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COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
(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 159th Report on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in the 108th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Vadodara.

2. The 108th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 27 March, 2023. The Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) furnished their replies on 06 June, 2023 indicating the action-taken on the observations/ recommendations contained in the 108th Report.

3. The Action-taken Report on the above subject was adopted by the Committee (2022-23) at their sitting held on 07 August, 2023. However, the Action-taken Report could not be presented by the previous Committee (2022-23) due to early adjournment of 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 by the Committee (2023-24) at their sitting held on 07 December, 2023.

5. 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.

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

**New Delhi;
07 December, 2023**

Agrahayana 16,1945(Saka)

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

Report

Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Observations / Recommendations made by the Committee in their 108th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Vadodara.

This Report of the Committee deals with the action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23) in their 108th Report (17th Lok Sabha) which dealt with the matter of the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Vadodara and which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 27 March, 2023.

2. The Committee had made three Observations/Recommendations in their 108th Report (17th Lok Sabha). The action-taken replies to all the three Observations/Recommendations have been received from the Government vide OM –52-2/2022-TS.I dated 6 June, 2023.

3. The Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee, the Action Taken Replies received from the Ministry and comments of the Committee thereon are as under-

Recommendation No. 19

4. The Committee had recommended as under:-

“The Committee are disappointed to note that neither the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) nor the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Vadodara appear to have made serious efforts to ensure timely finalization and laying of documents of the Institute 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 are not convinced with the reply furnished by the Ministry that initial delays were occurred due to setting up of the Institute as more than six years in laying of the requisite documents of the Institute for the year 2013-14 could not be justified on any ground. The requisite documents of the Institute for the years 2014-15 to 2019-20 were also laid with delays of more than 14 months to more than 61 months. Moreover, the Annual Accounts of the Institute for the year 2020-21 have not been approved by the Committee till the matter was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 18.7.2022. As regards fictionalization of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Institute for the year 2021-22, no reply has been furnished by the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, 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.”

5. The Ministry in its action taken replies has stated as under:-

“The Ministry noted the comments/observations of the Committee. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Institute for the succeeding years will be laid within the stipulated time. However, following are submitted for kind consideration of the Committee:

(i) During the period of 2013-14 to 2016-17 the Institute was under the mentorship of Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology (DA-IICT), a private engineering Institute. Before 2017 the Institute was registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in which there was no provision of laying the Annual Reports & Audited Accounts in the Parliament. Therefore, no Annual Reports/Annual Accounts were prepared and sent to the Ministry during this period.

(ii) The first regular Director of IIIT (PPP) Vadodara joined on 5th August 2017 and IIIT (PPP) Act was enacted on 9th August 2017. From August 2017, IIIT (PPP) Vadodara has taken steps to finalize the details for Annual Report and Annual Accounts.

(iii) From the year 2017-18 to 2021-22 Annual Reports & Audited Accounts in respect of IIIT Vadodara have been laid on in both the Houses of the Parliament as per the details given below:

Financial Year	Annual Report laid in		Audited Accounts laid in	
	Lok Sabha	Rajya Sabha	Lok Sabha	Rajya Sabha
2017-18	22.03.2021	17.03.2021	22.03.2021	17.03.2021
2018-19	22.03.2021	17.03.2021	22.03.2021	17.03.2021
2019-20	21.03.2022	16.03.2022	21.03.2022	16.03.2022
2020-21	12.12.2022	14.12.2022	12.12.2022	14.12.2022
2021-22	13.03.2023	15.03.2023	13.03.2023	15.03.2023

The reasons for delay may be attributed to:

- (a) Covid-19 pandemic and its subsequent waves;
- (b) Late receipt of Separate Audit Report from C&AG

(iv) Steps taken by the Ministry:

(a) Apart from time to time reminders to the Institute, this Ministry vide O.M. No. 52-2/2022-TS.I dated 25.07.2022 (Annexure 1) has also requested Ministry of Finance to take up the matter with C&AG for adhering to the timelines for finalization of Audited Accounts especially for conduct of audit and dispatch of Separate Audit Report (SAR).

(b) A PORTAL has been prepared by the Ministry which reminds the Institutes to complete the data entry on timely basis and daily reminders starts 7 days prior to deadline. Also, a day before the last day, a reminder e- mail is sent.”

6. The Committee note that though the recommendation of the Committee has been noted by the Ministry and it has been assured that the requisite documents of the IIT, Vadodara for the succeeding years would be laid within the stipulated time. However, the Committee are not convinced with the reply furnished by the Ministry that the Institute was registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in which there was no provision of laying the Annual Reports & Audited Accounts in the Parliament. Therefore, no Annual Reports and Annual Accounts were prepared and sent to the Ministry during this period. The Committee take a serious view of the fact that administrative Ministry, who is responsible for timely laying of the requisite documents of all the organizations under its administrative control, has not taken up the matter with the Institute to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take necessary steps to ensure that such kind of lapses do not recur in future.

Recommendation Serial No. 20

7. The Committee had recommended as under:-

“While examining the reasons for delays in laying the documents of the Institute for the years 2013-14 to 2020-21, the Committee note that the delays were at each stage i.e. compilation of accounts; submission of accounts to the audit authority; time taken up by the audit authorities for finalization of the accounts of the Institute and also time taken up by the Ministry to lay the documents on the Table of the House. The Committee hope that with the remedial measures taken and also assurance given by the Ministry, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Institute for the succeeding years will be laid within the stipulated time. The Committee would like to be informed of the action taken by the Ministry in this regard.

8. The Ministry in its action taken replies has furnished the following remedial measures to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents of the Institute:-

- (i) Monitoring at the level of Secretary (Higher Education)/ Additional Secretary (Technical Education).
- (ii) Timelines conveyed for preparation, finalization and submission of AAs and ARs.
- (c) Reminders to the institutes for submission of AAs and ARs from time to time.
- (iv) Approvals of FC and BoG on urgent matters, including AR and AAs, through circulation to follow the timelines.

(v) A PORTAL has been prepared by the Ministry which reminds the Institutes to complete the data entry on timely basis and daily reminders starts 7 days prior to deadline. Also, a day before the last day, a reminder e- mail is sent.

9. The Committee appreciate the various steps taken by the Ministry to ensure timely laying of the requisite documents of the Institute. The Committee hope that with these measures, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Institute could be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time in future.

Recommendation Serial No. 21

10. The Committee had recommended as under:-

“The Committee also impress upon the Ministry that if due to unavoidable reasons, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Institute 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.”

11. The Ministry in its action taken replies has stated as under:-

“The suggestions of the Committee have been noted for compliance. In future, utmost care will be taken to adhere to timelines for laying of Annual Report & Audited Accounts.”

12. The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry has accepted the recommendation made by the Committee. However, The Committee desire that in case of unavoidable reasons, when the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Institute cannot be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents cannot be laid within the prescribed time period should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days after the expiry of the stipulated time or as soon as the House convenes whichever is later.

New Delhi;
07 December, 2023

Agrahayana16,1945(Saka)

Girish Chandra
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

Committee On Papers Laid On The Table (2023-2024)

The Extracts of the Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table held on 07 August, 2023

The Committee sat on Monday, 07th 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) 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. xx xx xx xx

- II. Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 108th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Vadodara;

III. xx xx xx xx
IV. 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. to 6. xx xx xx xx
 xx xx xx xx

The witnesses then withdrew.

The sitting then adjourned.

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

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3. xx xx xx xx xx

4. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following one draft 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. xx xx xx xx xx

ii. xx xx xx xx xx.

iii. Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 108th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Vadodara

The Reports were adopted unanimously.

5. – 11. xx xx xx xx xx

The Meeting then adjourned.

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

XX MATTER NOT RELATED WITH THIS REPORT