

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

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**138**

**138<sup>th</sup>REPORT**

**[Action-taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee in their Sixty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultant India Limited(EdCIL), NOIDA.]**

**(Presented to Lok Sabha on 25.07.2023)**



**सत्यमेव जयते**

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
July, 2023/Shraavana,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><u>REPORT</u></b>	Action-taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee in their Sixty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultant India Limited(EdCIL), NOIDA.	1
<b><u>APPENDICES</u></b>		
<b><u>Appendix-I</u></b>	Reply showing Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education)on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Sixty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha).	3
<b><u>Appendix-II</u></b>	The Extracts of the Minutes of the sitting of the Committe held on 05.04.2023.	6

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

**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 RamsingKolhe
8. Shri Bharat Ram Margani
9. Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal
10. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
11. Shri T.N. Prathapan
12. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam
13. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
14. Shri Devendrappa Y
15. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

**SECRETARIAT**

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

## **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 138<sup>th</sup> Report on the action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee in their Sixty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultant India Limited (EdCIL), NOIDA.

2. The Sixty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 17.12.2021. The Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) furnished their replies on 25.03.2022 indicating the action taken on the observations/recommendations contained in the Sixty-fourth Report. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 05.04.2023.

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

**New Delhi**  
**05 April, 2023**  
**Chaitra 15, 1945 (Saka)**

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

## Draft Report

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

**Action-taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Sixty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultant India Limited( EdCIL), NOIDA.**

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 (2022-2023) in its Sixty-fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) which dealt with the matter of delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultant India Limited( EdCIL), NOIDA, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Education(Department of Higher Education)and which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 17.12.2021.

2. The Committee had made four Observations/Recommendations in its Sixty-fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha). The action-taken replies to all the four Observations/Recommendations of the said Report were received from the Government on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2022. Statement showing the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Sixty-fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.

3. **The Committee in their Sixty-fourth Report examined the reasons for delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultant India Limited(EdCIL), Noida for the years 2015-16 to 2019-20 and recommended that the documents of the EdCIL should be laid within the stipulated time in future.**

4. **The Committee note from the action taken replies that the Ministry had directed all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the Department to abide by the provisions and time schedule prescribed for undertaking various activities for laying of Annual Reports and Annual Audited Accounts. A portal has also been launched to monitor the time taken to complete various activities with regard to completion of Annual Reports and Annual Audit. Consequent upon effective steps taken by the Government towards their implementation, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the EdCIL for succeeding year i.e. 2020-2021<sup>1</sup> have been laid on 11.02.2022 with delay over a month. The Committee,**

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<sup>1</sup>In addition, the requisite documents for the 2021-2022 have been laid on 12.12.2022 within the stipulated time.

therefore, recommend that all these efforts taken by the Ministry to lay the documents on the Table of the House may be continued to ensure that in future the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the EdCIL are laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Ministry/EdCIL in this regard

New Delhi  
05 April, 2023  
Chaitra 15, 1945 (Saka)

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

**APPENDIX-1**  
**(vide paragraph 02 of the Report)**

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

(Recommendation Serial No. 15)

The committee are constrained to note that the Ministry of Education(Department of Higher Education) and the Educational Consultant India Limited( EdCIL), NOIDA, have not adhered to the time frame stipulated in the recommendations of the committee on Paper Laid on the Table contained in paras 1.16 and 3.5 of its First Report, paras 4.16 and 4.18 of second Report (5<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) and paras 1.12 and 2.6 to 3.8 of second report(6<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha ) presented to the House on 08.03.1976,12.05.1976 and 22.12.1977 respectively ,regarding laying the annual report and audited accounts on the Table of the House within nine month from the closure of the accounting year. The document of EdCIL, NOIDA, for the year 2018-19 which were required to be laid on the Table of the House within 09 month from the closure of the respective financial year, have been laid on the Table of the Houses on 08.02.2021 with delay of about 13 months. The Committee also note that the documents for the year 2019-20\* have not been laid as yet.

Reply of the Government

Annual Accounts are prepared by EdCIL and are handed over to statutory auditors for the purpose of Audit and then accounts are submitted to Board of Directors (BOD) for their approval. Once approved, the accounts are submitted to C&AG for their audit after which they are presented to the shareholders in the Annual General Meeting for approvals and adoption. The report is then submitted to the Ministry, which after approval of the Competent Authority, is presented on the table of both the Houses. Due importance is given to the matter of laying the documents before the Houses of Parliament in time. However, in the past certain delays could happen in any of the above intervening steps, which is deeply regretted. To avoid any such delay, Secretary (HE), Ministry of Education vide D.O. letter No. 33-4/2020-TS.III dated 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2021 had directed all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the Department to abide by the provisions and time schedule prescribed for undertaking various activities for laying of Annual Reports and Annual Audited Accounts. A portal has also been launched to monitor the time taken to complete various activities with regard to completion of Annual Reports and Annual Audit.

Authentication of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of EdCIL for FY 2019-20 were undertaken and accordingly laid before Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on on 29.11.2021 & 09.08.2021 respectively.

Despite Covid constraints, EdCIL has taken advance actions to shorten the time frame for the FY 2020-21. Approval of accounts for the FY 20-21 was obtained from the Board of Directors (BOD) on 18/08/2021 and the same were submitted to C&AG on 19/08/2021 for their Comments. C&AG Comments were received on 27/12/2021. Thereafter, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 31/12/2021 itself. i.e. within four days of the receipt of Comments.

Authentication of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of EdCIL for FY 20-21 were undertaken and accordingly laid before Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 11.02.2022 and 16.03.2022 respectively.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 18-19/2020-TC dated 25.03.2022)

(Recommendation Serial No. 16)

16. While examining the reasons for the undue delay in laying the document of the EdCIL, the Committee are highly disappointed to note the avoidable delay in CAG audit due to non-availability of dates of and also delay in holding of AGM due to non-availability of dates of concerned senior officials. However, the Committee feel that the impact of COVID-19 pandemic is understandable. The Committee also note that the Ministry and the EdCIL had failed to finalize the annual accounts within the stipulate time. The Committee opine that the non-availability of the senior officers can never be an excuse for not discharging the parliamentary obligations and duties.

Reply of the Government

Due importance is given to ensure meeting the various time schedules regarding Laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts. This year, approval of Board of Directors (BOD) on the accounts was obtained on 18/08/2021 and the same were submitted to C&AG on 19/08/2021 for their Comments. EdCIL and MoE had kept on pursuing office of C&AG for early issue of Comments for the FY 2020-21. C&AG Comments were received on 27/12/2021. Thereafter, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 31/12/2021 itself i.e. within four days of the receipt of Comments. All the shareholders (all being senior officials from the MoE) had attended the AGM.

Authentication of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of EdCIL for FY 20-21 were undertaken and accordingly laid before Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 11.02.2022 and 16.03.2022 respectively.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 18-19/2020-TC dated 25.03.2022)

(Recommendation Serial No. 17)

17. The Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) has not been able to put in place an effective monitoring mechanism to ensure the laying of the documents of EdCIL on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament within the stipulated time, which is a matter of serious concern. The Committee strictly recommend that comprehensive and holistic efforts must be made by the ministry to ensure a timely laying of the documents in future. The Committee should be apprised of the compliance of these direction and also measure taken by the Ministry to avoid such delay in future.

Reply of the Government

Department of Higher Education has been taking steps to meet the various timelines in the preparation of of Annual Reports and Annual Audited Account. Secretary (HE), Ministry of Education vide D.O. letter No. 33-4/2020-TS.III dated 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2021 had directed all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the Department to abide by the provisions and time schedule prescribed for undertaking various activities for laying of Annual Reports and Annual Audited Accounts. In this regard, a portal had been launched to monitor the time taken to complete various activities with regard to completion of Annual Reports and Annual Audit.

All the intervening points are being monitored. With the constant efforts EdCIL has been able to hold AGM for the FY 2020-21 on 31.12.2021 itself even when C&AG Comments were received on 27.12.2021 wherein all the shareholders (all being senior officials from MoE) were present. EdCIL Board had approved the Account for the FY 2020-21 on 18.08.2021 and the same were submitted to office of C&AG on 19.08.2021. EdCIL had kept on pursuing office of C&AG for early issue of Comments.

Authentication of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of EdCIL for FY 20-21 undertaken and accordingly laid before Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 11.02.2022 and 16.03.2022 respectively.

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 18-19/2020-TC dated 25.03.2022)



(Recommendation Serial No. 18)

The Committee also impress upon the Ministry that if due to unavoidable reason, the annual reports and audited accounts of the EdCIL could not be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time, a statement explaining the reason as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within the prescribed time period, should be laid on the Table of the Houses within 30 days or as soon as the House convenes, whichever is later.

Reply of the Government

Annual Accounts are prepared by EdCIL and are handed over to statutory auditors for the purpose of Audit and then accounts are submitted to Board of Directors (BOD) for their approval. Once approved, the accounts are submitted to CAG for their audit and after which they are presented to the shareholders in the Annual General Meeting for approvals and adoption. The report is then submitted to the Ministry which after due approval of the Competent Authority presents the same to both the Houses of Parliament alongwith the delay statement, if applicable.

EdCIL has taken appropriate corrective measures for the Annual Report 2020-21. All attempts have been made to shorten the delays which will further be reduced in the FY 2021-22 onwards. Statement of dates for the Annual Report of FY 20-21 is appended below:

S.No.	Particulars	Date
1	Initiation of Statutory Audit (Auditors appointed by CAG) for the accounts of EdCIL for FY 2020-21	19-Apr-21
2	Completion of Statutory Audit	18-Aug-21
3	Approval of Accounts by BOD of EdCIL	18-Aug-21
4	Submission of Audited Accounts to CAG for initiation of audit	19-Aug-21
5	Request to Office of CAG for early initiation of CAG audit by having a formal physical meeting of EdCIL officials (CMD and CGM-Finance) with DGA Office of CAG.	02-Sep-21
6	CAG Audit initiated	07-Sep-21
7	Initial CAG Audit Note issued by CAG	01-Oct-21
8	Submission of CAG Audit Note with draft management reply to Statutory Auditor	06-Oct-21
9	Approval from statutory auditor on Audit Notes replies	21-Oct-21
10	Submission of Management Reply to CAG	21-Oct-21
11	Receipt of provisional comments from CAG	22- Nov-21
12	Submission of replies by EdCIL of provisional comments to CAG.	26- Nov-21
13	Issue of final comments by CAG	27-Dec-21
14	Date of holding the AGM of EdCIL	31-Dec-21
15	Laying of Annual Report and Annual Audited Accounts in Lok Sabha	11-Feb-22
16	Laying of Annual Report and Annual Audited Accounts in Rajya Sabha	16-Mar-22

(Ministry of Education O.M. No. 18-19/2020-TC dated 25.03.2022)

**Appendix-II**

**The Extracts of the Minutes of the \_\_\_ sitting\* of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (202\_\_-202\_\_).**

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

***Present***

Shri Girish Chandra

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***Chairperson***

***Members***

***(Lok Sabha)***

16. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
17. Dr. A. Chellakumar
18. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
19. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
20. Shri T.N. Prathapan
21. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam
22. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
23. 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. 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 3 original and 9 Action-taken draft Reports and oral evidence of the representatives of the (i) Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) and the (ii) Ministry of Heavy Industries.

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

(i) **Action-taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee in their Sixty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultant India Limited(EdCIL), NOIDA.**

(ii)	X	X	X	X	X;
(iii)	X	X	X	X	X;
(iv)	X	X	X	X	X.
(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.

The above mentioned three draft Reports and nine Action taken Reports were unanimously adopted by the Committee. The Chairperson was authorized by the Committee to finalize and present these Reports to the Lok Sabha.

4-7. X X X X X

The Committee then adjourned.

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

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