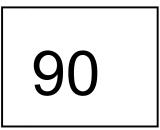
COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2021-2022)



SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

NINETIETH REPORT

[Action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table in the Fifty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology(NIT), Patna under the Administrative Ministry of Education

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 05 August, 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 (2021-2022)

Shri Ritesh Pandey - Chairperson

MEMBERS

- 2. Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq
- 3. Shri Margani Bharat
- 4. Dr. A. Chella Kumar
- 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
- 4. Miss Vandana Executive 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 Ninetieth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in the Fifty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Patna.

2. The Fifty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 15.12.2021. The Ministry of Education furnished their replies on 23.03.2022 indicating action-taken on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fifty-Ninth Report. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 01 August, 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 <u>01 August. 2022</u> 10 Sravana , 1944 (Saka) Ritesh Pandey Chairperson Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

<u>REPORT</u>

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 their Fifty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Patna, which was presented to Lok Sabha on 15.12.2021.

2. The Action-taken Notes have been received from the Government on 23.03.2022 in respect of all the six recommendations/observations, contained in the Fifty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha). Accordingly, the statement showing the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the aforesaid report are given in **Appendix –I**.

3. The Committee note that to avoid delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts, the Ministry of Education, beside issuing instructions to all NITs, has also been monitoring the progress of the same in Board of Governors (BoG) meetings of the concerned NITs. In this regard, Ministry has also launched а Portal (www.mshe.education.gov.in) for effective monitoring of the process. The Ministry is also taking up the matter regarding the delay in the Finance/BoG meetings of the concerned Institutes. The Committee also take note of the cumulative factors which resulted in delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for 2019-20. The Committee find that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2020-21 which was received by the Ministry on 28.01.2022 from the NIT, Patna has also been laid on the table of the House on 28.03.2022, though still with the delay of approximately three Months.

4. The Committee note from the reply furnished to them that efforts are being made by the Ministry in containing delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts and hope to see the results. They would like to point out, that in case of delay expected in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts due to unavoidable reasons, a statement explaining the reasons for delay should be laid on the Table of the House within the permissible limit of 30 days. The Committee note that despite the directions in this regard, the Ministry has failed to follow the stipulated timeline for laying delay statements even for the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the years 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively. The Committee are of the view that delay statement is an intermediate statement that assures the House of the accountability, compliance and diligence on the part of the respective Ministry/ Organization. Therefore, there should be strict adherence to the timeline in laying delay statement at all cost and the administrative Ministry should follow up with the organization, in this regard.

NEW DELHI <u>01 August. 2022</u> 10 Sravana , 1944 (Saka) Ritesh Pandey Chairperson Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

APPENDIX-I (Vide Para 2 of the Report)

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/ OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FIFTY NINTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS ON THE TABLE (LOK SABHA), SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

(Recommendation Serial No.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.

Reply of the Government

During the year 2015-16 to 2018-19, 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.

The Ministry of Education from time to time has been giving instructions to all NITs vide letters dated 08.04.2019, 06.01.2021 and 22.03.2021 for timely laying of Annual Report & Audited Accounts before both the Houses of the Parliament and has been taking note of the progress of the same in Board of Governors (BoG) meetings of the NIT concerned. However, to ensure effective monitoring of this Activity, this Ministry has also launched a Portal **(mshe.education.gov.in)** requesting Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) to indicate time taken to complete various activities with regard to completion of Annual Reports and Annual Audit. Further, whenever, the Ministry has observed delays, the same has been taken up in the Finance/BoG meetings of the Institutes concerned to expedite the matter. All possible efforts are being made to avoid delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts before both the Houses of the Parliament.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No.F.No.12-7/2020-TS.III Dated 23.03.2022)

(Recommendation Serial No.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.

Reply of the Government

For the year 2018-19, it is informed that the Institute received the audited accounts from Audit on 06.01.2020, the printed copy of the Annual Report was received by the Institute on 19.06.2020 as the translation and printing of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts was being done through outside agency. Ministry received these documents from the Institute on 22.09.2020 and the last date for laying these documents on the Table of the House (Lok Sabha) was 29.09.2020, therefore the same could not be placed in session September, 2020 and the same was laid in the next parliament session i.e. on 22.03.202.

This Ministry vide letter No.F.No.38-6/2019-TS.III dated 02.02.2021 already requested Lok Sabha Secretariat and Rajya Sabha Secretariat for extension of time regarding laying of Annual Report 2018-19 & 2019-20 upto 30.06.2021 after taking due approval from Hon'ble Minister of State, M/o Education.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No.F.No.12-7/2020-TS.III Dated 23.03.2022)

(Recommendation Serial No.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.

Reply of the Government

All possible efforts are being made to avoid delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts before both the Houses of the Parliament. Ministry vide letter dated 22.03.2021 also issued instructions to all CFTIs to follow the established timelines and procedures for sending Annual Reports and Annual Audited Accounts to this Ministry for timely laying the same before both the Houses of the Parliament. Further, Ministry vide letter dated 14.07.2021 also issued reminder in this regard.

NIT, Patna taking cognizance of the same made correspondences with C&AG office concerned so that the audited accounts may be received well in time for sending to Ministry for timely laying before both the Houses of the Parliament.

(Recommendation Serial No.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.

Reply of the Government

Ministry vide letter dated 22.03.2021 also issued instructions to all CFTIs to follow the established timelines and procedures wherein it is clearly mentioned the date/period upto which printing of annual/audited accounts have to be completed. Earlier, the translation work was being done through outside agency and the same is now is being done in the Institute itself. A notice circulated by the Institute in this context is enclosed.

Annual Report for 2020-21 was received on 28.01.2022 from NIT, Patna and after completing in all respect, the same has been sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat, Distribution Branch, Parliament House Annexe for laying on the Table of the House.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No.F.No.12-7/2020-TS.III Dated 23.03.2022)

(Recommendation Serial No.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.

Reply of the Government

Regarding Annual Report and Audited Accounts of NIT, Patna for the year 2019-20, it is informed that the Audited Accounts was received by the Institute from Audit Authority on 21.01.2021. M/o Education received Annual Report and Audited Accounts from the Institute on 08.03.2021 and the same was received from O/o the Hon'ble MoS (SD) on 20.03.2021 after authentication but the Budget Session of the Parliament concluded on 25.03.2021 after both the Houses of the Parliament adjourned sine die, therefore, these documents could not be laid before the Table of the House.

Thereafter, new Hon'ble Minister of State (M/o Education) took over the charge and the Annual Report was sent to O/o the Hon'ble MoS for authentication. The authenticated copies of Annual Report and Audited Accounts were received on 03.08.2021. The last date for laying of these documents before both the Houses of the Parliament was 09.08.2021 in Monsoon Session. For laying, the same were to be sent at least 3-4 days prior to the dates notified, therefore, these documents were not laid in Monsoon session and the same were laid in next

Parliament Session (Winter Session) on 29.11.2021.

Ministry vide letter dated 22.03.2021 also issued instructions to all CFTIs to follow the established timelines and procedures for sending Annual Reports and Annual Audited Accounts to this Ministry for timely laying the same before both the Houses of the Parliament. Now, the translation work is being done in the Institute.

Annual Report for 2020-21 was received on 28.01.2022 from NIT, Patna and after completing in all respect, the same has been sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat, Distribution Branch, Parliament House Annexe for laying on the Table of the House.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No.F.No.12-7/2020-TS.III Dated 23.03.2022)

(Recommendation Serial No.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.

Reply of the Government

For Annual Report and Audited Accounts 2020-21, it is informed that the same was received on 28.01.2022 from NIT, Patna and after completing in all respect, the same has been sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat, Distribution Branch, Parliament House Annexe for laying on the Table of the House. A statement showing the reasons for delay is enclosed herewith.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No.F.No.12-7/2020-TS.III Dated 23.03.2022)

APPENDIX -II

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

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee

The Committee sat on Monday, 1st August, 2022 from 15:00 hrs. to15:30 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

Witnesses

Xx xx xx xx

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 to iv xx xx xx xx

v. Action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table in the Fifty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology(NIT), Patna under the Administrative Ministry of Education;

vi to xiii	XX	XX	XX	XX

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 Actiontaken Reports, to finalize and present these Reports and Action-taken Reports to Lok Sabha.

5-10 xx xx xx xx

The Committee then adjourned.

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