

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

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

147

147th REPORT

[Action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their One hundred Eighteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Bal Bhavan (NBB), New Delhi.]

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 01.08.2023)



सत्यमेव जयते

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

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COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

LOK SABHA

(2022-23)

Shri Girish Chandra

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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

(iii)

** 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, having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this 147th Report on the action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their 118th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Bal Bhavan (NBB), New Delhi.

2. The 118th Report (17th Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 03.04.2023. The Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) furnished their replies on 19.05.2023 indicating the action taken on the observations/recommendations contained in the 118th Report.

3. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 24.07.2023.

4. 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.

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

**New Delhi
24 July, 2023
Sravana 2, 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

Action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 118th (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Bal Bhavan (NBB), New Delhi.

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 (2022-2023) in their 118th Report (17th Lok Sabha) which dealt with the matter of the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Bal Bhavan (NBB), New Delhi for the years 2015-16, 2018-19 to 2020-21, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) and which was presented to Lok Sabha on 03.04.2023.

2. The Committee had made five Observations/Recommendations in their 118th Report (17th Lok Sabha). The action-taken replies to all the five Observations/Recommendations of the said Report were received from the Government on 19th May, 2023. Accordingly, the reply showing the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the 118th Report (17th Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.

3. **The Ministry in their Acton-taken replies has submitted that the requisite documents of the NBB for the year 2021-2022 were submitted to both the Houses of Parliament in time, but the papers were returned due to adjournment/Sine-die of Parliament Session (Winter Session – 2022). These documents were subsequently laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 13.02.2023 along with required delay statement. The Committee observe from the replies furnished by the Ministry that the NBB has submitted their requisite documents to the Ministry on 16.12.2022 after getting approval of the same from Board of Management.**

In this connection, the Committee are of the opinion that the documents of the NBB sent to the Ministry on 16.12.2022 could not be laid as Winter Session normally concludes by the third week of December. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the requisite documents of the NBB should be sent by the end of November every year so that these could be laid in the month of December.

4. The Committee in their original Report had recommended that a provision for laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NBB within nine month after the closure of the respective accounting year should be incorporated in the Rules/Regulation, Memorandum or Bye-laws of NBB. The Ministry in their replies has stated that the provision recommended by the Committee is being examined. The Committee note the assurance given by the Ministry and expect that the Ministry will take up the matter with top most priority so that the delay at this stage does not occur in future. The Committee would like to be informed about the action taken by the Ministry in this regard.

**New Delhi
24 July, 2023
Sravana 2, 1945 (Saka)**

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

APPENDIX
(vide paragraph 02 of the Report)

**STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/
OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE 118TH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (LOK SABHA), SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA.**

(Recommendation Serial No. 18)

The Committee note that the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) and the National Bal Bhavan (NBB), New Delhi have not adhered to the time frame stipulated in the recommendations of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table contained in Paras 1.16 and 3.5 of its First Report(5th Lok Sabha), Paras 4.16 and 4.18 of Second Report (5th Lok Sabha) and Paras 1.12 and 2.6 to 3.8 of Second Report (6th Lok Sabha) presented to the House on 08.03.1976, 12.05.1976 and 22.12.1977 respectively, regarding laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts on the Table of the House. The mandatory requirement of laying the papers within nine months from the closure of the accounting year has not been complied with. The requisite documents of the NBB for the year 2015-16 were laid on 10.04.2017 with delays of 03 months 10 days; for the year 2018-2019 on 08.02.2021 with delays of 13 months 08 days; for the year 2019-2020 on 20.12.2021 with delays of 11 months 20 days and for the year 2020-2021 were laid on 04.04.2022 with delays of 03 months 04 days.

Reply of the Government

The observations regarding non-fulfilment of the requirement of laying the papers within nine months from the closure of the accounting year by National Bal Bhavan (NBB) have been noted. From time to time, the Department has directed NBB to strictly adhere to this requirement.

The Annual Accounts and Annual Reports of NBB for FY 2021-22 were submitted to both Houses of Parliament in time, but the papers were returned due to adjournment sine-die of the Parliament Session (Winter Session 2022). The Annual Accounts and Annual Reports of NBB for the FY 2021-22 were resubmitted in both houses along with the required delay statement and were laid in Rajya Sabha on 08.02.2023 and in Lok Sabha on 13.02.2023. The Chronological order of preparation and laying of Annual Accounts & Annual reports is stated as under: -

1. The Annual Accounts of National Bal Bhavan for the financial year 2021-22 were approved in the combined 58th Finance Committee & 215th Board of Management Meeting of National Bal Bhavan in their Meeting held on 24.06.2022. After approval of FC & BoM same were forwarded to Office of the Director General of Audit on 25.06.2022 for Certification/Auditing.

2. The Audit of Annual Accounts of National Bal Bhavan for the Financial Year 2021-22 was conducted by Audit Party from 05.07.2022 to 12.07.2022. Draft Separate Audit Report was received from Office of DGA vide its letter dated 03.08.2022. Reply of the same was submitted to DGA by NBB on 10.08.2022.

2.1. The Separate Audit Report for Annual Accounts of NBB for the year 2021-22 along with Management Letter has been received on 07.09.2022 from Office of Director General of Audit

(Home, Education & Skill Development) vide its letter dated 06.09.2022 & 07.09.2022. The Reply/Action Taken of SAR has been approved by Competent Authority on 09.09.2022.

3. The Annual Report of National Bal Bhavan for the year 2021-22 has been approved by the Board of Management in its 216th Meeting held on 07.12.2022 and same was forwarded by National Bal Bhavan to Ministry of Education on 16.12.2022 for laying before both Houses of Parliament (Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha).

4. The Annual Report and Annual Accounts were laid by MoE on Rajya Sabha Table on 08.02.2023 and in Lok Sabha Table on 13.02.2023.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 1-12/2021-EE.12 dated 19th May, 2023)

**STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/
OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE 118TH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (LOK SABHA), SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA.**

(Recommendation Serial No. 19)

The Committee also note that there is no provision of time bound laying of documents of NBB on the Table of the House in the Registration of Societies Act XXI 1860 and also in their Memorandum, Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of NBB, however, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of National Bal Bhavan is being submitted to the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) for laying the same on the Table of Houses of Parliament as per directions of MoE (DoSE&L). The Committee, therefore, strongly recommends that a provision for laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts as in the case of the University, within nine months from the closure of respective accounting year, may also be incorporated in the Rules/Regulations, Memorandum and Bye-laws of NBB.

Reply of the Government

Memorandum and Associations/Bye-Laws of National Bal Bhavan do not have any provision for laying of Annual Accounts on the Table of Both the House of Parliament within 9 months.

The provision recommended by the Committee is being examined to be incorporated in the Memorandum, Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of NBB.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 1-12/2021-EE.12 dated 19th May, 2023)

**STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/
OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE 118TH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (LOK SABHA), SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA.**

(Recommendation Serial No. 20)

While examining the reasons for delays in laying the documents of the NBB, the Committee note that delay was due to non-existence of Board of Management and because of non-availability of regular Chairman/Vice-Chairman. The minimum quorum required of the Competent Authority for getting approval of these documents of NBB could not be fulfilled for financial year 2018-2019.

The Director, NBB is being a Head of Organisation, is also a Competent Authority of National Bal Bhavan, but since December 2015 onwards, NBB has no regular Director, which has in continuous delay from 2018-2019 onwards. However, the documents for the financial year 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 were delayed due to COVID-19 pandemic and resultant nationwide lockdown. The Committee note that the Ministry and the NBB had failed to finalize Annual Accounts within the stipulated time.

Reply of the Government

The Board of Management (BoM) of NBB has been reconstituted and Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Director, of NBB are in position. BoM has a minimum quorum for approval of Annual Accounts & Annual Reports. Regular meetings of BoM are being held.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 1-12/2021-EE.12 dated 19th May, 2023)

**STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/
OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE 118TH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (LOK SABHA), SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA.**

(Recommendation Serial No. 21)

The Committee further note that the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) has not been able to put in place an effective monitoring mechanism to ensure laying of these requisite documents of the NBB on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament within the stipulated time, which is a matter of serious concern. The Committee recommend that comprehensive and holistic efforts need to be made by the Ministry to ensure timely laying of these documents in future and that the Committee may be informed of the compliance of the measures taken by the Ministry to avoid delays in future.

Reply of the Government

For effective monitoring, a portal has been developed by this Department, wherein all Autonomous Bodies of DoSEL enter necessary information from time to time, and progress made in this regard is monitored on a continuous basis. Autonomous Bodies are also sensitized on a regular basis.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 1-12/2021-EE.12 dated 19th May, 2023)

**STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/
OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE 118TH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (LOK SABHA), SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA.**

(Recommendation Serial No. 22)

The Committee also impress upon the Ministry that if due to some unavoidable reasons, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NBB could not be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within the prescribed period should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days or as soon as the House convenes, whichever is later.

Reply of the Government

In case of delay in laying the documents within the stipulated time, a delay statement, duly authenticated by the Minister-in-charge, is invariably laid on the table of both Houses also.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 1-12/2021-EE.12 dated 19th May, 2023)

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

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

Present

Shri Girish Chandra

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Chairperson

Members

(Lok Sabha)

2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
3. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
4. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
5. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam
6. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
7. 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 one Memorandum, 3 original and 4 Action-taken draft Reports and oral evidence of the representatives of the (i) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (D/o Social Justice & Empowerment) and National Commission for Backward Classes, New Delhi and the (ii) Ministry of AYUSH and National Commission for Indian System of Medicine, New Delhi.

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. Action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their One hundred Eighteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi;

ii. X X X X ;

iii. X X X X ;

iv. X X X X ;

v. X X X X ;

vi. X X X X ;

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.)