

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

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

166

166th REPORT

[Action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 106th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.]

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 20.12.2023)



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

LOK SABHA

(2023-24)

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 R.K. Suryanarayanan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
3. Shri Rahul Singh - Deputy Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-24), having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this 166th Report on the action taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in its 106th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

2. The 106th (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 27th March, 2023. The Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) has furnished their replies indicating the action taken on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 106th Report. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 13 December, 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;
13 December, 2023
22Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)**

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

REPORT

Report on Action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 106th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

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 106th Report (17th Lok Sabha) presented to Lok Sabha on 27th March, 2023, which dealt with the matter of the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh for the years 2013-14 to 2021-22, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy)

2. The Committee had made six Observations/Recommendations in their 106th Report (17th Lok Sabha). The Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) *vide* its O.M. No. 19-1/2022.IS.1 Dated 07-08-2023 have furnished the action-taken replies in respect of all the six Observations/Recommendations made in the abovementioned Report.

3. The observations/recommendations of the Committee, the action taken by the Government thereon and further comments of the Committee are given in the following paragraphs.

Recommendation Serial No. 18

4. The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:

“The Committee is perturbed to note that the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) which is responsible for timely laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, is defaulter in laying of the documents as the Ministry took more than 2 years, 13 months, 14 months and 16 months for the years 2016-17, 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020, respectively in laying the requisite documents after receiving the documents from the Samagra Shiksha as per their reply. The Committee note that the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh for the aforesaid years which had to be submitted to the Ministry by 30th November of the respective accounting years had actually been received by the Ministry on 20.02.2018, 18.02.2019, 23.12.2019 and 1.12.2020, respectively. The Committee are of the considered opinion that although the Samagra Shiksha had submitted their requisite documents with minor delays, a long time has been taken by the Ministry in laying the requisite documents that could not be justified on any ground. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend for paying utmost attention to the General Financial Rules as well as the recommendation of the Committee towards timely laying of the requisite documents.

The Committee would like to be informed about the specific reasons for the unreasonable time taken by the Ministry in this regard.”

5. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

“This Department submits Annual Report along with Review and Delay Statement, of the State in the Parliament. This Department follows the process of preparation of Review and Delay Statement, Hindi Translation of same and finally authentication. At times State submits Annual Report to this Department with minor delay but subsequently takes considerable time in submitting Delay Statement in the prescribed format. Similar incidence was noticed with the State of Himachal Pradesh in the given years.

Further this Department strives to ensure that all the Annual Reports under the concerned schemes are submitted in both the Houses of the Parliament within the stipulated time frame and in adherence to the rules of General Financial Rules(GFR).”

6. **The Committee in their original Report had desired to know the specific reasons for the long time taken by the Ministry in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh for the years 2016-17, 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020, after receiving the same from the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. The Ministry in its action taken reply has stated that though the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh for the aforesaid years were sent by the organization with minor delay, however, the Organization took considerable time in submitting ‘Delay Statement’ in the prescribed format for each of the year. The Committee are not convinced with the reply furnished by the Ministry as it is the responsibility of the Ministry to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents of the organizations under their administrative control. The Committee feel that neither the Ministry nor the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh appear to have made serious efforts to ensure timely laying of documents even after having a clear cut time schedule, indicating target dates for completion of each stage and finalization of documents. The matter of timely laying of Reports and Audited Accounts seems to have been taken in a casual manner. The Committee, therefore, deprecate this callous attitude on the part of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh and the**

Ministry and urge that due care should be taken in future to ensure timely laying of the documents viz. Annual Reports and Audited Accounts on the Table of the House within the stipulated period of 9 months of the close of the accounting year.

Recommendation Serial No. 19

7. The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:

“The Committee further observe that the Samagra Shiksha, Himachal Pradesh took 5 months or more for the years 2015-16 to 201 8-2019 and 08 months for the year 2019-2020 at the stage of compilation of Annual Accounts as against three months recommended by the Committee for the purpose. The delay in this regard was stated to be due to difficulties being faced by the Samagra Shiksha in collecting the Utilization Certificates from the Schools in Himachal Pradesh which are situated in far flung areas. The representative of the Ministry during evidence apprised the Committee that an online module for reporting and reviewing the progress made in this regard has been introduced by the Ministry which will help the Samagra Shiksha to submit their annual accounts within the time limit as per General Financial Rules. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the online module introduced by the Ministry may be followed by the Samagra Shiksha so that delay at this stage could be avoided.”

8. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

“As stated earlier an online project monitoring system namely, PRABANDH has been launched for enhancing efficiency and managing the implementation of Samagra Shiksha in all the States & UTs. It facilitates online submission of Annual Work Plan & Budget(AWP&B) by District/state Level, tracking of Gol Funds released and State funds released to State implementation Societies(SIS), generation of different types of reports like Physical & Financial Progress, Spill-over, and Committed Liabilities, Unspent balances, district wise Monthly Progress Reports etc. These along with the Financial Management and Procurement Manual (FMP) and reports of Public Financial Management System (PFMS) forms the basis of release of Central Share to States/UTs under Samagra Shiksha, which is mandatory to be followed by the States/UTs. Also, PFMS is being used for all releases to the State Treasury and further disbursements are made by the State/UT using the SNA through PFMS only. Moreover, as per the recommendation of the COPLOT this Department took up matter with NIC for development of designated portal for tracking the position of progress of of laying of Annual Report of State and UTs. A Domain name for the portal <https://annualreports.education.gov.in/> was created. Thereafter, this Department circulated letter for creation of credentials of various stakeholder both from the Centre and State for viewing and uploading of relevant information. As if now the online module has been developed and is in testing phase.”

9. **The Committee note from the action taken reply furnished by the Ministry that an online project monitoring system namely, PRABANDH has already been launched for enhancing efficiency and managing the implementation of Samagra Shiksha in all the States & UTs. A**

portal <https://annualreports.education.gov.in/> has now been created by the Ministry for tracking the position of progress of laying of Annual Report of State and UTs. A letter for creation of credentials of various stakeholders had been circulated to the Centre and State for viewing and uploading of relevant information. This is a welcome step in right direction. However, the Committee desire that the work undertaken by the Ministry to update the position regarding timely laying of the requisite documents of all entities under their administrative control may be monitored regularly and efforts should be made to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Ministry in this regard.

Recommendation Serial No. 20

10. The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:

“It has been informed by the Ministry that Samagra Shiksha has submitted their requisite documents to the Ministry for the year 2015-16 to 2018-19 within the prescribed period of nine months after the closure of the respective accounting Year. However, the Committee observe from the replies furnished by the Ministry that the requisite documents of the Samagra Shiksha for the year 2015-16 to 2018-19 were received by the Ministry on 6.1.17, 20.2.18, 18.2.19 and 23.12.19 respectively which were actually required to be submitted to the Ministry by 30th November of the respective accounting year. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry to ensure that the requisite documents of the Samagra Shiksha should be received by the Ministry by 30th November so that the requisite documents of the Samagra Shiksha should be laid within the stipulated time in future.”

11. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

“This Department will follow up with the States/UTs to ensure that the requisite documents in respect of Annual Reports of the State are received by the stipulated time.”

12. **The Ministry has accepted the recommendation made by this Committee and stated that they would follow up the States/UTs to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents. The Committee hope that with the remedial measures taken by the Ministry and also assurance given in the Action taken reply, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla for succeeding years will be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time.**

Recommendation Serial No. 21

13. The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:-

“The Committee also recommend that the Ministry of Education may prepare and put in place a 'Portal' wherein updated position on the progress regarding laying of the requisite documents of all the organizations under their administrative control could be ensured by putting an automatic alert system which would indicate the institutions one week before the deadline for completion of their work at each stage as per the given time schedule. The Committee would like to be informed of the action- taken by the Ministry in this regard.”

14. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under

“As per the recommendation of the COPLOT this Department took up matter with NIC for development of designated portal for tracking the position of progress of of laying of Annual Report of State and UTs. A Domain name for the portal <https://annualreports.education.gov.in/> was created. Thereafter, this Department circulated letter for creation of credentials of various stakeholder both from the Centre and State for viewing and uploading of relevant information. As if now the online module has been developed and is in testing phase.”

- 15. The Committee Note the Ministry has made efforts to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents of all entities under its administrative control. The Committee expect the Ministry to ensure by proper monitoring and follow up, timely laying of documents pertaining to all entities under their control in future.**

Recommendation Serial No. 22

16. The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:-

“The Committee Note from the replies finished by the Ministry that the Samagra Shiksha (SS), an integrated Centrally Sponsored Scheme for School Education extending from Pre-school to Class XII was launched from 1st April, 2018 by subsuming Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan and Teacher Education. From the replies furnished by the Ministry, it appears that the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan were being laid on the Table of the House till the financial year 2017-2018. As regards the laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Teacher Education, no reply has been furnished by the [Ministry. The Committee, therefore, desire to know the background about the origin and functions of the Teacher Education, the funds granted to the organization by the Government of India and whether the requisite documents of the organization are required to be laid on the Table of the House.”

17. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

“A separate Annual Report of Teacher Education was not required to be submitted by the States for laying in the Parliament. As per the Guidelines for implementation Restructuring and

Reorganization of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Teacher Education, 2012 the Annual Report of each DIET needed to be presented to the a general body comprising the faculty of the DIET, students, members of the PAC and a wider group of stakeholders in the District and uploaded by the State on the website of the DIET of the State/UT.”

18. **The Committee recommend that the factual position as to why there is no need for laying the requisite documents of the Teacher Education in the Parliament may be incorporated in the Annual Report and Review Statement prepared by the Ministry so that a complete picture of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh may be seen by the Members at time of scrutiny of these documents for consideration of demands for grants pertaining to the Ministry concerned. The Committee would like to be informed the corrective measures taken by the Ministry in this regard.**

19. The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:-

“The Committee impress upon the Ministry that if due to some unavoidable reasons, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, 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 time period should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days or as soon as the House convenes, whichever is later.”

20. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

“The Annual Reports along with Delay Statement of Samagra Shiksha, Himachal Pradesh for the year 2021-22 has been submitted in the Distribution Brach, Lok Sabha Secretariat on 28-07-2023.”

21. **The Committee note that the Ministry has not furnished the specific reply to recommendations made by the Committee as it was recommended that due to some unavoidable reasons, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, 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 time period should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days or as soon as the House convenes, whichever is later. However, the Ministry in its reply stated that the Annual Report along with Delay Statement of Samagra Shiksha, Himachal Pradesh for the year 2021-22 was submitted in the Distribution Brach, Lok Sabha Secretariat on 28-07-2023. The Committee,**

therefore, strongly recommend to follow the procedure and timeline as stated in the recommendations of the Committee.

New Delhi;
13 December, 2023
22Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)

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

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

Extracts of the Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-2024) held on 13.12.2023.

The Committee sat on Wednesday, 13th December, 2023 from 1445 hours to 1540 hours in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

Shri Girish Chandra - ***Chairperson***

Members

(Lok Sabha)

2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
3. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
4. Shri Devendrappa Y.
5. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

Secretariat

1. Shri R.K. Suryanarayanan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
2. xx xx xx xx

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

- i. to vi
vii Action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 106th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Samagra Shiksha, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh;

viii to x.

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

4. xx xx xx xx

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

The Meeting then adjourned.