provision and time for laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the RCI, New Delhi on the Table of the House, the MoSJ&E in written reply has submitted that:-

"As per the provisions of the GFR 2017 the Annual Report along with Audited Accounts for any financial year is to be laid in both the Houses of Parliament within nine months of close of the succeeding financial year."

4. On the question of the pattern of funding along with year-wise funds released to the RCI, New Delhi by the Government of India, the MoSJ&E has submitted that:-

"As per Regulation 20(4) of Rehabilitation Council of India Regulations, 1997, the funds of the Council shall consist of (a) Grants made by the Central Government or State Government, (b) Contributions from other sources and (c) Other income and receipts..."

The statement showing year wise fund allocated by the Government to the RCI during the last 5 years is placed at **Annexure-I**.

5. The Committee have, in their First Report (5th Lok Sabha) presented to the House on 08 March, 1976, emphasized that the Annual Report together with Audited Accounts of a autonomous organisation for a particular year should be laid on the Table within 9 months of the close of the accounting year. Further, it is the responsibility of the Administrative Ministry to lay the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Organisation on the Table of the House. However, if for any reason, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts could not be laid within the prescribed period of nine months, the Ministry concerned should lay a statement within 30 days of the expiry of the said period or as soon as the House meets, whichever is later, explaining the reasons as to why the documents could not be laid in time.

6. The Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, Lok Sabha scrutinized the Annual Reports, Audited Accounts and Review Statement of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) New Delhi, for the years 2016-2017 to 2020-2021, that were laid before the House by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJ&E), Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD). The examination of these papers have revealed that these requisite documents of RCI, New Delhi for the years 2015-2016 to 2019-2020 were laid before the House with repeated delay (i.e., for 2015-2016, with delay of 02 months; for 2016-2017, with delay of 01 month; for 2017-2018, with delay of 06 months; for 2018-2019, with delay of 13 months; for 2019-2020, with delays of 07 months and for 2020-2021 with delays of 03 months). The statement showing the actual dates of laying the Annual Reports/Audited Accounts of the RCI, New Delhi alongwith the extent of delay is placed at **Annexure-II**.

7. The Committee observe that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the RCI for the years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 were laid with delays of 2 and 1 month, respectively. Therefore, the Committee desired to know the reasons for delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of RCI, New Delhi for the years 2017-2018 to 2019-2020. In reply, the MoSJ&E did not provide a specific reply.

8. The MoSJ&E was asked as to whether the delays in laying the documents indicate that due importance was not given to timely laying of the papers before the Parliament and things were taken in a casual manner. In reply, the MoSJ&E has stated that:-

“No. Due importance is always given to the timely laying of the papers of RCI before the Parliament.”

9. The MoSJ&E was also asked to furnish the information in respect of finalization of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of RCI, New Delhi and also the time taken by the MoSJ&E at each stage involved in finalization of the requisite documents of the RCI for the years 2015-2016 to 2019-2020. The reply as received from the MoSJ&E is placed at **Annexure-III**.

10. The Committee questioned the MoSJ&E and the RCI, as to whether it had identified the stages in which delays had occurred during all these years and, if so, how does the MoSJ&E propose to curtail the same. In reply, the MoSJ&E has submitted that:-

“The delay is mostly due to non-finalization of Audit accounts and partly due to Hindi translation and printing work.

With a view to complete the audit work in a time bound CAG is being approached for fast tracking the audit process. Further stringent timeline had been worked out for completion of each stage of activities of finalization of Annual Report by 31st October so that it could be laid in the winter session of the Parliament every year. RCI has been advised to adhere to these timelines.

11. The Committee desired to know from the MoSJ&E as to whether there had been any delay in the appointment of auditors for the purpose of auditing the annual accounts of the organisation during these years. The MoSJ&E in its written reply has submitted that:-

" As per Regulation 21(5) of Rehabilitation Council of India Regulations, 1997, the accounts of the Council are audited under section 19(2) of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions & Service) Act 1971. As such the auditors are appointed by office of CAG. The delay is mostly is due to late submission of final audit reports.

12. The Committee also desired to know as to how the MoSJ&E dealt with the issue of auditing and finally timely receipt of Audit Reports from audit authorities. The MoSJ&E in its written reply has submitted that:-

"The Department is not involved in the process of the audit of accounts of the Council as it is an autonomous body. However, the Council will pursue with office of C&AG from time to time for finalization of audit of its accounts in a time bound manner.

13. The Committee also desired to know from the MoSJ&E, whether the organisation had faced any problem in connection with translation of the documents into Hindi and subsequent printing thereof. The MoSJ&E in its written reply has submitted that:-

"Hindi translation of the documents and subsequent printing is outsourced through professional and printing from open market as per the provisions of GFRs, 2017 . A time schedule for each stage of activities including invitation of bid for printing through GeM portal has been prepared."

14. The Committee then questioned the MoSJ&E as to whether it had faced any procedural difficulties associated with convening the meeting of the competent authority for getting approval of the documents. The MoSJ&E in its written reply has submitted that:-

"No procedural difficulties associated with convening the meeting of the Competent Authority for getting approval of the documents of the organisations. However, it may be noted that due to Covid-19 pandemic there was difficulty in convening the meeting, of the General Council of RCI, in 2020."

15. On the question raised by the Committee as to whether the process of accounting has been computerized at the RCI, to facilitate speedy and timely compilation of accounts. The MoSJ&E in its written reply has submitted that:-

“Process of accounting is being computerised and tally accounting software has been installed to facilitate speedy and timely compilation of accounts.”

16. With regard to the question as to whether the organization had any Internal Auditing mechanism to ensure timely compilation of Accounts and also to minimize the audit queries at the time of auditing, the MoSJ&E in its written reply has submitted that:-

“There is no post of Internal Auditor sanctioned in the Council. Professional Chartered Accountant firm has been engaged for internal auditing and compilation of accounts.”

17. The Committee also enquired whether any time schedule has been laid down either by the organization or by the MoSJ&E indicating normative time for completion of the task of each stage involved in finalization of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts. The MoSJ&E in its written reply has submitted that:-

“A timeline has now been developed indicating normative time for completion of task of each stage.”

18. The Committee further enquired as to whether there is any mechanism in the MoSJ&E to monitor the progress of work in this regard to ensure timely laying of documents, and also whether any remedial measures have been taken or proposed to be taken by them to ensure timely laying of the documents before Parliament within the prescribed period of nine months from the close of the accounting year. The MoSJ&E in its written reply has submitted that:

“Progress of each stage will be monitored by the EC and also be reviewed by Chairperson, RCI so as to ensure that the Annual Report are submitted to the Ministry by 31st October for facilitating laying thereof in the winter session every year.”

19. The Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (Lok Sabha) took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJ&E), Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangajan) and Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi on 06th December, 2021 to further examine the reasons of delays in laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of RCI, New Delhi for the years 2015-2016 to 2019-2020.

20. During the evidence, the Committee enquired about as to how the matter of translation of requisite documents in hindi is being dealt, the representative of the MoSJ&E has made the following submissions:

“.. इस साल हमने इसे कर लिया है
..हमने राजभाषा विभाग से ट्रांसलेटर्स की लिस्ट मंगवाई थी, उनको यह काम देकर हमने इसे कराया है

Further, with regard to the matter of delay in audit process, the representative of the MoSJ&E stated that:

“Sir, we are following it up. We personally went to his office also. I would like to assure the august Committee that before the adjournment of this Session we are going submit the report.”

The representative of the MoSJ&E also submitted that:-

*“...there are certain reasons which are totally unacceptable regarding the delay in finalising the Annual Reports and submitting it to the Parliament. One such example is about the translation. Second is the compilation of the accounts in time so that it could be sent to the C&AG office. One thing that we have in our RCI, like what my Joint Secretary has explained, that there the report has to be approved at two levels, that is at the Executive Committee level as well as at the General Council level. Whereas, in RCI, it is either Executive Council or General Council. So, we reduce that delay also of 21 days of issuing notices and then waiting for the members to assemble and quorum and other things. We are taking care of those things. As my Member-Secretary has already indicated we are following it up with the C&AG also. Henceforth, I can assure you that we will not be having delays on these accounts basically.
.....We will share the timelines and the orders that we are issuing. We will send you the compliance also.”*

Observations/Recommendations

21. From the examination of the Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review Statement of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi for the years 2015-2016 to 2020-2021, that were laid before the House by the Nodal Ministry, i.e., Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJ&E), Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), the Committee observe a trend of continuous delays in laying the requisite documents, as against the stipulated date of laying i.e., by 31st December of the respective financial year.

The Committee take serious note of the false assurance given by the Ministry and therefore, recommend to the MoSJ&E to strictly adhere to the General Financial Rules 2017 and also the recommendations of this Committee regarding the laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of an organization. The committee also recommend to the MoSJ&E to ensure timely laying of these requisite documents, in future.

22. The Committee was apprised that one of the reasons for the delay was due to Hindi translation and printing of these requisite documents. During the oral evidence, also, the Ministry submitted that they had now addressed this issue with the help of Translators from the Rajbhasha Vibhag. The Committee was also apprised by the MoSJ&E, through their written reply, that the subsequent printing was now being done from the open market as per the provisions of the GFR 2017. The Committee take note of these submissions and expect that the translation and printing of documents will be done as per the time schedule prepared by the Ministry and that there will not be any delay on this part in future.

23. The Committee was also apprised by the MoSJ&E, that one of the reasons for the delay was due to the late receipt of the final audit report from the C&AG. The Committee recommend to the MoSJ&E to take up the matter pertaining to the delay in the audit process and, also to ensure periodic follow up after the submission of annual accounts, with the office of C&AG.

24. The Committee take note of the assurance given by the Secretary, MoSJ&E that there will not be any delay on any of these accounts, namely printing, translation, audit process, finalization of accounts. The Committee recommend to the MoSJ&E to share the guidelines hence prepared by them for each stage involved in preparation and finalization of the requisite documents and, also to ensure that these timelines are strictly followed by every single organisation under its administrative control, so that the requisite documents of not only RCI, New Delhi, but of all the other organizations under the administrative control of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangajan) will be laid within the stipulated time, in future.

25. The Committee further recommend to the MoSJ&E to chalk out the possibility of creating a web portal having a dashboard, for showing the live status of each step involved in finalization of requisite documents of every organisation under its administrative control and, for issuing automated reminders to such organisations which fail to meet the timeline set by the Ministry regarding preparation and finalization of the requisite documents. The Committee feel that this will help the nodal ministry to keep a strict vigil over the functioning of all organizations.

**New Delhi
01 August, 2022
10 Shravan , 1944 (Saka)**

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

Statement showing the year wise grants released by the Government of India to the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi, during the last five years i.e. b/w 2016-2017 to 2020-2021.

Year	Grant-in-Aid released by DEPwD (Rs. in Crores)
2016-17	6.23
2017-18	5.71
2018-19	4.72
2019-20	5.00
2020-21	5.50

Annexure-II

vide para 06 of the Report

Statement showing the dates of laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi for the years 2015-2016 to 2020-2021.

Financial Year	Date by which Annual Reports and Audited Accounts were required to be laid	Actual Date of laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts	Extent of delay (approximate)
2015-2016	31.12.2016	14.03.2017	02 months
2016-2017	31.12.2017	09.02.2018	01 months
2017-2018	31.12.2018	16.07.2019	06 months
2018-2019	31.12.2019	09.02.2021	13 months
2019-2020	31.12.2020	03.08.2021	07 months
2020-2021	31.12.2021	05.04.2022	03 months

Annexure-III
vide para 09 of the Report

The chronological sequence in respect of finalization of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi for the years 2015-2016 to 2019-2020.

Sub-Question	Points	Financial Years				
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
7(i)	Date of approach to the Audit Authorities	27.06.2016	30.06.2017	29.06.2018	28.06.2019	21.08.2020
	Time taken after the closure of Accounting Year	2 Months	2 Months	2 Months	2 Months	3 Months
7(ii)	Date of appointment of statutory auditors	As per Regulation 21(3) of Rehabilitation Council of India Regulations, 1997, the Audit of Accounts of the Council has been entrusted to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.				
	Time taken after the approaching the audit authorities for appointment of the auditors					
7(iii)	Date of compilation of Annual Accounts	17.06.2016	20.06.2017	13.06.2018	10.06.2019	30.07.2020
	Time taken after the closure of Accounting Year	2 Months	2 Months	2 Months	2 Months	3 Months
7(iv)	Date of submission	27.06.2016	30.06.2017	29.06.2018	28.06.2019	21.08.2020

	of annual accounts to auditors					
	Time taken after the closure of respective Accounting Year	2 Months	2 Months	2 Months	2 Months	3 Months
7(v)	The date and duration for auditing the annual accounts by the statutory auditors	12.08.2016 to 26.08.2016	01.08.2017 to 14.08.2017	20.08.2018 to 04.09.2018	09.07.2019 to 23.07.2019	21.09.2020 to 07.10.2020
7 (vi)	The date of queries raised by auditors during auditing/after completion of the Annual Accounts	12.08.2016	01.08.2017	20.08.2018	09.07.2019	21.09.2020
	Time taken by auditors in raising the queries during auditing/after completion of the Annual Accounts to Audit Authorities	14 Days	14 Days	14 Days	14 Days	17 Days
7(vii)	The date on which the replies to the audit queries were furnished to the Auditors	26.08.2016	14.08.2017	04.09.2018	23.07.2019	07.10.2020

	The time taken to resolve the queries	14 Days	14 Days	14 Days	14 Days	17 Days
7(viii)	The date on which draft Audit Report was issued by Authorities	15.09.2016	25.08.2017	19.09.2018	21.08.2019	10.12.2020
	Time taken after auditing of the annual accounts	20 days	11 days	15 days	29 days	2 months 3 days
7(ix)	The date on which the final Audit Report Received ty Organization	09.11.2016	17.10.2017	18.12.2018	31.10.2019	28.01.2021
	Time taken after issue of draft report	1 Month 24 Days	1 Month 23 Days	3 Months	2 Months 10 Days	1 Month 18 Days
7(x)	Total time taken by the audit authorities after receiving of the annual accounts to furnishing the final audit report to the organisation	4 months 13 days	3 months 17 days	5 months 19 days	04 months 2 days	05 months 7 days
7 (xi)	Date of finalization of the Annual Report	19.12.2016	27.11.2017	08.03.2019	06.02.2020	16.02.2021

	Time taken after the closure of the financial year; and also	8 months 19 days	7 months 27 days	11 months 8 days	10 months 6 days	10 months 16 days
	Time taken after the receipt of the final audit report	1 month 10 days	1 month 10 days	2 months 18 days	3 months 6 days	19 days
7(xii)	The date on which documents were got approved from the Competent Authority	19.12.2016	27.11.2017	08.03.2019	06.02.2020	16.02.2021
	Time taken after finalization of Annual Report	Immediately	Immediately	Immediately	Immediately	Immediately
	Time taken after receipt of audit report	1 month 10 days	1 month 10 days	2 months 18 days	3 month 06 days	19 days
7(xiii)	The date on which documents were taken up for translation & printing	19.12.2016	27.11.2017	08.03.2019	06.02.2020	16.02.2021
	The time taken for completing the task at each stage.	1 month	1 month 12 days	1 month 15 days	6 months 28 days	3 months 21 days

7(xiv)	The date for sending the documents to the Ministry for being laid in the House after the completion the task at each stage.	18.01.2017	09.01.2018	24.04.2019	03.09.2020	07.06.2021
	Time taken by the organisations in sending the documents to the Ministry	Immediately	Immediately	Immediately	Immediately	Immediately
7(xv)	The date of laying the documents in the House.	Lok Sabha- 14.03.2017 Rajya Sabha- 16.03.2017	Lok Sabha - 09.02.2018 Rajya Sabha - 08.02.2018	Lok Sabha - 16.07.2019 Rajya Sabha - 10.07.2019	Lok Sabha - 09.02.2021 Rajya Sabha - 10.03.2021	Lok Sabha - 03.08.2021 Rajya Sabha - 04.08.2021
	Time taken after receipt of the documents from the Organisation	1 month 24 days	1 month	1 month 22 days	5 months 6 days	1 months 27 days

The Extracts of the Minutes of the second sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2021-2022).

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

Shri Ritesh Pandey - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Shafiqur Rehman Barq
3. Dr. A. Chella Kumar
4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
- 5 Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
- 6 Shri T.N. Prathapan
7. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
8. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Munish Kumar Rewari - Additional Director
3. Smt. Manjinder Pubbi - Under Secretary

**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment,
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangajan)**

1. Smt. Anjali Bhawra - Secretary
2. Dr. Prabodh Seth - Joint Secretary
3. Shri Sanjay Pandey - Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor
4. Ms. Tarika Roy - Joint Secretary

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Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi

1. Dr. Subodh Kumar - Member Secretary

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

3-10. X X X X X

11. Thereafter, the Committee took up the case of the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi for the years 2015-2016 to 2019-2020 pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangajan).

The representatives of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi were ushered in to tender oral evidence before the Committee. The Chairperson welcomed the representatives of the Ministry and the organisation to the sitting of the Committee and informed the purpose of convening the meeting. The Chairperson also informed the witnesses about the provisions of Direction 58 of Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, regarding the confidentiality of the proceedings.

12. The Chairperson, then, enquired about the reasons of delays i.e., printing and translation furnished by the Ministry in the replies.

The representative apprised the Committee that the issue of printing and translation have been taken care of now. The representative of the Ministry assured the Committee that the Report will be laid before the Parliament before the end of the ongoing session. It was also apprised that they have prepared timelines which will be circulated accordingly and the same will be shared with the Committee thereafter.

The witnesses then withdrew.

The Committee then adjourned.

The Extracts of the Minutes of the thirteenth sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2021-2022) held on 01.08.2022.

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

The Committee sat on Monday, 1st August, 2022 from 15:00 hrs. to 15:30 hrs. in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

Shri Ritesh Pandey - ***Chairperson***

Members

2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
3. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
4. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
5. Shri S. Ramalingam
6. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
7. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

Secretariat

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. 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, four draft Reports and nine draft Action-taken Reports on the following subjects:-

- i. X X X X X;
- ii. X X X X X;
- iii. X X X X X;
- iv. Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan);
- v. X X X X X;
- vi. X X X X X;
- vii. X X X X X;
- viii. X X X X X;
- ix. X X X X X;

x	X	X	X	X	X;
xi	X	X	X	X	X;
xii	X	X	X	X	X; and
xiii	X	X	X	X	X.

4. After deliberations, the Reports 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 Reports and Action- taken Reports, to finalize and present these Reports and Action-taken Reports to Lok Sabha.

5 -10 X X X X X

The Committee then adjourned.
