

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**  
**(2023-2024)**

152

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SECOND REPORT**

**[Delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of  
the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi under the administrative  
control of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare]**

**(Presented to Lok Sabha on 18.12.2023)**



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

**December, 2023/Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)**

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**COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**  
**(2023-24)**

**Shri Girish Chandra**

-

**Chairpersons**

**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. \*

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri R. K. Suryanarayanan - Joint Secretary
  2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
  3. Shri Rahul Singh - Deputy Secretary
  4. Smt. Manjinder Pubbi - Under Secretary
  5. Miss Vandana - Executive Officer
-

## INTRODUCTION

I, Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-24), having been authorized by the Committee to present this Report on their behalf, present this One Hundred and Fifty-Second Report in respect of the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi.

2. In terms of the recommendations of the First Report and the Second Report (05<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) and the Second Report (06<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, presented to the House on 08<sup>th</sup> March, 1976, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 1976 and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1977, respectively, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of all Statutory/Autonomous, 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 the respective accounting year, i. e., 31<sup>st</sup> December.

3. The Committee considered the matter of delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi and took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi at their sitting held on 23.3.2023. The scrutiny by the Committee revealed that RAN as an Autonomous Body was closed w.e.f. 01.01.2019. Therefore, Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi for the years 2019-20 to 2021-22 have not been laid in Lok Sabha.

4. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 7<sup>th</sup> August.2023. The Report could not be presented by the erstwhile Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23) due to early adjournment of House. Therefore, under Rule 285 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha the report was again adopted by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-24) on 7.12.2023.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for furnishing 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.

7<sup>th</sup> December, 2023  
*Agrahayana 16, 1945 (Saka)*

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

(v)

## Report

### **Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN), New Delhi**

National Illness Assistance Fund (NIAF) renamed as Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, was set up vide Resolution dated 13.01.1997, as a Society and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, on the recommendations of the 31<sup>st</sup> Report of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development (HRD). The objective of RAN was to provide financial assistance to patients, living below poverty line, who are suffering from major life-threatening diseases, to receive medical treatment at any of the super-specialty hospital/institutions or other government hospitals. The Papers of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) were laid on the Table of the House as per Rule 238(6) of General Financial Rules 2017. The Grants-in-aid released under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) by the Government during the last ten financial-year are as below:

Financial Year	BE/RE (Rs. in Crore)	Funds released (Rs. in Crore)
2009-10	28.50	34.22
2010-11	9.00	10.00
2011-12	12.00	12.00
2012-13	12.00	12.00
2013-14	16.00	16.00
2014-15	19.00	20.90
2015-16	20.00	20.00
2016-17	22.00	16.35
2017-18	30.00	30.00
2018-19	54.50	51.75

2. The Committee observed that the requisite documents of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi since the year 2019-2020 to 2021-2022 have not been laid on the Table of House. The date of laying the Annual Report and Audited Account of the RAN for the year 2013-2014 to 2018-2019 is appended as **Annexure – I**.

3. On being enquired by the Committee the reason for not laying the Annual Report & Audited Account of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, the Ministry replied as under : -

“A Committee for review of Autonomous Bodies constituted by the NITI Aayog, inter alia, recommended that RAN needs to be reviewed. Since the Department of Health and Family Welfare (DoHFW) would provide funds to the hospitals and the grants could be given from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) to the hospitals directly, RAN functions

to be vested in MoHFW and this should not continue as an Autonomous Body. DoHFW accepted this recommendation and it was decided, with the approval of the Cabinet in its meeting held on 07/02/2018, to close RAN as an autonomous body. **Accordingly, RAN as an Autonomous Body was closed w.e.f. 01/01/2019. Afterwards, the Umbrella Scheme of RAN for providing financial assistance to patients living below threshold poverty line was operated through MoHFW”.**

4. As per recommendations contained in the First Report of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (5<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) presented to the House on 08 March, 1976; the Second Report, presented to the House on 12 May, 1976; and also in the Second Report (6<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha), presented to the House on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1977, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Organisations/Corporations/PSUs are required to be laid on the Table within 9 months of the closure of the accounting year. To comply with the requirement, a proper time schedule should be laid down for compilation of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts and their auditing. The Committee felt that normally a period of three months would be sufficient for compilation of the Audited Accounts and their submission for Audit; the next six months might be given for auditing of accounts, printing of the Report and sending it to Government for laying. If for any reason, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the 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

5. The Ministry in their reply has also stated that RAN, New Delhi was laying its Annual Report and Audited Accounts in compliance of Rule 238(6) of General Financial Rules 2017, and since RAN as an Autonomous organization was closed w.e.f. 01.01.2019, the provision and timeline for laying Annual Report and Audited Accounts of RAN from FY 2019-20 onwards are not applicable in case of RAN.

6. The Committee in this connection had taken oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2023 in the matter of finalization of Annual report and Audited Accounts of RAN, New Delhi for the financial year 2016-17 to 2021-2022. During the evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare deposed before the Committee the following:-

“सर, आपने एक बात पूछी है कि वह डिले है तो इस डिले का भी कारण बताया गया है, क्योंकि उस वक्त ऑडिटेड स्टेटमेंट आने में देरी हुई थी और कोविड भी आ गया तथा 9 सितंबर, 2020 में पूरा टेबल हो गया था। उस एनुअल रिपोर्ट में स्पेशिफिकली मेंशन किया गया, क्योंकि वह 01.01.2019 के बाद आया था कि कैबिनेट का डिजीजन ऐसा है, इसलिए वर्ष 2019-20 के बाद एनुअल रिपोर्ट का बनाना नहीं बनता है, इसलिए नहीं बनाई गई। अभी यह दिख रहा है कि इसका अलग से कोई करेसपॉन्डेंस नहीं गया। जब इस मीटिंग का नोटिस आया, तब इसी के रिप्लाइ में हम स्पेशिफिकली यह रिप्लाइ दे रहे हैं कि यह तो अप्रैल, 2019 के बाद संस्था ही नहीं तो अकाउंट बनने का नहीं बनता है और टेबल करने का भी नहीं बनता है। वह विलंब हो गया, लेकिन अभी हमने पहला वाला कर लिया है और यही स्थिति है।”



## Observations/Recommendations

7. The Committee note that Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi (RAN) was set up vide Resolution dated 13.01.1997, as a Society, registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Later, on the recommendations of the NITI Aayog, it was decided that as the Department of Health and Family Welfare (DoHFW) would be providing funds to the hospitals and the grants could be given from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) to the hospitals directly, functions of RAN should be vested in MoHFW. Accordingly, RAN as an Autonomous Body was closed w.e.f. 01.01.2019. Afterwards, the Umbrella Scheme of RAN for providing financial assistance to patients living below threshold poverty line was operated through MoHFW. Consequent upon dismantling of RAN, New Delhi as an autonomous body, its Annual Reports and Audited Accounts were not tabled in the House for the financial years 2019-2020, 2020-21 & 2021-2022.

The Committee while scrutinizing the reasons for not laying the Annual reports and Audited Accounts of RAN, New Delhi for the financial years 2019-2020, 2020-21 & 2021-2022 found that Ministry/RAN was laying these papers under the incorrect Rule 238(6) of General Financial Rules 2017, which covers organizations receiving only one-time assistance/non-recurring Grants from the Government. However, as per information submitted by the Ministry, the recurring Grants-in-aid of Rs. 223.22 cr. have been released in favour of RAN, during last ten Financial years, beside the initial one time assistance of Rs. 5 Crore. The Committee therefore recommend Ministry of Health & Family welfare to be more vigilant in matters of Rule position and applicability of the same in future in case of other organizations as well under its administrative aegis.

The Committee in this regard further note that the information regarding the closure of the RAN, New Delhi was not formally sent to the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat. The Committee strongly recommend that Ministry of Health & Family Welfare should devise a proper mechanism/procedure for informing/notifying Committee about the creation, merger and winding up of any new/existing organization under its administrative aegis to keep Committee abreast with the changes on regular basis.

New Delhi

7<sup>th</sup> December, 2023  
*Agrahayana 16, 1945 (Saka)*

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

**ANNEXURE**  
**vide para 02 of the Report**

**\*Statement showing the date of laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi for the years 2013-14 to 2018-19.**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Date by which Annual Reports and Audited Accounts were required to be laid</b>	<b>Actual Date of laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts</b>	<b>Extent of delay</b>
2013-14	31.12.2014	23.12.2014	No delay
2014-15	31.12.2015	04.12.2015	No delay
2015-16	31.12.2016	09.12.2016	No delay
2016-17	31.12.2017	05.01.2018	05 days
2017-18	31.12.2018	28.06.2019	05 months 28 days
2018-19	31.12.2019	18.09.2020	08 months 18 days
2019-20 onwards	<b>Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi ceased to exist w.e.f. 01/01/2019.</b>		

**\* As per Lok Sabha Secretariat Record**

**EXTRACTS OF THE MINUTES OF THE THIRD SITTING OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2022-23)**

The Committee sat on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2023 from 15:00 hours to 17:10 hours in Committee Room 'C', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

***Present***

Shri Girish Chandra - ***Chairperson***

***Members  
(Lok Sabha)***

2. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
3. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
4. Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal
5. 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

2. At the outset, a PPT regarding Digital Sansad was presented by the Officers of the Software Unit highlighting online facilities for the Members of the Parliament and for their information about the details of business transacted and their participation in the House.

3. Thereafter, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting and apprised them of the agenda regarding consideration and adoption of the 4 original and 8 Action-taken draft Reports and oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministries (i) Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; (ii) Health and Family Welfare; (iii) Textile; and (iv) Commerce and Industry.

4-5 xx xx xx xx xx xx xx

6. 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 ..... Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare).....

**I** xx xx xx xx xx xx xx

**II** Representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi.

1. Shri. S. Gopalakrishnan - Special Secretary
2. Shri. E. Robert Singh - Joint Secretary

**III-IV** xx xx xx xx xx xx xx

7. xx xx xx xx xx xx xx

8. Regarding Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, the representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare apprised the Committee that Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi was closed in 2019 and made a scheme under the nodal Ministry and since then all the details of this scheme are being reflected in the Annual Report of the Ministry and its Accounts.

9-10 xx xx xx xx xx xx xx

*The witnesses then withdrew.*

The Committee then adjourned.

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**XX MATTER NOT RELATED WITH THIS REPORT**

**EXTRACTS OF THE MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2022-2023) HELD ON 07.08.2023.**

The Committee sat on Monday, 07<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 from 1600 hours to 1640 hours in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

***Present***

Shri Girish Chandra

- ***Chairperson***

***Members***

***(Lok Sabha)***

2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
3. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
4. Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal
5. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam
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 one original draft Report, three Action-taken Reports and oral evidence of the representatives of the (i) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology, Amethi, and (ii) Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the National Institute of Design, Haryana.

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

- I. Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi under the administrative control of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;

II-IV    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX

The four draft Reports were adopted unanimously. The Chairperson was authorized by the Committee to finalize and present these Reports to the Lok Sabha on a date convenient to him.

4-6 XX XX XX XX XX XX XX

*The witnesses then withdrew.*

The Meeting then adjourned.

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

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2023-24)**

**Extracts of Minutes of the sixth sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-2024) held on 07.12.2023.**

The Committee sat on Thursday, 07<sup>th</sup> December, 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)***

6. Dr. A. Chellakumar

7. Smt. Aparupa Poddar

8. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam

9. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka

10. Shri Devendrappa Y.

***Secretariat***

Shri Naval K. Verma

- Director

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting and apprised them of the agenda;

I- XX            XX            XX            XX            XX            XX

II- To consider and adopt the four draft original/Action-taken Reports which were adopted by the previous Committee (2022-23) but could not be presented due to early adjournment of the House ;

III- XX            XX            XX            XX            XX            XX

3.    XX            XX            XX            XX            XX            XX

4. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following one draft original Report and three Action taken Reports, which were earlier adopted by the previous Committee (2022-23), but could not be presented due to early adjournment of Session :-

- i. Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi under the administrative control of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;

ii-iv    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX

The Reports were adopted unanimously.

5-7                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX

8. The Chairperson was authorized by the Committee to finalize and present these Reports to the Lok Sabha.

9-11    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX                    XX

The Meeting then adjourned.

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