

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

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

151

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIRST REPORT

[Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries)]

(Presented on 10.08.2023)



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 - Chairperson

MEMBERS

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3. Dr. A. Chellakumar
4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
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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

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

INTRODUCTION

I, 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 Fifty-first Report in respect of the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

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, presented to the House on 22nd December, 1977, the Annual Reports 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 31st December.

3. The scrutiny by the Committee revealed that the requisite documents of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai for the years 2012-13 to 2021-22 (except for the year 2013-14) were laid before the Parliament with delays. The Committee considered the matter of delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai and took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) at their sitting held on 05.04.2023.

4. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 01.08.2023.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) and the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai for furnishing the written replies and other material/information for being placed before the Committee.

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

**New Delhi
01st August 2023
Sravana 10, 1945 (Saka)**

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

Report
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-2023)

Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

The Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) is a statutory body under the administrative control of the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying. The Coastal Aquaculture Authority was established on 22nd December, 2005 under the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005 (Act No. 24 of 2005) enacted by the Parliament of India which received the assent of the President on 23rd June, 2005.

The Authority is empowered to make regulations for the construction and operation of aquaculture farms in coastal areas, inspection of farms and hatcheries, monitor the impacts on environment, registration of aquaculture farms and hatcheries, removal or demolition of coastal aquaculture farms which cause pollution, fixing standards for all coastal aquaculture inputs, viz. seed, feed, growth supplements, chemicals, and other inputs used in coastal aquaculture and for the overall monitoring of coastal aquaculture activities in the country.

2. The Committee sought the information from the Ministry to state the Act, Rule or Regulation under which the requisite documents of the CAA are being laid on the Table of the House. The Ministry in their written reply submitted that the papers of the Authority were laid in pursuance of Section 20 (4) of CAA Act, 2005.

3. The Committee asked the Ministry about the provision and timeline for laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the CAA on the Table of the House. The Ministry in their written reply have submitted the following:-

“Section 14(2) of the CAA Rules and GFR 237 provides timelines for submission of these documents by 31st December of the following year.”

4. The Committee further asked the Ministry to provide information about the pattern of funding by the Government to the CAA. The Ministry in their written reply have submitted that the CAA receives recurring Grants-in-aid from the Government of India. The detail of the grants received is as follows:-

Sl. No.	Year	Grant-In-Aid Received
		(Rs. in lakhs)
1.	2021-22	400
2.	2020-21	300
3.	2019-20	450
4.	2018-19	400
5.	2017-18	200
6.	2016-17	380
7.	2015-16	330
8.	2014-15	250
9.	2013-14	273
10.	2012-13	253

5. In terms of the recommendations of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table contained in its First and Second Reports of 5th Lok Sabha and also in the Second Report of 6th Lok Sabha presented to the House on 08 March 1976, 12 May 1976 and 22 December 1977 respectively, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Organisations/Corporations/PSUs are required to be laid on the Table of the House within nine months of the closure of the accounting year. To comply with the requirement proper timeline schedule should be laid down for compilation of the Annual Report and Annual Accounts and their auditing. The Committee felt that normally a period of three months would be sufficient for compilation of Annual Accounts and their submission for Audit; the next six months might be given for auditing of accounts, printing of the Reports and sending it to Government for laying. If for any reason, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Organisations/Corporations/PSUs 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 aforesaid period or as soon as the House assembles, whichever is later, explaining the reasons as to why the documents could not be laid.

6. The Committee decided to examine the matter pertaining to the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the CAA for the years 2012-13 to 2021-22 which were laid on the Table with repeated delays ranging from more than one month to 54 months. The Committee

observed that documents for the year 2013-14 have not been laid. Statement showing the actual dates of laying of the Annual Reports/Audited Accounts of the CAA for 2012-13 to 2021-22, alongwith the extent of delays in laying these documents as appended at Annexure -I.

7. The Committee asked the Ministry to give the reasons for delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the last ten years i.e., upto 2021-22. The Ministry in their written reply have submitted that:-

“Of the Annual Reports of the Authority during the 10 years, the Annual Reports for the years 2012-13, 2014-15 & 2015-16 were laid before the Houses of Parliament. Though the Annual Report for the year 2013-14 was made available to Ministry, the date of placing before the Houses of Parliament is not available. Hence, the copies of the Annual Report for 2013-14 were submitted again in 2022 for necessary action. All the Annual Reports of CAA since 2016-17 to 2021-22 were submitted in the year 2022.

The delay in submission of Annual Reports and audited accounts of CAA was mainly due to the delay in reply to the Final SAR for the Financial Year 2016-17 & 2017-18. The CAGI had identified the errors in accounting of funds to the tune of Rs.57,00,411/-over the years.

During 2020-21, CAA focused on reconciliation of the same by hiring a CAGI empaneled auditor and through rigorous scrutiny of the CAA accounts for the previous years, the amount was reconciled.

In the meantime, the CAGI vide its letter No. PDA(C)/CEN/28- 040/2020-21/21 dated 30.04.2021 had issued the final SAR for the year 2018-19.

Also, the CAGI vide its letter No. PDA(C)/CEN/28-37/2021-22/75 dated 20.09.2021 had issued Draft SAR for the year 2019-20.

The Accounts of the CAA for the year 2019-20 were revised to the extent of observation made by the CAG in the Separate Audit Report pertaining to the Financial Years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 and this office submitted the reply on 27.10.2021.

Thus, the delay in providing reply to the SAR of 2016-17 affected timely submission of the SAR since the revisions had to made in all subsequent years till 2019-20.

Apart from this, few other factors like the Chennai floods of 2015, lack of regular Member Secretary for intermittent periods, vacancy in Chairman CAA post and lack of professional empaneled internal auditors also impacted timely submission of Annual Report of CAA. Subsequently other factors like shifting of office and COVID 19 pandemic also contributed to the delay.

The office the CAA was shifted from the rented private premises to the present location in Integrated Office Complex for Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Departments. The process of shifting of the office of this Authority to the new premises was started in July 2019 and completed only by February 2020.

From March 2020 to nearly two years smooth functioning of the office and also the printing works were affected by the lockdowns enforced by the Government due to Covid-19 outbreak. This affected Hindi Translation works also.”

8. The Committee desired to know from the Ministry about the information in respect of the usual time-line to finalize the Annual Report, Audited Accounts etc. and the actual time taken by the Ministry and the CAA at each stage the years under examination. The information hence furnished by the Ministry as appended at **Annexure -II.**

9. The Committee enquired from the Ministry as to whether the Ministry/CAA had identified the stages in which delays have occurred during all these years and, if so, how did the Ministry propose to curtail the same. In reply the Ministry stated that:

“-----, the main delay was due to issues in the accounting process during 2015-16 and the previous years. CAA had internal auditors earlier, but from 2016-17 onwards till 2021 there were no internal auditors

To resolve this issue and also to prevent recurrence, the CAA has engaged a CAGI empanelled firm as internal auditors of CAA in November 2021. This will be continued following Government procedures in future also.

The CAGI had issued an audit observation for non-compliance of actuarial valuation each year in their SAR. Since there was a CAG Audit observation for non-compliance of Actuarial valuation for calculating retirement benefits of employees of CAA, we have engaged the Actuarial valuer for the first time in August 2021.

The accountant post at CAA is vacant since April 2019. Though the post was advertised in 2021, could not be filled. Action is taken to advertise the post again. Since there was no Accountant and other supporting staff available in the Administration section, the office engaged a CA firm for preparation and finalization of Accounts of this Authority every year.

The post of Chairperson CAA was filled up in December 2021 and there is regular Member Secretary since April 2020.

All the above-mentioned points have been implemented which ensures that the problems related to delay in submission of Annual Reports have addressed and there will be NO more delays.”

10. The Committee further desired to know as to whether the Ministry/CAA had prepared any Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to pursue with the auditing of accounts and finally timely receipt of the final audit reports from the audit authorities and the relevant documents from the CAA. In reply, the Ministry stated that:-

“The Ministry vide its letter No.j-1903336/6/2022-Trade (21516) dated 21.12.2022 has informed the following the time schedule for submission of Annual Report:

<i>(i).</i>	<i>Finalisation of Accounts</i>	<i>30th April</i>
<i>(ii).</i>	<i>Compilation of Audit by statutory audit.</i>	<i>30th May</i>
<i>(iii).</i>	<i>Audit by CAG and issue of SAR</i>	<i>31st July</i>
<i>(iv).</i>	<i>Preparation of draft Annual Report</i>	<i>31st August</i>
<i>(v).</i>	<i>Approval of Board / Annual General Meeting</i>	<i>15th September</i>
<i>(vi).</i>	<i>Submission to Department of Annual Report in full shape</i>	<i>15th October</i>

The CAA with the services of Auditing professionals will be compiling the accounts before 31st April. The subsequent time lines as mentioned above will be strictly adhered to.”

11. The Committee questioned the Ministry/CCA as to whether they had faced any procedural difficulties associated with convening the meeting of the competent authority for getting approval of the documents etc. In reply, the Ministry submitted that:-

“Yes. During the period, 2016-17 to 2019-20 there was no regular Member Secretary and the post of Chairman was vacant.

However, regular Member Secretary was appointed in April 2020 and Chairman in December 2021. The Authority meetings are convened on time. The CAA has cleared all backlogs and the Annual Report of 2021-22 has also been submitted to DoF on 30th December 2022.”

12. The Committee further questioned the Ministry about the status of digitization and computerization of the process of accounting to facilitate speedy and timely compilation of accounts, The Ministry in their written reply submitted that:-

“The CAA maintains its accounts on Tally Software. The Accountant post is vacant from April 2019 to till date. The CAA engages CA firms for preparation and maintaining the Accounts of this Authority. CAA provides the soft copies of the Annual Accounts and Tally details to the CAG during their Audit.”

13. The Committee also desired to know from the Ministry as to whether the CAA had any internal auditing mechanism to ensure timely compilation of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts and also to minimize the audit queries at the time of auditing of C&AG. The Ministry in their written reply submitted that:-

“The Authority engaged the CAG empanelled CA Firms as Internal Auditor. The Internal Auditors conduct the Audit on completion of the preparation of statement of accounts of the Authority. The Internal Auditor on completion of Audit of the Accounts of the Authority issues the Audit Report. The said Audit Report is furnished to the CAGI for its perusal during their Audit. Internal Auditors take two to three weeks’ time to complete their audit and submit its report.

Statutory audit is conducted by the CAGI and it takes one week time to complete their audit and issue their draft SAR in one month from the date of closure of audit. Taking action on the observations of CAGI and the reply to the said office is furnished in one month. The final SAR is issued by the CAGI on accepting the reply of this Authority. CAGI takes 15 days to one month time to issue the final SAR from the date of submission of reply by this Authority.”

14. On being asked about any mechanism in the Ministry to monitor the progress of work to ensure timely laying of documents, the Ministry submitted that:-

“The issue of laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of CAA is monitored rigorously by the Department at the highest level by giving (i) Regular reminders

from the level of Under Secretary. (ii) Telephonic follow-up is being done at the level of Deputy Secretary/Director and Joint Secretary. (iii) This issue being taken in the Senior Officers' Meetings. Apart from the foregoing, the Department has directed CAA for taking initiative to accelerate the process of auditing to reduce avoidable delays. The CAA is engaging CA Firm for preparation financial statements and finalizing the Annual Accounts. The CAA has also engaged CAGI empaneled CA Firms as Internal Auditor. Henceforth, there will not be any delay in submission of Audited Accounts of CAA for placing before the Houses of Parliament.”

15. With regard to the remedial measures taken by the Ministry/CAA to ensure timely laying of the documents, the Ministry submitted that:-

“CAA has cleared all backlogs. The CAA is engaging CA Firm for preparation financial statements and finalizing the Annual Accounts. The CAA has also engaged CAGI empanelled CA Firms as Internal Auditor. Henceforth, there will not be any delay in submission of Annual Report to the Ministry for placing before the Houses of Parliament.”

16. The Committee decided to further examine and discuss the matter of delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the CAA for the years 2012-13 to 2021-2022, in depth, and hence, requested the representatives of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) and the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai to appear and tender oral evidence before the Committee, on 05th April, 2023.

17. The Secretary of the Ministry during the evidence explained before the Committee as under –

“That there was a lot of displacement in the staff, in the officers and in the files. There was lot of administrative slip ups. Now, we have sorted it out. We have kept systems in place. We have made one officer responsible in the Department. We have also given the guidelines as to when the annual report will be written, when the audit will start, when the internal auditor will be appointed, when the C&AG has to be told, when the C&AG report has to be brought, and when the authority meeting will be done. We assure that there will be no further delay.”

Observations/ Recommendations

18. On scrutinizing the Annual reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai for the years 2012-13 to 2021-22 which were required to be laid before the Lok Sabha by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) the Committee observe that these documents, except for the year 2013-14, have been laid with continuous and inordinate delays. The Committee take note of the assurance given by the Secretary, Department of Fisheries that, henceforth, there will not be any delay in laying the requisite documents of the CAA. The Committee recommend the Ministry/Department to ensure that the provisions of the CAA Rules and the General Financial Rules, 2017 regarding laying of requisite documents of CAA are duly adhered to.

19. The Committee also note that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of CAA for the year 2013-14 have not been laid, till date. The Committee was apprised that the CAA had sent the requisite documents for the year 2013-14 twice to the Ministry/Department for laying them before the Parliament. However as per records available, these have not been laid. The Committee recommend the Ministry to lay the pending requisite document of 2013-14 in the ensuing Session of Parliament alongwith the reasons as to why the Ministry/Department failed to lay these requisite documents before the Parliament after receiving them from the CAA twice.

20. The Committee are also surprised with the lack of inaction shown by the Ministry/Department in supervising and assisting the CAA in managing its affairs. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Ministry/Department to resolve various issues reportedly faced by the CAA at various time, such as, absence of internal auditors; accountant; Chairperson and regular Member Secretary etc.

The Ministry/Department also apprised the Committee of various measures undertaken to monitor the issue of the requisite documents of CAA i.e., regular reminders; telephonic follow-up; senior officers' meetings etc. However, the Committee feel that despite these steps, the Ministry/Department has failed to curtail the delays, as all these measures enumerated by the Ministry/Department have failed to yield desired results.

The Committee therefore, recommend the Ministry/Department to closely supervise the affairs and also guide and assist all the bodies, authorities etc. under its administrative control in resolving any such issues that may emerge in future and also take strict action against the erring officials.

21. The Committee also noticed that there were no internal auditors between 2016 to 2021 and also there was no Accountant at CAA since 2019. The office of C&AG had also noticed errors in the accounts of CAA over the years, which led delay in furnishing of final audit report by the C&AG. The Committee are of the view that timely preparation of accounts is essential to enable the auditors to give final audit report in time. The Committee would like to be apprised of the reasons as to why the process of compilation of annual accounts was not taken seriously by the CAA.

22. The Committee also noticed a delay of 05 to 13 months, between the years 2015-16 to 2020-21, in initiating the process of translation and printing, after getting these documents approved by the competent authority. The Committee recommend that appropriate steps be taken so that delay on this account does not occur.

23. The Committee further note that recently, the Ministry had prepared a time schedule indicating timeline for each of the process involved in finalization of Accounts till submission of the Annual Report and Audit accounts to Ministry/Department. The Committee recommend the Ministry to ensure that the time schedule is duly adhered to so that the delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts do not happen in future.

New Delhi
01st August 2023
Sravana 10, 1945 (Saka)

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

Statement showing the dates of laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai for 2012-13 to 2021-22.

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
2012-2013	31.12.2013	18.02.2014	01 month and 18 days
2013-2014	31.12.2014	Not laid*	-
2014-2015	31.12.2015	01.03.2016	02 months and 01 day
2015-2016	31.12.2016	27.03.2018	14 months and 27 days
2016-2017	31.12.2017	26.07.2022	54 months and 26 days
2017-2018	31.12.2018	26.07.2022	42 months and 26 days
2018-2019	31.12.2019	26.07.2022	30 months and 26 days
2019-2020	31.12.2020	14.03.2023	26 months and 14 days
2020-2021	31.12.2021	14.03.2023	14 months and 14 days
2021-2022	31.12.2022	14.03.2023	02 months and 14 days

**Not laid as per the records of this Secretariat.*

Annexure -II
vide para 08 of the Report

The chronological sequence in respect of finalization of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai for 2012-13 to 2021-22.

	Points	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
(i)	Date of approach to the audit authorities	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Time taken after the closure of accounting year	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
(ii)	Date of appointment of statutory auditors	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Time taken after the approaching the audit authorities for appointment of auditors	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
(iii)	Date of compilation of annual accounts	10.06.2013	03.06.2014	22.06.2015	28.06.2016	30.06.2017	21.06.2018	29.08.2019	23.12.2020	20.10.2021	24.07.2022
	Time taken after the closure of the accounting year	2months & 1week	2 months	2 months & 3 weeks	2 months	2 months & 4 weeks	2 months & 3 weeks	4 months & 4 weeks	8 months & 3 weeks	6 months & 2 weeks	3 months & 3 weeks
(iv)	Date of submission of annual accounts to auditors	01.07.2013	28.07.2014	25.06.2015	28.06.2016	30.06.2017	22.06.2018	24.09.2019	29.07.2021	16.03.2022	25.07.2022
	Time taken after closure of respective accounting year	3months	3 months & 4 weeks	2 months & 3 weeks	2 months & 4 weeks	2 months & 4 weeks	2 months & 3 weeks	5 months & 3 weeks	1 year 3 months	11 months & 1 week	3 months & 3 weeks
(v)	The date and duration for auditing the annual accounts by statutory auditors	29.07.2013 to 02.08.2013 & 12.08.2013 to 13.08.2013	28.07.2014 to 14.08.2014	06.07.2015 to 17.07.2015	July 2016	17.07.2017 to 04.08.2017	July 2018	October 2019	25.08.2021 to 31.8.2021	28.03.2022 to 01.4.2022	02.08.2022 to 08.08.2022
(vi)	The date of queries raised by auditors during auditing / after completion of the annual accounts	29.07.2013 to 02.08.2013 & 12.08.2013 to 13.08.2013	28.07.2014 to 14.08.2014	06.07.2015 to 17.07.2015	July 2016	17.07.2017 to 04.08.2017	July 2018	October 2019	25.08.2021 to 31.08.2021	28.03.2022 to 01.04.2022	02.08.2022 to 08.08.2022
	Time taken by auditors	1Month & 2Weeks	3 months &	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	1 month	3 weeks	1 week	1 week

	in raising the queries during auditing/ after completion of the annual accounts to audit authorities		3 weeks								
(vii)	The date on which the replies to the audit queries were furnished to the Auditors	20.09.2013	18.09.2014	17.07.2015	July 2016	17.07.2017 to 04.08.2017	July 2018	October 2019	25.08.2021 to 31.08.2021	28.03.2022 to 01.04.2022	02.08.2022 to 08.08.2022
	The time taken to resolve the queries	1 month & 3 weeks	1 month	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	1 week	1 week	1 week	1 week	1 week
(viii)	The date on which draft Audit Report was issued by Audit Authorities	19.09.2013	04.09.2014	26.08.2015	18.8.2016	08.12.2017	21.08.2018	09.12.2020	20.09.2021	06.05.2022	15.09.2022
	Time taken after auditing of the annual Accounts	1 month	3 weeks	1 month & 2 weeks	3 weeks	4 months	1 month & 1 week	1 year & 1 month	3 weeks	1 month & 1 week	1 month & 1 week
(ix)	The date on which the final audit report received by the Institute	31.10.2013	21.11.2014	28.10.2015	03.11.2016	19.02.2018	04.02.2019	10.06.2021	04.01.2022	11.07.2022	02.11.2022
	Time taken after issue of draft Report	1 month & 1 week	2 months & 2 weeks	2 months	2 months & 2 weeks	2 months & 1 week	5 months & 2 weeks	6 months	8 months & 2 weeks	2 months & 1 week	1 month & 2 weeks
(x)	Total time taken by the audit authorities after receiving of the annual accounts to furnishing the final audit report to the Institute	4 months	3 months & 3 weeks	4 months	4 months & 1 week	7 months & 2 weeks	7 months & 1 weeks	1 year & 8 months	5 months	3 months & 3 weeks	3 months & 1 week
(xi)	Date of finalization of the annual report	23.10.2013	01.10.2014	21.08.2015	29.9.2016	28.06.2019	28.06.2019	11.12.2020	10.12.2021	25.05.2022	14.11.2022
	Time taken after the closure of the financial year; and also	6 months & 3 weeks	6 months	4 months & 3 weeks	5 months & 4 weeks	2 years & 2 months	1 year & 2 months	1 year & 9 months	1 Year & 8 months	1 year & 2 months	7 months & 2 weeks
	Time taken after the receipt of the final	-	1 month & 2 weeks	2 months	1 month & 1 week	1 year & 4 months	4 months & 3 weeks	-	-	1 month & 2 week	2 weeks

	audit report										
(xii)	The date on which documents were got approved from the Competent Authority	12.11.2013	17.10.2014	24.06.2015 26.08.2015	29.9.2016	04.07.2019	04.07.2019	09.02.2021	17.12.2021	03.06.2022	02.12.2022
	Time taken after finalization of Annual Report	3 weeks	2 weeks	1 week	-	1 week	1 weeks	2 months	1 week	1 week	2 weeks
	Time taken after receipt of Final Audit Report	2 weeks	-	2 months	-	1 year & 4 months	5 months				
(xiii)	The date on which documents were taken up for translation & printing	20.11.2013	04.09.2014	26.08.2015	Feb 2017	July 2020	July 2020	24.03.2022	16.12.2022	26.12.2022	28.12.2022
	The time taken for completing the task at each stage.	5 Weeks for translation and 2 weeks for printing	1 month 2 weeks for translation and 2 weeks for printing	1 months for translation and 1 month for print	3 months for translation And 2 months	2 months for translation and 2 months for printing	2 months for translation and 2 months for printing	3 weeks for translation and 1 month for printing	2 weeks for translation and 1 month for printing	2 weeks for translation and 1 month for printing	2 weeks for translation and 1 month for printing
(xiv)	The date for sending the documents to the Ministry for being laid in House after the completion the task at each stage.	24.12.2013	23.02.2015	13.01.2016	03.11.2017 & 19.12.2017	13.11.2020 & 05.05.2022	16.11.2020 & 05.05.2022	05.05.2022	17.12.2022	27.12.2022	30.12.2022
	Time taken by the Coastal Aquaculture Authority, Chennai is in sending the documents of the Ministry	1 month & 1 week	4 months	4 months & 3 weeks	1 month	4 months	4 months	1 month & 2 weeks	2 days	2 days	2 days
(xv)	The date of laying the documents to the House.	18.02.2014	-	Lok Sabha - 01.03.2016 & Rajya Sabha - 04.03.2016	Lok Sabha - 23.03.2018 & Rajya Sabha - 27.03.2018	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Time taken after receipt of the documents from the Coastal Aquaculture Authority, Chennai	1 months & 3 weeks	-	1 month & 2 weeks	4 months & 2 weeks	-	-	-	-	-	-

Committee On Papers Laid On The Table (2022-2023)

The Extracts of the Minutes of the fifth sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23) held on 05.04.2023.

The Committee sat on Wednesday, 05th April, 2023 from 15:00 hours to 16:10 hours in Committee Room 'C', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

Shri Girish Chandra - ***Chairperson***

Members

(Lok Sabha)

2. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
3. Dr. A. Chellakumar
4. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
5. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
6. Shri T.N. Prathapan
7. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam
8. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
9. Shri Devendrappa Y.

Secretariat

1. Shri Vinay Kumar Mohan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
3. Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj - Additional Director

2-3. X X X X X

4. The Committee then called in the representatives of the Ministries for oral evidence in respect of the laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority, Chennai [Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries)] and National Automotive Testing and R&D Infrastructure Project, New Delhi (Ministry of Heavy Industries).

5. The following Officers appeared before the Committee:-

I- Representatives of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) and Coastal Aquaculture Authority, Chennai.

1. Shri Jatindra Nath Swain - Secretary
2. Shri Sagar Mehra - Joint Secretary
3. Smt. V. Kripa - Member Secretary, CAA

II- X X X X X

6-7. X X X X X

8. Thereafter, the Chairperson took up the matter of delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai for the years 2014-15 to 2020-21 that were laid before the Lok Sabha with delays of 02 to 54 months. The Committee also pointed out that these documents for 2021-22 had not been laid as yet. The Committee desired to know the reasons for the same and also the steps taken to ensure that in future the requisite documents are laid on time.

The representative of the Ministry apprised the Committee that the CAA was functioning without Chairman and Member Secretary. In 2019, the office of CAA was shifted, as a result, there was a lot of displacement of Officers, staff and files at the CAA. It was further submitted that C&AG had issued an audit observation for non-compliance of actuarial valuation each year in their Statutory Audit Report. The Ministry stated that they have deployed an Officer in the Department responsible to keep the system in place and that they had also issued guidelines for stages involved in finalization of requisite documents. They also assured the Committee that it would be ensured that in future, requisite documents are laid on time.

The witnesses then withdrew.

The Committee then adjourned.

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

Committee On Papers Laid On The Table (2022-23)

Extracts of the Minutes of the seventh sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23) held on 01.08.2023.

The Committee sat on Tuesday, 01st August, 2023 from 15:00 hours to 16:30 hours in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

Shri Girish Chandra - ***Chairperson***

Members

(Lok Sabha)

1. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
3. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
5. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
6. Shri Devendrappa Y.

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 three original draft Reports and oral evidence of the representatives of the (i) xxxx, and (ii) xxxx.

3. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following three draft Reports for consideration and adoption:-

- (i) X X X X X ;
- (ii) X X X X X; and
- (iii) Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority, Chennai under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

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

5-8. X X X X X

The meeting then adjourned.

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