

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE  
(2022-23)**

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**146**

**ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIXTH REPORT**

**[Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai.]**

**(Presented to Lok Sabha on 01.08.2023)**



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
August 2023/ Sravana 1945 (Saka)**

## CONTENTS

**PAGE**

<b>COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2022-23)</b>		<b>(iii)</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>		<b>(v)</b>
<b>REPORT</b>		
Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai.		1
<b>APPENDICES</b>		
I.	Reply showing action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha).	4
II.	The Extracts of the Minutes of the sixth sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23) held on 24.07.2023.	8

**COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**  
**LOK SABHA**  
**(2022-23)**

**Shri Girish Chandra - Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
3. Dr. A. Chellakumar
4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
5. Shri Choudhury Mohan Jatua
6. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
7. Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe
8. Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal
9. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
10. Shri T.N. Prathapan
11. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam
12. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
13. Shri Devendrappa Y.
14. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav
15. Vacant\*

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Vinay Kumar Mohan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
3. Shri Rahul Singh - Deputy Secretary

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*\* Due to resignation of Shri Bharat Ram Margani, w.e.f 13.03.2023.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23), having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this One hundred and Forty-sixth Report on the Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai.

2. The One Hundred and Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 14.03.2023. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) furnished their replies on 16.05.2023 indicating the action taken on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Third Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha). The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 24.07.2023.

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  
24<sup>th</sup> July, 2023  
Sravana 02, 1945 (Saka)**

**Girish Chandra  
Chairperson  
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table  
Lok Sabha**

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2022-23), LOK SABHA**  
**REPORT**

**Report on the Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai.**

This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23) in their One Hundred and Third 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 Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai for the years 2011-12 to 2020-21, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare), which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 14.03.2023.

2. The Committee had made six Observations/Recommendations in its One Hundred and Third Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha). The action-taken replies to all the six Observations/Recommendations of the said Report were received from the Government on 16.05.2023. Accordingly, the reply showing the action-taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Third Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix-I**.

3. The Committee in their original Report while scrutinizing the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai that were laid before the Parliament by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) for the years 2011-12 to 2020-21 found that there were inordinate delays in laying of documents. Moreover, the requisite documents for 2019-2020 to 2021-22 had not been laid, at the time of presentation of the report. In the original report, the Committee had recommended that the Ministry would lay the pending requisite documents of MAIDC for the year 2019-20 to 2021-22 without any further delay and also to ensure that in future the requisite documents of not only MAIDC Mumbai, but all the organizations under its administrative control are laid within the stipulated time i.e., by the 31<sup>st</sup> December of the respective financial year.

4. The Ministry in their Action-taken Report have submitted that the Annual Report and Annual Accounts for the year 2019-2020 of MAIDC were laid before both Houses of Parliament on 07.02.2023 and the Annual Report and Annual Accounts for the year 2020-21 of MAIDC was submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on 21.03.2023 for Audit. As per Audit Programme letter No. PAG-I/AMG-IIIIL/Intimation/Q-1-2023-24/OW-348 dated 30.03.2023 from the CAG office, they were to start Audit of Accounts for the year 2020-21 from 05.04.2023 to 24.04.2023 and expected to complete it on 24.04.2023. It was further submitted that after receiving CAG Audit Report, the Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of the company would be conducted as soon as possible. MAIDC has assured that the Annual Accounts and Audit Report for the year 2020-21 are likely to be laid in both Houses of Parliament on or before 30.06.2023. The Committee, however, note that the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts have yet not been laid.

5. The Committee also note that the Ministry submitted the reply on 16.05.2023 i.e., after conclusion of the Budget session (2023) but did not bother to check the factual position with the MAIDC, about laying of the documents in the Parliament. Moreover, the documents for the year 2021-22 have also become due. The Committee take serious note of this inordinate delay and therefore, strongly advise the Ministry to follow the time schedule as prescribed in their earlier recommendations, which state that the Annual Accounts are required to be made available to the audit office by 30<sup>th</sup> June of the respective year. In the instant case, the Ministry had forwarded the annual accounts for the year 2020-21 to the audit authorities only on 21.05.2022 i.e., after a delay of nearly 12 months. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry/Department to take adequate steps to ensure that all the requisite documents of MAIDC up to the year 2022-23 are laid before both Houses of Parliament by the end of the year 2023.

6. In the original report, the Committee had recommended the Ministry to assign a deadline for completion of each task involved in the finalisation of the requisite documents and also to make existing dashboard an automated one wherein automated reminders are issued to all the defaulting units. The Ministry in their reply has stated that they have adhered to this recommendation of the Committee by setting deadlines for the completion of each task. It has also made changes in their existing dashboard accordingly.

7. The Committee had also noticed that there was a delay on part of Office of C&AG in completion of the audit of accounts of MAIDC and hence, recommended in their original report for taking up the matter with the audit authorities. In this regard, the Ministry has submitted that based on the recommendation of the Committee, it has written to C&AG requesting for timely completion of audit.

8. **The Committee had also recommended that the Ministry should guide and supervise all organizations under their control to resolve any such procedural issue(s) to avoid delays. However, reply of the Ministry is silent on this point. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Ministry should strictly ensure checks and accountability, both in the Ministry and the organizations in order to ensure that the deadlines, once assigned, are duly met and the erring officials are reprimanded, in case of delay.**

**The Committee also again recommend that in case of delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audit Accounts of the corporation 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 after completion of the prescribed period.**

**New Delhi  
24<sup>th</sup> July, 2023  
Sravana 02, 1945 (Saka)**

**Girish Chandra  
Chairperson  
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table  
Lok Sabha**

**Reply showing action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha).**

**Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai**

**(Recommendation Serial No.18)**

“The scrutiny of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai that were laid before the Parliament by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare), for the years 2011-12 to 2020-21, has revealed that these documents for the year(s) 2011-12 to 2018-19 were laid with continuous and inordinate delays. Moreover, the requisite documents for 2019-20\* and 2020-21 have not been laid, as yet. The Committee feel that both the Ministry and the MAIDC have shown complete disregard to the General Financial Rules (GFR) and the earlier recommendations of this Committee regarding the time for laying the requisite documents before the Parliament. The Committee recommend the Ministry to lay the pending requisite documents of MAIDC for 2019-20\* and 2020-21, without any further delay and also to ensure that, in future, the requisite documents of not only MAIDC, Mumbai, but all the organizations under its administrative control are laid within stipulated time i.e., by the 31st December of respective financial year.

**Reply of the Government**

The Annual Reports & Annual Accounts for the year 2019-20 of MAIDC were laid down before the both the Houses of Parliament on 07.02.2023. The Annual Report & Annual Accounts for the year 2020-21 of MAIDC was submitted to Comptroller and Auditor General of India on 21.03.2023 for Audit. As per Audit Programme letter No. PAG-I/AMG-III/Intimation/Q-1-2023-24/OW-348 dated 30.03.2023 from CAG office, they are starting Audit of Accounts for the year 2020-21 from 05.04.2023 to 24.04.2023 and expected to complete it on 24.04.2023. After receiving CAG Audit Report, the Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of the company will be conducted as soon as possible. MAIDC has assured that the Annual Accounts & Audit Reports for the year 2020-21 are likely to be laid down in both houses of Parliament on or before 30.06.2023.

*(Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare O.M. No.19-6/2023-M&T(Admn) Dated 16.05.2023)*



**(Recommendation Serial No.19)**

“The Committee note that the Ministry had prepared a consolidated time schedule of nine months for completion of numerous tasks involved in finalization of requisite documents for being laid before the House. The Committee recommend the Ministry to also assign a deadline for completion of each of these tasks involved.

The Committee were apprised by the Ministry that they would write to the Chief Secretaries of the States and impress upon them to be strict in this regard and also to take action against the Managing Directors concerned if they fail to furnish the required documents of the bodies under their administrative control before the deadline. The Committee recommend the Ministry to strictly ensure checks and accountability both in the Ministry and the organizations in order to ensure that the deadlines, once assigned, are duly met and the erring officials are reprimanded in case of delay.”

**Reply of the Government**

As per recommendation of the Committee, the deadline dates have been assigned and circulated all steps to all Officers & employees of Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC), Mumbai. However, this Department has developed a dashboard where all the units have provided the information at different stages. Further, as per the recommendation of Committee, the dashboard has been updated for issuing an automated reminders to State Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. (SAIC) if the deadlines set for finalization of the requisite documents of various SAICs concerned are not complied with on time.

*(Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare O.M. No.19-6/2023-M&T(Admn) Dated 16.05.2023)*

**(Recommendation Serial No.20)**

“The Committee observe that the Office of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) had also taken excessive time in completion of auditing the annual accounts of the MAIDC which further increased the extent of delay. The Committee recommend the Ministry and the MAIDC to take up the matter of delay in audit process with the office of C&AG in order to avoid similar delays in future.”

**Reply of the Government**

On the recommendation of the Committee, reminder letters are issued to Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC) from time to time. A D.O. letter from DA&FW was also sent to the CAG for reduction in time taken for conducting the statutory audit. MAIDC has also informed that they will request to CAG for timely completion of Audit.

*(Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare O.M. No.19-6/2023-M&T(Admn) Dated 16.05.2023)*

**(Recommendation Serial No.21)**

“The Committee also noticed few other reasons which had caused the delay. These include issues regarding the reconstitution of Board and holding of Board meeting and Annual General Meeting within the stipulated time. The Committee feel that both the Ministry and the MAIDC had been insensitive towards these procedural issues. The Committee recommend the Ministry to supervise and guide all the organizations under their administrative control, in their smooth functioning and help them to resolve any such procedural issue(s), in order to avoid similar delays in future.”

**Reply of the Government**

As per the Committee recommendation, the issue regarding the holding of Board of Directors Meeting & Annual General meeting within the stipulated time will be taken up by Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC) in coming Board Meeting.

*(Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare O.M. No.19-6/2023-M&T(Admn) Dated 16.05.2023)*

**(Recommendation Serial No.22)**

“The Committee were also apprised that the Ministry regularly sends letters and reminders to all its units and also convenes Review meetings. However, the Committee observe that even after these efforts, reportedly being made by the Ministry, there had been no improvement and, the documents of MAIDC are still being laid with continuous delays. The Ministry had informed the Committee that they had developed a dashboard wherein information is being provided by the organizations at different stages. The Committee recommend the Ministry to make this dashboard an ‘automated’ one, whereby the Ministry could send automatic reminders to the organizations, if the deadlines set for different stages involved in the finalization of the requisite documents of various organizations concerned under their administrative control are not met. The Committee would like to be informed about the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry in this regard”.

**Reply of the Government**

Ministry regularly sends letters and reminders for submission of Annual Accounts within time. Despite many reminders, Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation (MAIDC) has laid Annual Accounts with delay before the House. However, this Department has developed a Dashboard where all the units have provided the information at different stages. Further, as per the recommendation of Committee, the dashboard has been updated for issuing an automated reminders to State Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. (SAIC) if the deadlines set for finalization of the requisite documents of various SAICs concerned are not complied with on time.

*(Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare O.M. No.19-6/2023-M&T(Admn) Dated 16.05.2023)*

**(Recommendation Serial No.23)**

“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 Corporation 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**

Statutory Audit takes more than nine months time span for completing Audit for the year 2020-21 and thus delays in Finalization of Annual Reports are caused. As per the recommendations, this Department has already assigned deadlines for completion of each task that involves strict compliance and the same can be monitored through the Dashboard created for this purpose.

*(Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare O.M. No.19-6/2023-M&T(Admn) Dated 16.05.2023)*

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**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2022-23)**

**The Extracts of the Minutes of the *sixth* sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-2023) held on 24.07.2023.**

The Committee sat on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 from 15:00 hours to 16:00 hours in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

***Present***

Shri Girish Chandra

- ***Chairperson***

***Members***

***(Lok Sabha)***

1. Dr. A. Chellakumar
2. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
3. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
4. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam
5. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
6. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

***Secretariat***

1. Shri Vinay Kumar Mohan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
3. Shri Rahul Singh - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting and apprised them of the agenda regarding consideration and adoption of XXX, 3 original and 4 Action-taken draft Reports and oral evidence of the representatives of the X X X X

3. X X X X ;

4. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following three draft Reports and four Action taken Reports for consideration and adoption:-

- i. X X X X;
- ii. X X X X;
- iii. X X X X;
- iv. X X X X;
- v. Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation, Mumbai;
- vi. X X X X; and
- vii. X X X X.

5. The Chairperson briefed the members about the recommendation made in the Reports of the Committee.

6. The three draft Reports and four Action taken Reports were considered and adopted unanimously by the Committee. The Chairperson was authorized by the Committee to finalize and present these Reports to the Lok Sabha.

7-9. X X X X ; .

The Meeting then adjourned.

*(A Copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting is kept.)*