

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

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**155**

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH REPORT**

**[Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh.]**

**(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**

**LOK SABHA**

**(2023-24)**

**Shri 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 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 155<sup>th</sup> Report on the Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh.

2. The One Hundred and Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 14.03.2023. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) has furnished their replies indicating the action taken on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Fourth Report.

3. The Action-taken Report on the above mentioned subject was adopted by the Committee (2022-23) at their sitting held on 07.08.2023. However, the Action-taken Report could not be presented by the previous Committee due to early adjournment of the House. Therefore, under Rule 285 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, Lok Sabha, the Action-taken Report was again considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 07.12.2023.

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

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

## REPORT

### **Report on the Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh.**

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 (2023-24) in their One Hundred and Fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) which dealt with the matter of the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh for the years 2011-12 to 2020-21, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare), which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 14.03.2023.

2. The Committee had made five Observations/Recommendations in its One Hundred and Fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha). The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare vide its O.M. No.19-6/2023-M&T(Admn), dated 16.05.2023 had furnished the action-taken replies in respect of all the five Observations/Recommendations made in the abovementioned Report.

3. The comments of the Committee on the actions taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations made by the Committee in its original Report are given in the following paragraphs.

4. Recommendation No. 19

The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:

“From the examination of the Annual reports and Audited Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh for the years 2011-12 to 2020-21, the Committee observe that in all these years, upto 2019-20, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare) have laid these requisite documents before the Parliament with repeated delays. Further, the requisite documents for 2020-21 have not been laid, as yet. The Committee take a serious note of this repeated delay and feel that both the Ministry and the PAIC have failed miserably in fulfilling their statutory obligation regarding the timeline for laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts before the Parliament, in accordance with the General Financial

Rules (GFR) and the earlier recommendations of this Committee. Hence, the Committee recommend the Ministry to lay the pending requisite documents of PAIC for the year 2020-21, during the forthcoming Session of Parliament and also to ensure that from 2021-22 onwards, the requisite documents not only of the PAIC, Chandigarh, but all the organizations under its administrative control are invariably laid within stipulated time i.e., 31<sup>st</sup> December of respective financial year.”

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

“Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh has adopted Annual Accounts for Financial Year 2020-21 in its Annual General Meeting on 27.02.2023. PAIC has failed to forward Annual Accounts within stipulated time i.e. 31st December of next Financial Year. The main reason for delay in laying the Annual Account of PAIC is delay in compilation of Consolidated Financial Statement of PAIC with its subsidiaries i.e. PAGREXCO and PAFCL. The Annual Accounts of PAIC can only be adopted in its AGM only with Consolidated Financial Statements. However, as per the recommendation of Committee the requisite documents for PAIC for the year 2020-21 has been laid on the table of Lok Sabha on 28.03.2023. Annual Accounts of PAIC for Financial Year 2021-22 has been approved along with Consolidated Financial Statements on 31.01.2023 by its Board of Directors which are pending with CAG after Statutory Audit.”

**6. The Committee note with disappointment that, till date, only the requisite documents for 2020-21 have been laid with delay of nearly 15 months. Whereas, the requisite documents for 2021-22 have not been laid as yet. The Committee recommend the Department to ensure the pending document for 2021-22 will be laid in the ensuing session of Parliament alongwith the reasons for delay. Also, the Committee recommend the Ministry/Department to ensure that henceforth, the requisite documents of PAIC and all other organizations under its administrative control will be laid before the Parliament within stipulated time.**

7. Recommendation Serial No. 20

The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:

“The Committee were apprised by the Ministry that the work of compilation of Consolidated Financial Statement of PAIC could not be initiated in time due to non finalization of Annual accounts of its subsidiaries, PAGREXCO and PAFC, in time. It was also submitted that accounting personnel of these two subsidiaries were mostly busy

in procurement of food grains, which contributed to the delay in each year. The Committee were also apprised that they had faced some unavoidable delays that were encountered in convening Board/Annual General Meeting of the PAIC, Chandigarh. The Committee recommend the nodal Ministry to sensitize all the organizations under their administrative control about the need and statutory obligation to timely lay the requisite documents before the Parliament and to ensure that separate accounting personnel are engaged for finalization of annual accounts of the respective organizations, in order to avoid similar delays in future.”

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

“The Consolidated Financial Statements of Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh could not be compiled in time due to non-finalization of Annual Accounts of its subsidiaries i.e. PAGREXCO and PAFCL. The Accounting personnel were mostly busy in procurement of Food grains which contributed to the delay in each year. However, as per the recommendation of Committee the requisite documents for PAIC for the year 2020-21 has been laid on the table of Lok Sabha on 28.03.2023. Annual Accounts of PAIC for Financial Year 2021-22 has been approved along with Consolidated Financial Statements on 31.01.2023 by its Board of Directors which are pending with CAG after Statutory Audit.”

9. **The Committee has been apprised that the delay was mainly due to delay in compilation of Consolidated Financial statements of the two subsidiaries of PAIC i.e., PAGREXCO and PAFCL. The Committee hence, recommend the PAIC to prepare and compile quarterly Financial statements of its two subsidiaries so that the Consolidated financial statements can be compiled in time to enable timely compilation of annual accounts of PAIC.**

10. Recommendation Serial No. 21

The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:

“The Committee also observe that besides the long time taken in compilation and submission of accounts to the auditors, there had been inordinate delay in receipt of Final audit report after completion of audit process by the office of Comptroller and Auditor General and also in finalization of Annual Reports. The Committee recommend the Ministry and the PAIC to take up the matter of delay in audit process with the office of C&AG in order to avoid similar delays in future.

The Committee also observe that the Ministry had prepared a consolidated time schedule of nine months for completion of various tasks involved in finalization of requisite documents for being laid before the Parliament. The Committee recommend the Ministry to assign deadline for completion of each of these tasks involved for strict compliance and to also ensure that these timelines are strictly met.”

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

“Annual Accounts of Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh are got approved after the pre-audit by the Statutory Auditors. But supplementary audit takes a long time in completion by the office of Comptroller and Auditor General and thus delays in Finalization of Annual Reports. As per the recommendation, this Department has already assigned deadlines for completion of each task that involves strict compliance.”

12. **The Committee are happy to note that as recommended by the Committee, the Ministry has written to C&AG requesting them to timely completion of audit accounts.**

13. Recommendation Serial No. 22

The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:

“The Committee were also apprised that the Ministry regularly send letters and reminders to all their units and also convenes Review meetings. However, the Committee note that even after these efforts, reportedly being made by the Ministry, there had been no improvement and, these requisite documents of PAIC are still being laid with delays before the House. However, the Ministry informed the Committee that they had developed a dashboard wherein information is being provided by the organizations at different stages. The Committee recommend the Ministry to make this dashboard an ‘automated’ one, whereby the Ministry could send automatic reminders/reprimand to the organizations, if the deadlines set for different stages involved in the finalization of the requisite documents of various organizations concerned under their administrative control are not complied with on time. The Committee would like to be informed about the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry, in this regard.”



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

“Ministry regularly sends letters and reminders to lay the Annual Accounts within time. Despite many reminders, PAIC has laid Annual Accounts with delay before the House. However, this Department has developed a dashboard where all the units have provided the information at different stages. Further, as per the recommendation of Committee, the dashboard has been updated for issuing an automated reminders to State Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. (SAIC) if the deadlines set for finalization of the requisite documents of various SAICs concerned are not complied with on time.”

15. **The Committee note with content that as per the recommendation of this Committee, the Ministry had set deadlines for completion of each task and had also made their existing dashboard an automated one.**

16. Recommendation Serial No. 23

The Committee in their original Report had recommended as under:

“The Committee also impress upon the Ministry to note that in case of delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Corporation due to unavoidable reasons, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within prescribed period should be laid on the Table of the House strictly within 30 days as recommended by the Committee in its earlier reports.”

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

“The recommendations of Committee has been Noted and in case of delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Corporation, Ministry will provide the statement explaining the reason as to why the requisite documents could not be laid on the Table of the House in time.”

18. **The Committee is happy to note that the Ministry has accepted the recommendation made by the Committee.**

New Delhi  
07<sup>th</sup> December, 2023  
Agrahayana 16, 1945 (Saka)

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

**The Extracts of the Minutes of the eighth sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23) held on 07.08.2023**

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

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)***

1. Dr. A. Chellakumar
2. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
3. Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal
4. Shri Sellaperumal Ramalingam
5. 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) xxxx, and (ii) xxxx.

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

- |      |  |   |   |   |    |
|------|--|---|---|---|----|
| I.   | X  | X | X | X | X; |
| II.  | X  | X | X | X | X; |
| III. | Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (PAIC), Chandigarh; and |   |   |   |    |
| IV.  | X  | X | X | X | X. |

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.	X	X	X	X	X
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The Meeting then adjourned.

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

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

**Extracts of the Minutes of the first sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2023-24) held on 07.12.2023**

The Committee sat on Thursday, 07<sup>th</sup>December, 2023 from 15:00 hours to 16:00hours 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 SellaperumalRamalingam
5. Shri SaptagiriSankarUlaka
6. 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- X X X X

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- To consider and adopt the four other draft original/Action-taken Reports; and

IV- X X X X

3. X X X X X

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. X X X X;

ii. X X X X

iii. X X X X

iv. Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their One Hundred and Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh.

The Reports were adopted unanimously.

5-7. X X X X X

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

9-11. X X X X X

The Meeting then adjourned.

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

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