

23

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

(2025-26)

(EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

**“REVIEW OF SAINIK SCHOOLS, RASHTRIYA INDIAN MILITARY COLLEGE
(RIMC) AND RASHTRIYA MILITARY SCHOOLS”**

TWENTY-THIRD REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2026 / Phalguna 1947 (Saka)

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(RIMC) AND RASHTRIYA MILITARY SCHOOLS”**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 18.03.2026.

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 18.03.2026.



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2026 / Phalguna 1947 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE (2023-24)

SHRI JUAL ORAM

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CHAIRPERSON

Lok Sabha

2	Shri Durai Murugan Kathir Anand
3	Kunwar Danish Ali
4	Shri Nitesh Ganga Deb
5	Shri Rahul Gandhi
6	Shri Reddeppa Nallakonda Gari
7	Shri Devaragunda Venkappa Sadananda Gowda
8	Shri Annasaheb Shankar Jolle
9	Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
10	Shri Suresh Kumar Kashyap
11	Prof. (Dr.) Ram Shankar Katheria
12	Dr. Rajashree Mallick
13	Vacant*
14	Shri Uttam Kumar Nalamada Reddy
15	Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma
16	Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde
17	Shri Prathap Simha
18	Dr. Amar Singh
19	Shri Brijendra Singh
20	Shri Mahabali Singh
21	Shri Durga Das Uikey

Rajya Sabha

22	Dr. Ashok Bajpai
23	Shri Prem Chand Gupta
24	Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta
25	Shri Venkataramana Rao Mopidevi
26	Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa
27	Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi
28	Smt. P.T. Usha
29	Shri G.K. Vasani
30	Lt. Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.)
31	Shri K.C. Venugopal

* Shri Anumula Revanth Reddy ceased to be member of w.e.f. 8th December, 2023 vide Lok Sabha Secretariat notification no 21/1(3)/2023/T(B) dated 8th December, 2023.

COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE (2024-25)

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH – CHAIRPERSON

Lok Sabha

2	Dr. Rajeev Bharadwaj
3	Shri Karti P Chidambaram
4	Shri Adhikari Deepak Dev
5	Shri Ranjit Dutta
6	Captain Viriato Fernandes
7	Shri Rahul Gandhi
8	Shri Mohmad Haneefa
9	Shri S. Jagathratchakan
10	Ms. S. Jothimani
11	Shri Ravindra Shukla Alias Ravi Kishan
12	Shri Shashank Mani
13	Shri Lumba Ram
14	Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
15	Shri Jagannath Sarkar
16	Shri Jagadish Shettar
17	Shri Virendra Singh
18	Shri Kesineni Sivanath
19	Dr. Thirumaavalavan Tholkappiyan
20	Com. Selvaraj V.
21	Shri Richard Vanlalhmangaiha

Rajya Sabha

22	Shri Naresh Bansal
23	Shri Shaktisinh Gohil
24	Shri Prem Chand Gupta
25	Shri Naveen Jain
26	Shri Muzibulla Khan
27	Shri Praful Patel
28	Shri Dhairyashil Mohan Patil
29	Shri Sanjay Singh
30	Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi
31	Shri Ujjwal Deorao Nikam [#]

Nominated to the Standing Committee on Defence (2024-25) by the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 6 August, 2025 vide Rajya Sabha Bulletin Part II No. 65693 dated 6 August, 2025

**Shri N. Chandrasegharan ceased to be a Member of the Standing Committee on Defence (2024-25) w.e.f. 25 July, 2025 consequent upon cessation of his Membership of Rajya Sabha on 24 July, 2025*

COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE (2025-26)

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH

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CHAIRPERSON

Lok Sabha

2	Dr. Rajeev Bharadwaj
3	Shri Karti P Chidambaram
4	Shri Lumbaram Choudhary
5	Shri Ranjit Dutta
6	Captain Viriato Fernandes
7	Shri Rahul Gandhi
8	Shri Mohmad Haneefa
9	Shri S. Jagathratchakan
10	Ms. S. Jothimani
11	Shri Ravindra Shukla Alias Ravi Kishan
12	Shri Shashank Mani
13	Smt. Mahua Moitra
14	Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
15	Shri Jagannath Sarkar
16	Shri Jagadish Shettar
17	Shri Virendra Singh
18	Shri Kesineni Sivanath
19	Dr. Thirumaavalavan Tholkappiyan
20	Com. Selvaraj V.
21	Shri Richard Vanlalhmangaiha

Rajya Sabha

22	Shri Naresh Bansal
23	Shri Damodar Rao Divakonda
24	Shri Shaktisinh Gohil
25	Shri Prem Chand Gupta
26	Shri Kamal Haasan
27	Shri Muzibulla Khan
28	Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal
29	Shri Ujjwal Deorao Nikam
30	Shri Dhairyashil Mohan Patil
31	Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Jyochnamayi Sinha | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Amrish Kumar | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Ajay Kumar Prasad | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Shri Anjorem Kerketta | - | Under Secretary |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Defence (2025-26), having been authorised by the Committee, present this Twenty-Third Report (18th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Defence on the subject “Review of Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) and Rashtriya Military Schools.”

2. The subject ‘Review of Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) and Rashtriya Military Schools’ was selected for the examination during the year 2023-24. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Defence on 6th February, 2024. The subject was carried forward for examination by the successor Committee during 2024-25. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Defence on 25th October, 2024. The draft Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 16th March, 2026. The Minutes of the Sittings of the Committee are appended to the Report.

3. For facility of reference and convenience, Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in Part II of the Report.

4. The Committee thank their predecessor Committee for taking oral evidence and obtaining information on the subject.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Defence for appearing before the Committee and furnishing the material and information which the Committee desired in connection with examination of the subject.

6. The Committee also place on record their appreciation of the assistance rendered to them by the Committee Secretariat.

New Delhi;
16 March, 2026
25 Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)

RADHA MOHAN SINGH
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Defence

REPORT

PART 1

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTORY

Sainik Schools

Sainik Schools were established as a joint venture of the Central and State Governments and have been in existence since 1961. These schools are under the overall governance of Sainik School Society, Ministry of Defence.

1.2 The first objective of Sainik Schools is to prepare cadets for entry into the National Defence Academy and the Indian Military Academy. The next objective is to remove regional imbalances in the officers cadre of the Armed Forces. Another important role is to provide training to develop body, mind and character, so that the young cadets can become good and responsible citizens of the nation. This is achieved by implementing a scientific and time-tested curriculum of training and related activities in each Sainik School. The ultimate objective is to provide high quality education within the reach of the common man. This objective is achieved by providing various financial incentives to the parents.

Rashtriya Indian Military College

1.3 The Committee learnt that the Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) was founded on 13th March, 1922. The RIMC follows CBSE curriculum and offers only science stream at the plus two level. The aim of RIMC is to educate, train and nurture cadets into capable, effective leaders inspiring them to take up profession of arms as their natural preferred calling. The candidates (25 Boys and 05 Girls) aged between 11 and a half year and 13 years are admitted every six months. Admissions are made to standard VIII only. The selection is carried out on the basis of an All India Entrance Examination held twice a year which includes written examination, interview and medical. Traditionally an all boys schools, the establishment

changed the status quo with the introduction of first girl cadet in 2022. Five girls per batch are being admitted to RIMC each term. As on December, 2024, 24 girls are currently studying at the college.

Rashtriya Military Schools

1.4 The Committee have been informed that there are five Rashtriya Military Schools (RMS) in the country located at Belgaum and Bengaluru in Karnataka. Chail in Himachal Pradesh and Ajmer and Dholpur in Rajasthan. The Rashtriya Military Schools at Chail, Ajmer, Belgaum, Bengaluru, Dholpur was established on 1925, 1930, 1945, 1946 and 1962, respectively. The aim of the Rashtriya Military Schools is "To impart quality education and prepare the cadets to join the Defence Services". The candidates (Boys and Girls) aged between 10-12 years are eligible for admission in class VI and candidates (Boys) aged between 13-15 years are eligible for admission in class IX. Admissions in Rashtriya Military Schools (RMS) are carried out through a Common Entrance Test conducted Pan India in December every year, which includes written examination, interview and medical. The admission to girl cadets in class VI has already commenced w.e.f academic session 2021-22. As on December, 2024, total girl cadets in RMS's is 87. Lateral admission of girl cadets in class IX has opened w.e.f academic session 2024-25.

CHAPTER II

SAINIK SCHOOLS

A. Sainik Schools Under Erstwhile Pattern

(i) Overview and Objectives

The Ministry have informed that Sainik Schools, which have been in existence since 1961, are a joint venture of the Central and State Governments, under the overall governance of Sainik Schools Society, Ministry of Defence. At present, there are a total of 33 Sainik Schools in 23 states and one Union Territory, with approximately 18,366 cadets enrolled. The first Sainik School was started in the year 1961 and the last two Sainik Schools were added in the year 2020 at Amethi and Sambalpur. A list of existing Sainik Schools under erstwhile pattern is at *Annexure-I*. It may be seen from the list that four (04) States viz. Tripura, Meghalaya, Goa & Sikkim and the 07 Union Territories, namely, N.C.T. of Delhi, Puducherry, Chandigarh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshdweep do not have even a single Sainik School under erstwhile pattern till the year 2020.

(ii) Budgetary allocation

2.2 When the Committee enquired regarding budget allocation to Sainik Schools and its utilization, the Ministry in their written reply stated that in F.Y. 2023-24, out of the allocated budget of Rs. 175.87 Crore, an amount of Rs. 152.43 Crore was allocated for Sainik schools. The balance amount of Rs. 23.44 Crore was surrendered to Government account. The said amount was adequate to fulfil the obligation of Ministry of Defence towards functioning of Sainik schools which includes, but not limited to, providing various grant-in-aids, scholarships, incentives, additionality arising out of difference between 5th and 7th Pay Commission, special grants to Sainik schools.

2.3 When further enquired regarding budget allocation to Sainik Schools for FY 2024-25 to meet the requirement, the Ministry in its written reply stated that in F.Y. 2024-25, an amount of Rs. 175.87 Crore has been allocated for Sainik schools. To cater for the requirement in addition to BE

2024-25, an amount of Rs. 670 Crore has been projected for Revised Estimates 2024-25 which is Rs. 494.13 Crore more than the allocated amount of Rs. 175.87 Crore. The increased projections for RE 2024-25 are attributed to two special grants i.e.

(i) Rs. 330 Crore for One-time Infrastructure Development and Modernization of 33 Sainik Schools @ 10 Crores per school;

(ii) Rs. 160 Crore for construction of Sainik school in Karbi Anglong district of Assam.

2.4 On being asked about more allocation for Sainik Schools in view of the increase in number of such schools, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:

“In F.Y. 2023-24, one additional Sainik School in Karbi Anglong district of Assam was approved. Towards this, additional funds are being requested in phased manner. Accordingly, Rs. 160 crore was allocated in RE 2024-25, out of which Rs. 100 crore was released. Further, in BE 2025-26, Rs. 130 crore has been allocated for establishment of Sainik School at Karbi Anglong.”

2.5 With regard to the share of budget provided to Sainik Schools during FY 2023-24 and 2024-25 by the State and Central Government, the Ministry in their written reply stated as under:-

“Details of budget provided to Sainik Schools by the State and Central Government in the last four years is as given below:

(Rs. in Crores)

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Central Govt. Share	119.50	190.83 (+60%)#	152.43 (-20%)#	261.63 (+72%)#
State Govt. Share	225.98	161.07 (-29%)#	156.8* (-3%)#	273.1 (+74%)#
Total	345.48	351.90	309.23	534.73

* Data has been revised based on updated information provided by the Sainik Schools.

#Approximate percentage increase or decrease in the current year with respect to previous financial year has been indicated in parenthesis with a + or- sign respectively

2.6 During oral evidence, with regard to all round development of cadets and steps taken for new initiatives in Sainik Schools, a representative of Ministry informed as under:

“सैनिक स्कूल्स का ध्यान विभिन्न एक्स्ट्रा करीकुलर और को-करीकुलर एक्टिविटीज़, एकैडमिक और नॉन-एकैडमिक डोमेन की गतिविधियों के माध्यम से अपने कैडेट्स के ऑलराउंडर हॉलिस्टिक डेवलपमेंट पर केन्द्रित है।

सैनिक स्कूल्स के कैडेट्स सक्रिय रूप से सरकारी अभियानों, जैसे पुनीत सागर अभियान, ‘एक भारत, श्रेष्ठ भारत’, आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव, ‘मेरी माटी, मेरा देश’, चन्द्रयान-3 की सफलता के सेलिब्रेशन और अन्य अभियानों में शामिल होते हैं

स्लाइड में सैनिक स्कूलों में लिए गए नए इनिशिएटिव्स दिखाए गए हैं, जिनमें ऑल इंडिया सैनिक स्कूल्स नेशनल गेम्स, 2024, राष्ट्रीय टेस्टिंग एजेंसी के द्वारा आयोजित किए गए ऑल इंडिया सैनिक स्कूल्स एंट्रेस एग्जामिनेशन, वाइज़ैग नेशनल के माध्यम से लिए गए ऑल इंडिया सैनिक स्कूल्स एडमिशन, काउंसिलिंग, IITE, गांधीनगर में टीचर्स ट्रेनिंग इत्यादि प्रमुख हैं।”

2.7 When enquired about any comparative analysis has been made regarding the intake from the three educational institutions i.e. Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Indian Military College and Rashtriya Military Schools in National Defence Academy/Naval Academy, the Ministry in their written reply stated as under:-

“The governing mechanism and modalities for setting up the Sainik Schools including the pattern for imparting education, criteria for reservation for defence personnel etc. are different from RMS & RIMC. Hence, no comparative analysis is feasible.”

2.8 When asked about the percentage of students who joined National Defence Academy/Naval Academy from Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Indian Military College and Rashtriya Military Schools, 2020 onwards, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:

“Details of students appeared in written examination of NDA/NA along with students who joined NDA/NA from Sainik Schools (SS), Rashtriya Military Schools (RMS) and Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) is tabulated below:

S.	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
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No.		SS	RMS	RIMC 2020	SS	RMS	RIMC 2021	SS	RMS	RIMC 2022	SS	RMS	RIMC 2023
1.	Number of students appeared in written exam of NDA/NA	1705	145	80	1969	209	97	2032	187	80	3475	205	82
2.	Number of students joined NDA/NA	190	22	32	128	31	38	117	50	29	148	35	20

RIMC has given data year-wise as indicated above. In addition, from RIMC in the year 2024, 85 students appeared in NDA/NA exam out of which 36 got selected.

2.9 The Committee's examination has revealed that in terms of objectives of setting up of the three institutions i.e. Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Military Schools and Rashtriya Indian Military College, Sainik Schools are far behind than Rashtriya Indian Military College in terms of performance.....

2.10 During the course of oral evidence the Committee have been informed that Sainik Schools were started for motivation in taking admission to NDA. The Committee brought to the attention of the representative of the Ministry on the issue that in post-liberalisation the situation has been changed and desired to know whether students studying in 12th class are focussing totally on NDA or their attitude have been changed, a representative of the Ministry submitted as under:-

“...सर, यह आपने बिल्कुल वैलिड प्वाइंट रेज किया है कि ओवर ए पीरियड ऑफ टाइम और आजकल जैसे हम देख रहे हैं, अगर पिछले 10 से 15 साल की बात करें तो, some many new avenues have come for the children. वर्ष 1960 में सैनिक स्कूल का कॉन्सेप्ट सोचा गया था और यह कहा गया था कि इन कैडेट्स को एनडीए की ट्रेनिंग के लिए मोटिवेट करना है और उसके लिए तैयारी करनी है। पिछले कुछ सालों में यह देखने में आया है कि जैसे-जैसे बच्चे क्लास-6 से आगे बढ़ते हैं, जब क्लास-8 और क्लास-9 की तरफ आते हैं तो उनमें से कुछ बच्चों का रूझान दूसरी फील्ड्स की तरफ होने लगता है। कोई चाहता मैं डॉक्टर बनूं, कोई चाहता है मैं इंजीनियर बनूं, इस तरह के बहुत सारे अलग-अलग एवेन्यूज आ गए हैं। आर्ट्स के फील्ड्स आ गए हैं। यह एक एस्पेक्ट है। जब गवर्नमेंट ने पीपीपी मॉडल के बारे में सोचा तो उसमें यदि आप इस एनडीए वाले एम को देखेंगे तो उसमें यह एम नहीं है कि हम कैडेट्स को एनडीए की तैयार करें। हमारे पीपीपी मॉडल का एम है कि हम बच्चों को एक मिलिट्री टाइप की डिसिप्लिन ट्रेनिंग दें। उसके बाद वे जो फील्ड चुनना चाहें, वे चुन सकते हैं। इसमें मेरा कहना है कि आपने जो कहा, वह सही कहा

है। इसी चीज को ध्यान में रखते हुए हमारा जो पीपीपी मॉडल का ऑब्जेक्टिव है, उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए फॉलो किया है।“

2.11 Further, the Committee also enquired about any interaction or coordination plan with defence related other activities according to interest of students for working in Defence sector, the representative of the Ministry during oral evidence stated:-

“...I think, exactly what is happening in the schools with regard to interaction, I will be able to submit about that before the Committee in writing later on. But this is a wonderful suggestion. We will definitely take it up henceforth. It is a great take away for us from the discussion. We will ensure that these kinds of interactions do take place so that the students get more and more motivated to various fields, whichever they want to take up in future. So, we will definitely take it up henceforth.”

2.12 During oral evidence, the Committee enquired regarding any plan to employ retired defence personnel for inculcating training in various Sainik Schools in the country, the representative of the Ministry submitted as under:

“We have serving defence employees. We have serving officers who are there as Principals, Vice-Principals, ADM Officers in each of these schools. In PPP model, of course, it is open for those schools who engage ex-servicemen, which they are doing. Out of 19 schools, which already have their sessions commenced, around 16 have already engaged ex-servicemen. So, I think, Sir, it is quite adequate as of now insofar as service personnel are concerned.”

2.13 During oral evidence, on the issue of pending pension of teachers, a representative of Ministry apprised the Committee as under:

“Sir, as per the rules and regulations of the society, the pension responsibility rests with the State Government. Though whenever we find that there is a dearth of funds or the funds have not reached in time, we provide them

(iii) Role of the Central and State Governments

2.14 As per the Scheme governing Sainik Schools run by Sainik Schools Society, the responsibilities and resources are shared by Ministry of Defence and concerned State Government.

(a) Role of State Government

(a) Provision of a minimum of 38 acres land for a Sainik Schools with the strength of 300 students and 49 acres land for a Sainik School with a strength of 600.

(b) Construction of permanent buildings including:

(i) Administrative Block

(ii) Educational Block

(iii) Dormitories and Mess Hall

(iv) Indoor Games Hall

(v) Residential accommodation for all members of the academic/administrative staff as well as general employees

(vi) Swimming Pool, Auditorium, Gymnasium and others sports amenities. However, for setting up new Sainik Schools, after 1996 the requirement of a swimming pool and a covered auditorium has been relaxed.

(c) Provision of all the equipment including a School Bus, a Matador or a jeep with trailer on as required basis

(d) Maintenance of the School campus and building

(e) Grant of scholarships to all the boys belonging to the economically weaker sections of society on the rates decided by the Board of Governors.

(f) Provide employer contribution towards New Pension Scheme (NPS)/Pension Liability and all other terminal benefit to all retiring employees as the case may be

(b) Role of Central Government (MoD)

(a) Positioning of three officers, one each of the rank of Col/equivalent. Lt. Col/ equivalent and Major/equivalent to each school. Their salaries and other allowances are paid from Defence Services Estimates.

(b) NCC Staff and Army Physical Training Corps instructors also provided by the Ministry of Defence.

(c) Scholarship to the wards of Defence Personnel including Ex-servicemen.

(d) Provision of part of Scholarship as Central Assistance to those students who are awarded State Government Scholarships.

(e) Incentive to those cadets who are selected for National Defence Academy/Naval Academy.

(f) 100% additionality towards Pay & Allowances arising due to implementation of 6th CPC and 7th CPC.

(g) Training Grant to the tune of Rs. 10 Lakhs to each school every year.

(h) Grant-in-aid for Infrastructural development to the tune of Rs. 1 Crore to each school every year based on their proposals.

(i) Special grant-in-aid from time to time for infrastructure augmentation/modernization. Rs. 62.96 Crores & Rs. 11.24 Crores was released during financial year 2022-23 & 2023-24 for infrastructure development and One School One Sport scheme respectively.

2.15 The Sainik Schools Society Rules & Regulations also clearly stipulate that the Central Government has to provide three Service Officers and APTCC/NCC instructors. Their salaries are paid from the Defence Services Estimates.

2.16 When the Committee desired to know whether the required number of service officers, NCC staff and Army Physical Training Corps Instructors have been positioned in all the Sainik School as per norms, the Ministry in its written reply submitted as under:-

“Sainik schools mostly have the required number of service officers, APTCs, NCC staff. Wherever there is a deficiency, process of posting is underway.”

2.17 On being asked whether the requisite educational or curriculum eligibility are followed in appointment of Principals and Vice-Principals of Sainik Schools as per norms laid down by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) or any exemption in the eligibility criteria, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“Given the focus and special nature of Sainik Schools, the Principal and Vice Principal of the school are by design drawn from the Education Branch of the Armed Forces. The Qualification Requirement for selection of Principals & Vice Principals in Sainik Schools are as under (as per Para 11.06 of chapter XI of Sainik

Schools Society Rules & Regulations Book 1997 and amended vide MoD ID No 7(6)/ SSS/2018/QR VP dated 12 Apr 2018);

For Principal :

(1) Colonel or equivalent from Education branch of Army/ Navy & Air Force.

(2) Post Graduate qualification with at least 05 years of instructional experience. Proficiency in games/sports and co-curricular activities will be considered as additional qualification.

(3) Age preferably below 48 years. Relaxable in deserving cases although in no case an officer with less than 04 years of service to retire will be considered.

(4) Medical category. The officer should be in an promotable medical category for taking up command of an Instructional Unit.

(5) Preference to Officers who have successfully served as Vice Principal/ Adm Officer in Sainik Schools.

For Vice Principal:

(1) Lt Colonel / Major with 10 years service of equivalent from the Education Branch of the three services.

(2) Post graduate Degree with at least 05 years teaching experience.

(3) Age should not be more than 45 years.

(4) Medical category SHAPE-1/S1A1/A4G1.

(5) Should have at least five years to service before retirement. The officer should have passed promotions examination upto Part-'D' or equivalent.

(6) Should have qualified on junior officer's course (in case of Army) with minimum 'B' grading or similar course for the officers of other two services.

The focus of Sainik School is to physically and mentally prepare the cadets for serving in the Armed Forces. To achieve this objective,

the Principal and Vice Principal are serving officers of the Armed Forces.

2.18 During oral evidence, when the Committee desired to know about number of teachers employed, teaching and non-teaching strength in Sainik Schools, the representative of the Ministry apprised as under:

“Sir, I will provide the statistics. The number of teachers is around 800 when it comes to the 33 Sainik Schools..... In so far as training is concerned, a lot of impetus has been given. We already have an established MoU with IITE, Gandhinagar and the training has already started. It is in three phases. For each and every teacher, they have to undergo each of these phases right from the induction training. It is a very detailed training pattern which has been decided with Gandhinagar Institute.....

..... It is for all the schools, including even the PPP model schools”

2.19 On the issue of students and teachers ratio in the existing Sainik Schools as per Sainik Schools Society rules and the current status, the Ministry in their written reply submitted that all Sainik Schools adhere to CBSE Curriculum and hence follow the students teacher ratio as prescribed by CBSE. As per the CBSE norms the student teacher ratio is 40:1 and the ratio of teachers to cater the academic needs of existing students of Sainik Schools is adequate.

(c) Scholarships/Grant-in-Aids/Incentives and Central Assistance

2.20 So far on scholarships to wards of Defence personnel (including ex-servicemen) is concerned, the State Governments award scholarships on merit-cum-means basis. Ministry of Defence similarly awards scholarships to wards of Defence personnel including ex-servicemen. In addition, Ministry of Defence provides a part of scholarships as Central assistance to those students who are awarded State Government scholarships. The sharing of expenditure on fees/scholarships amongst Central Government, State Governments and the parents will be as decided by the Board of Governors from time to time.

2.21 When asked about the details of wards of Defence Personnel including Ex-Servicemen who have been awarded scholarships and Central Assistance given by Ministry of Defence, the Ministry in their written reply stated as under:-

“(a) The details of wards of Defence Personnel including Ex-Servicemen who have been awarded scholarships during five years is given below:

Sr. No.	Financial Year	Number of wards who were awarded Defence Scholarship
1.	2020-21	2393
2.	2021-22	2532
3.	2022-23	2609
4.	2023-24	2456
5.	2024-25	1232
	Total	11222

(b) The amount of Central Assistance given by Ministry of Defence to the students of Sainik Schools during last five years is as below:

Sr. No.	Financial Year	Amount of Central Assistance (in Crores)
1.	2020-21	1.13
2.	2021-22	1.16
3.	2022-23	1.10
4.	2023-24	1.03
5.	2024-25	1.24
	Total	5.66

2.22 Further, when enquired about State-wise Grant of scholarship to the students belonging to economic weaker section of the society and about any special scheme for girl students, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“State Governments provide scholarships, based on the income slabs of parents of the cadets/marks scored by the students of Sainik school belonging to that State as per their own policy. Ministry of Defence provides a part of scholarship as Central Assistance to those cadets who are awarded State Govt. scholarship. No special scheme has been introduced for girl cadets.”

2.23 Further, on a related query inquired about the number of students who have been granted scholarships from the State Governments/ Union Territories/ Ministry of Defence for study in Sainik Schools and also to provide data for the last five years, year-wise along with the amount of scholarship per student and particularly to the students of lower strata of the society both economically and socially, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“The number of students of Sainik Schools who have been granted scholarship by State Government and Ministry of Defence are as follows:-

S. No.	Year	Number of Students granted scholarships by the State Governments	Number of Students granted scholarships by the Ministry of Defence
1	2020-21	5952	2047
2.	2021-22	6472	2170
3.	2022-23	6693	2174
4.	2023-24	6671	2028
5.	2024-25	6888	1107

Ministry of Defence provides Annual Fee Support to wards of Defence Personnel and Ex-Servicemen. The amount of scholarship per cadet provided by Ministry of Defence is as follows:

For Non Commissioned Officer / Other Ranks : Rs. 32,000/-

For Junior Commissioned Officer :Rs. 16,000/

The scholarships provided by the concerned State Government to cadets of Sainik School varies from State to State based on merit, reservation category and financial status of parents of cadets who are domicile of the State.”

2.24 When asked specifically whether the Ministry of Defence has any proposal for extending inclusive education to the students belonging from weaker sections of the society by way of exemption or minimizing or subsidizing fee in their admission and study in Sainik Schools irrespective of grant of scholarships by States/Union Territories/ Ministry of Defence, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“Reservation in admission to Sainik School is being provided to students belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes. Additionally, certain State Governments provide merit-cum-means based scholarships to the students who are domicile of the states and admitted in the Sainik Schools. Presently there is no proposal in Ministry of Defence for extending any other benefit apart from existing benefits to cadets of Sainik Schools.”

2.25 When asked about the incentives being given to cadets who get selected for NDA/NA, the Ministry in their written reply stated as under:-

“All the cadets of Sainik schools joining the National Defence Academy/Naval Academy are given NDA incentive in the form of reimbursement of entire tuition fee paid for classes XI and XII by such cadets.”

2.26 On being asked whether the training grant provided to each Sainik School is found adequate in view of changing paradigm of training module, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:

“On the basis of proposals received from Sainik schools, Ministry of Defence provides an amount of Rs. 10 Lakhs every year to each Sainik school for meeting expenditure related to NDA training of cadets as well as in-service training of teachers.”

2.27 Further, on enquiry that how many Sainik Schools have been given grant-in-aid for infrastructure development, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:

“The details of number of Sainik schools which have received grant-in-aid for infrastructure development based on their proposals during the last five years is as follows:-

Sr. No.	Financial Year	Number of schools who were awarded grant in-aid for infrastructure development
1.	2020-21	14
2	2021-22	09
3.	2022-23	19
4.	2023-24	25
5.	2024-25	31

Following Sainik Schools have not been granted grant-in-aid for infrastructure grant during last five years:-

Sr. No.	Financial Year	Number of schools who were not awarded grant-in-aid for infrastructure development
1.	2020-21	19
2.	2021-22	24
3.	2022-23	14
4.	2023-24	8
5.	2024-25	2

*The major reason for non-allotment of infrastructure grant to Sainik schools was non-submission of requisite documents for availing the said grant including non submission of vetted Utilization Certificates of the last availed grant.

(d) Infrastructure/maintenance

2.28 With regard to the infrastructure development in Sainik Schools, the representative of the Ministry apprised the Committee as under:

“राज्यों और केन्द्र सरकार के लगातार सपोर्ट के साथ सैनिक स्कूलों को वर्ल्ड-क्लास इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के साथ अपग्रेड किया जा रहा है, जो रेसिडेंशियल पर्यस के लिए अनुकूल हैं।”

2.29 When inquired by the Committee that whether the States have provided the requisite criteria with regard to land and permanent building, the Ministry in their written reply submitted that the State Govt. has provided 100% of the requisite land and permanent buildings to all Sainik Schools. In 4 Sainik schools some of the requisite buildings/ land have been handed over and process of handing over of the remaining land/ buildings is at various stages of planning/construction/approval.

2.30 Further, on a query regarding relaxation in the required criteria provided to any State, the Ministry in their written reply submitted that no State has been provided any relaxation in the required criteria.

(iv) Induction of Girl Students in Sainik Schools

2.31 The Ministry have informed that after successful completion of the pilot project of girls admission in Sainik School Chhingchhip from 2018-19, the Government decided to implement admission of girls children in another 05 Sainik Schools viz. Kalikiri (Andhra Pradesh), Kodagu (Karnataka), Ghorakhal (Uttarakhand), Chandrapur (Maharashtra) and Bijapur (Karnataka) from the academic session 2020-21. From the academic session 2021-22, all 33 Sainik Schools have started admitting girls. This decision has opened doors of quality training of girls cadets at par with boys. Transformation of Sainik Schools from all-boys' schools to Co-ed schools would further boost personality development in both boys and girls. Best possible interaction methodology is being adopted in all the Sainik Schools. The girls and boys will be actively participating in all co-curricular activities and sports together. As on 21th October 2024, 1578 girl cadets are studying in 33 Sainik Schools.

2.32 As regards admission of girl cadets to Sainik Schools, a representative of Ministry informed as under:

“सैनिक स्कूलों में गर्ल्स कैडेट्स का एडमिशन अकादमिक वर्ष 2018 से शुरू हुआ। कक्षा-VI में कुछ सीटों का 10 प्रतिशत स्थान लड़कियों के लिए आरक्षित है। कम से कम दस लड़कियों को हर साल एडमिशन दिया जाता है। अकादमिक वर्ष 2024-25 में मौजूदा सैनिक स्कूलों और नए सैनिक स्कूलों, दोनों में लड़कियों की संख्या 2,000 पार कर गयी है।

रक्षा मंत्रालय द्वारा गर्ल्स होस्टल्स के निर्माण के लिए प्रति सैनिक स्कूल को 3.3 करोड़ रुपये प्रदान किए गए। सैनिक स्कूलों का ध्यान विभिन्न एक्स्ट्रा कर्रिकुलर और को-कर्रिकुलर एक्टिविटीज़, एकेडमिक और नॉन-एकेडमिक डोमेन की गतिविधियों के माध्यम से अपने कैडेट्स के ऑलराउंडर हॉलिस्टिक डेवलपमेंट पर केन्द्रित है। विभिन्न गतिविधियों की झलकियां स्लाइड्स पर दिखायी गयी हैं।”

2.33 The representative of Ministry further added the following-

“सैनिक स्कूलों में गर्ल्स कैडेट्स की भर्ती में वृद्धि को देखते हुए गर्ल्स कैडेट्स के लिए प्रत्येक स्कूल में अनुकूल और हाइजीनिक रेसिडेंशियल फैसिलिटीज़ प्रदान करने के सजग प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।“

(v) Review/ monitoring

2.34 On a query regarding record maintenance of school campus and building by the State Government and existence of any mechanism in this regard, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:

“Schools are receiving Grant-in-Aid from respective State Govt., which varies from School to School. The requirements and grievances are being addressed by Sainik Schools with State Govt. as and when required through correspondence, Local Board of Administration meetings and physical follow-ups.”

2.35 When enquired about the existence of mechanism for review and monitoring of the Sainik Schools by the Central Government, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“Various mechanisms exist for review and monitoring of the Sainik school which includes Annual inspection by Sainik Schools Society and regular meetings of Local Board of Administration (LBA). No such discrepancy has been noticed so far by Central Government”.

2.36 When enquired about any time-lines been framed by the Ministry of Defence to review the existing Sainik Schools Society Rules & Regulations, 1997 (SSSR&R, 1997) with a view to amalgamate relevant provisions of Central Civil Service Rules for the benefits of employees of Sainik Schools, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:

“Sainik Schools Society Rules & Regulations, 1997 (SSSR&R, 1997) is reviewed on need basis, and whenever required changes are made following the due procedure. This is a continuous process.”

2.37 Further, on a related query about the steps being taken by the Ministry of Defence to fill the gap/vacancy of teachers in the existing Sainik

Schools with a view to impart quality education in such Sainik Schools, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“Existing vacancies of teachers are filled either by holding selection by regular appointments or by filling the vacancy gaps through contractual appointments. The concerned Sainik Schools are authorised to carry out these selections.”

2.38 As regards functioning of Sainik Schools, a Board of Governors, functioning under the Chairmanship of the Defence Minister, is the Chief Executive body of the Sainik Schools Society. The Board of Governors will meet as often as is considered necessary by the Chairman. Each school has a Local Board Administration for overseeing the functioning of the school and its finances.

2.39 When asked about the grievance redressal mechanism in Sainik Schools and providing data regarding number of grievances received and their redressal during the last five years, year-wise, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“The grievance in Sainik Schools and Sainik Schools Society are being efficiently addressed through CPGRAMS (Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System). The number of Grievances received and redressed in Sainik Schools during the last five years are as follows:-

S. No.	Year	Number of Grievances received	Number of received redressed
1.	2020-21	6	6
2.	2021-22	7	7
3.	2022-23	20	20
4.	2023-24	37	37

5.	2024-25	85	85
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B. Sainik Schools Under PPP Mode

(i) Overview and Objectives

2.40 The Ministry have informed that the Government has approved the initiative of setting up of 100 new Sainik Schools in partnership with NGO's/Private Schools/State Governments in a graded manner class-wise, starting from Class 6th onward. As on date, Sainik Schools Society has approved 86 new Sainik Schools in partnership mode with NGO's/Private Schools/State Governments. Out of which, Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) has been signed with 64 new Sainik Schools. Out of these, Academic Session has already begun in 45 such schools. A list of 45 new Sainik Schools under partnership mode is at Annexure-II.

2.41 The scheme envisages to provide Annual Fee Support of 50% of fee (subject to an upper limit of Rs 40,000 per annum) for 50% of the class strength (subject to an upper limit of 50 students per year) from class 6 to class 12th, on Merit-cum-Means basis. It is also proposed to incentivize the approved schools with an amount of Rs. 10 Lakh as training grant to each such approved school annually based on annual academic performance of the students in class 12th.

2.42 The Committee have also been informed that the resources involved in setting up of new Sainik Schools i.e., Land, infrastructure, facilities, teachers is to be provided by the entity i.e., NGO's/Private Schools/State Governments entering into MoA with Sainik Schools Society for opening of new Sainik Schools under this scheme. Sainik Schools Society, Ministry of Defence supervises the new Sainik schools through Mentor Sainik schools. An academic plus curriculum has been prescribed by Sainik Schools Society for implementation by new Sainik school.

2.43 During oral evidence, on aims and objectives of new Sainik Schools, the representative of the Ministry apprised the Committee as under:

“अब मैं ‘एम्स एंड ऑब्जेक्टिव्स ऑफ न्यू सैनिक स्कूल्स’ के बारे में बात करूंगा, जो कि इस प्रकार हैं। राष्ट्रीय भावना के मूल्यों का विकास, अदम्य साहस, देश और समाज के प्रति सम्मान के मूल्यों के प्रति अडिग प्रतिबद्धता, फिज़िकल फिटनेस के महत्व को आत्मसात

करना, कैडेट्स की आत्मा में राष्ट्रीय गौरव का भाव जगाना और 'बोर्ड प्लस' एजुकेशन एनवायर्नमेंट प्रदान करना है।

..... एग्जिस्टिंग सैनिक स्कूल्स के भांति न्यू सैनिक स्कूल्स में भी ऑल राउंड डेवलपमेंट एक्टिविटीज़ की जाती हैं, जो कि स्क्रीन पर दर्शायी गई हैं। न्यू सैनिक स्कूल्स के कैडेट्स भी सक्रिय रूप से सरकारी अभियानों में, जिस तरह एग्जिस्टिंग सैनिक स्कूल्स पार्टिसिपेट करते हैं, उसी तरह पार्टिसिपेट करते हैं।“

2.44 During the course of oral evidence when the Committee desired to know the reason for entry into the PPP mode by the Government in Sainik Schools, the representative of the Ministry in this regard stated as under:-

“Sir, the whole object was to try to attract the expertise which is there outside the Government, especially with the private sector, with the NGOs, and get that expertise into the whole Sainik School ecosystem. schools are already operating, and they are doing well. There is a lot of motivation among them. जो वहां के बच्चों में है, वहां के टीचर्स में है। अब उन्होंने एक्स सर्विसमैन को भी एंगेज किया है, to do all the drillings, exercises, parades and all that.

I feel that this Government's approach towards the education as well as that of the private sector together will really meet the objective of the Government. “

....Other than that, more or less, even from a State Government perspective what I feel it is a much better proposition to go in for a Public Private Partnership model. Very importantly, the affiliation of that school can be with the State Board. For our school, it has to be CBSE. The medium of instruction of that school can be any language, and need not be English. So, a lot of flexibility is there in PPP model schools combined with our academic and curriculum

as well as our supervision. We feel that it is a much, much better system of giving out military kind of a disciplined training. I think that is the need of the hour”.

2.45 Further, when the Committee enquired about characteristics of schools under PPP model, the representative of the Ministry apprised the Committee as under:-

“Sir, these are the schools in partnership mode. In this, the affiliation and the approval would be given by the Ministry of Defence. They will be the Sainik Schools under the overall brand of the Sainik School Society. They will run as per the rules and regulations which are made by the Sainik School Society. The cadets will join there after passing the All India Exam conducted by the Sainik School Society but the infrastructure, faculty and the operation of the school would entirely rest with the State Government or the trust or the NGO, which is seeking approval for that PPP mode. अगर कोई प्राइवेट स्कूल है, जो भी एनटीटी प्राइवेट स्कूल को चला रही है, वही चलाती रहेगी। उसी का कंट्रोल रहेगा। उस स्कूल के अंदर, there will be a separate vertical from Class 6th सैनिक स्कूल सोसाइटी ने जो करिकुलम बताया है, अकादमिक प्लस पाठ्यक्रम बनाया है, उस करिकुलम के हिसाब से पढ़ाई होगी और उसका सुपरविजन सैनिक स्कूल सोसाइटी करेगी।“

2.46 On the issue of transition of State Government School into new Sainik School, the representative of the Ministry apprised the Committee as under:-

“.....The land belongs to the State Government – both the cases. Infrastructure is to be provided by the State Government – both the cases. आप पुराने स्कूल में जाएं या नए स्कूल में जाएं। Facilities to be provided by the State Government – both the cases. फर्क सिर्फ इतना है कि प्रिंसिपल, वाइस प्रिंसिपल एंड एडम ऑफिसर हम सर्विसेज़ का लगाते हैं, जो हमारा अपना स्कूल होता है। If I am not wrong, the Chief Minister is the Chairman of that Board of Governors of that school.

2.47 The Committee desired to know whether the Ministry consider that PPP mode for setting up of Sainik Schools is success, the Ministry in the written reply stated as under:-

“The Government has approved the scheme of setting up 100 New Sainik Schools in partnership mode with NGOs/ State Government/ Private Schools, out of which Sainik Schools Society has approved 86 New Sainik Schools. Out of these, 45 schools have commenced Academic session. The first batch of 17 such schools (out of 45 schools) started in the Academic session 2022-23.

The PPP model brings in the strength of public and private sector together to achieve the objectives behind the vision of setting up of 100 New Sainik Schools, which is to provide quality education to the students in tune with National Education Policy, give students better career opportunities and make them responsible citizens of tomorrow.

The process for setting up of remaining 14 New Sainik School on partnership mode is underway. The efficacy of the PPP model in entirety can only be ascertained once these New Sainik Schools are well established and quantifiable outcomes can then be evaluated in terms of Class X & XII Board results and other achievements of these New Sainik Schools.”

(ii) Criteria for approval of New Sainik Schools and progress

2.48 On being asked about the criteria for approval of Sainik Schools by Sainik Schools Society, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

The criteria/parameters for approval of New Sainik school majorly comprise:

- i. Land availability
 - a. Day School .-6 acres
 - b. Residential Schools -8 acres
- ii Adequate Academic and Administrative infrastructure
- iii. Sufficient and qualified Academic and Administrative Staff
- iv. Affiliation with board of education (CBSE/State)

- v. Transparent fee structure
- vi. Sound financial health of school
- vii. Signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)
- viii. Recommendation of the School Evaluation Committee

2.49 When enquired about the share of the State Government in opening of Sainik School in their States, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:

“The Government has approved the scheme of setting up 100 new Sainik Schools in partnership mode with NGOs/ State Government/ Private Schools. Interested State Governments can apply through the online portal <https://sainikschool.ncog.gov.in> for opening of new Sainik Schools in their states. Moreover, under this scheme, the responsibility of providing necessary land, infrastructure, staff, facilities etc for the new Sainik School lies with concerned entity which runs/operates the school. In case, the said entity is State Government, the said State Government shall be responsible for providing all the requisite resources for opening of new Sainik School.

The application received from State Government/s will be evaluated based on the Qualifying Requirements set for the new Sainik Schools and on being found fit provisional approval will be granted by Sainik Schools Society. Thereafter, the approved School will be required to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Sainik Schools Society for setting up as new Sainik School.”

2.50 When the Committee desired to know about opening up of the new Sainik Schools throughout the country on the basis of geographical distribution is being considered by the Ministry while according approvals to scheme, the Ministry in their written reply stated as under:

“Yes, in the first phase of this scheme for setting up of 100 new Sainik schools, all efforts are being made to allocate the schools on pro-rata basis depending on number of districts in a State/UT, subject to allocation of at least one Sainik School in each State/UT and further subject to receipt of sufficient number of valid applications from each State/UT. Such pro-rata distribution can however be reviewed in case nil/less number of valid application are received for certain States/UTs.”

2.51 During the course of oral evidence, on students' participation to the activities in new Sainik Schools, the representative of Ministry apprised the Committee as under:-

“ये नए डे-स्कूल या रेजिडेंशियल स्कूल हो सकते हैं। नए स्कूलों में मेरिट बेस्ड एडमिशन का क्राइटेरिया एग्जिस्टिंग 33 सैनिक स्कूलों के समान है, जहां कैडेट्स को एनटीए द्वारा आयोजित ऑल इंडिया लैवल कॉमन टैस्ट सामान्य प्रवेश परीक्षा में योग्यता के आधार पर प्रवेश दिया जाता है। सरकार ने मेरिट कम मीन्स बेसिस पर स्कूल फी के 50 परसेंट की वार्षिक शुल्क सहायता प्रदान करने का निर्णय किया है जो कक्षा संख्या के 50 परसेंट के लिए 40,000 रुपये प्रति वर्ष की अपर लिमिट और 50 छात्रों की अपर लिमिट के अधीन है।

नए सैनिक स्कूलों का ध्यान वेरियस स्पोर्ट्स एंड गोम्स, एक्सट्रा कलिकुलर एक्टिविटीज़, एकेडेमिक एंड नॉन-एकेडेमिक डोमेन की गतिविधियों के माध्यम से अपने कैडेटों को ऑलराउंड होलिस्टिक डेवलपमेंट प्रदान करने पर केंद्रित है।

एग्जिस्टिंग सैनिक स्कूलों की तरह नए सैनिक स्कूलों के कैडेट्स सक्रिय रूप से सरकारी अभियानों जैसे, सेलिब्रेशन ऑफ चन्द्रयान-3 सक्सेस, स्वच्छता ही सेवा अभियान और अन्य सरकारी अभियानों में भी शामिल होते हैं।

नए सैनिक स्कूलों को रेजिडेंशियल परपज़ के लिए वर्ल्ड क्लास इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर द्वारा अपग्रेड किया जा रहा है। मौजूदा सैनिक स्कूलों के प्रयासों के अनुरूप नए सैनिक स्कूल गार्ल्स कैडर के लिए प्रत्येक स्कूल में अनुकूल और स्वच्छ आवासीय सुविधाएं प्रदान कर रहे हैं।“

2.52 When asked about the current status of approved Sainik Schools which have not signed Memorandum of Agreements (MoA) with Sainik Schools Society, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“In Round-3, 42 more new Sainik Schools have been approved taking the tally of new Sainik Schools to 86. Out of these 86 New Sainik Schools, MoA has been signed with 64 new Sainik Schools. Further, the signing of MoA in respect of remaining 22 approved New Sainik schools is pending for want of requisite documents from the entities as per the terms & conditions of the approval letter issued by Ministry of Defence to the approved New Sainik schools.”

2.53 When enquired about the number of Sainik schools under consideration for approval by the Society, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“The `Valid' applications received in the first three rounds as well as applications received in the ongoing Round-4 will be considered for setting up the balance 14 new Sainik Schools.”

2.54 When the Committee desired to know about the current status of scrutiny of applications for Sainik Schools Scheme, the Ministry in their written reply stated as under:-

“As of now, the `Valid` applications received in the first three rounds from various NGOs/Trusts/State Govt./Private schools are under consideration for opening as New Sainik School, subject to fulfilment of requisite criteria. Additionally, the registration window of Round-4 for inviting of fresh application for setting up of 14 New Sainik Schools has been reopened by Sainik Schools Society.”

2.55 On a related query about strictly following the earmarked criteria or any relaxation has been accorded in some cases, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“A well laid down policy and criteria is followed. Necessary documentation and on-ground verification is carried out before setting up of New Sainik Schools in accordance with existing Rules & Regulations for New Sainik Schools.”

(iii) Induction of Girl Students in New Sainik Schools

2.56 On being asked whether there is any guideline regarding intake of girl students in these schools, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“No restriction has been imposed by Sainik School Society on the number of girls that can be given admission in the new Sainik schools established under partnership mode. These schools can be set up on all-boys/all-girls/co-education basis.”

2.57 When enquired about enrolment of girls students State-wise in the new Sainik Schools established under PPP mode, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“As on August, 2025, a total of 891 girls are studying in New Sainik Schools. State-wise details of girl students in new Sainik schools is as below:-

Sr. No.	State/UT	Number of girls studying under New Sainik schools in the State/UT
1.	Arunanchal Pradesh	31
2.	Kerala	95
3.	Gujarat	136
4.	Bihar	28
5.	Andhra Pradesh	09
6.	Himachal Pradesh	15
7.	Karnataka	112
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	48
9.	Maharashtra	47
10.	Rajasthan	80
11.	Madhya Pradesh	28
12.	Uttar Pradesh	115
13.	Haryana	80
14.	Chhattisgarh	29
15.	Tamil Nadu	22
16.	Punjab	16
	Total	891

2.58 When the Committee desired to know about the total strength of a Sainik School and the ratio of girls to boys in the New Sainik Schools, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“The total strength of a new Sainik school varies from school to school. The average strength of a new Sainik school is 126 per school having an average of approx.104 boys and 22 girls per new Sainik school which amount to ratio of boys to girls in New Sainik schools to be 4.72 to 1”

2.59 When asked specifically about the number of girls from the new Sainik Schools qualified for NDA, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“The first batch of students in New Sainik schools started in Academic Year 2022-23 and these students including girls are presently studying in class 8th . Candidates who are appearing or passed class 12th are eligible for appearing in NDA exam. Accordingly, the details of girls of New Sainik schools who qualify for NDA can be known only when these girls will be eligible to appear in NDA exam.”

2.60 During oral evidence, the Committee desired to know the intention of the Ministry to start exclusive girls’ schools, the representative apprised as under:

“Sir, we have exclusive girls’ school in the PPP model. We encourage all-girls’ school. For one of the all-girls’ school, we have given approval at *Mathura*. It is yet to start but approval has been given for all-girls’ sainik school. Similarly, it can be all boys, it can be all girls, and it can be co-ed.”

.....Some private trusts have already started some Sainik Schools. One such example is in Kittur, Belgaum. That is the place of Rani Chennamma, who fought against the British. She won the war against Britishers in 1826. So, to commemorate her bravery, a private trust started Mahila Sainik School which is purely for girls. If we talk about the Sainik Schools run by the Government, there is only some quota for the girls. But if we see Rani Chennamma Sainik School in Kittur, that is purely for girls and only the girl students are being trained there. It is a very famous school. So, I would suggest you to adopt that thing and also involve them with you which would also be encouraging for these private trusts. So, this aspect has also to be discussed.

(iv) Review/Monitoring

2.61 On being asked about any provisions in the scheme for periodical review of New Sainik Schools and their affiliation to the Sainik Schools Society, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“In the new scheme of opening new Sainik schools under partnership mode, the schools are initially approved provisionally for a fixed period of two academic years, which is subject to extension post performance review. If required, the schools will be inspected by an authority authorized by Sainik Schools Society, Ministry of Defence for ensuring

adherence to Rules & Regulations for New Sainik schools. Subsequent to achieving desired threshold in two successive performance reviews of the schools, regular approval would be considered for such schools for the duration of 15 years from the date of approval. However, Sainik Schools Society, Ministry of Defence reserves all rights to cancel the approval at any time if a school fails to meet the laid down criteria.”

2.62 When enquired about current status of the third party Performance Review of the erstwhile Sainik Schools and the new Sainik Schools done by NCERT and QCI (NABET), respectively, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“The third party performance review of New Sainik schools will be done after completion of first phase of setting up of 100 New Sainik Schools. In respect of third party performance review of erstwhile pattern Sainik schools by NCERT, it is stated that NCERT have visited 10 Sainik schools for the said performance review. However, Report in this regard is awaited from NCERT.”

2.63 When asked specifically about the problems which are being faced in PPP model and specific being taken to overcome the problem, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“The PPP model of opening New Sainik schools is currently in its initial stage as students are studying in class 8th. Evaluation of the PPP model of opening New Sainik schools can only be done after the students complete class 12th in New Sainik schools.”

C. Challenges, Constraints and issues relating to Sainik Schools

2.64 When the Committee desired to know about the challenges and constraints being faced by Sainik Schools and actions have been contemplated to resolve/eradicate the problems, the Ministry in their written reply stated as under:-

“Sainik Schools have played a unique role as a recruiting and training ground of future leaders of the armed forces. The Sainik Schools, true to its aim, have contributed significantly for NDA intake during the last decade despite various constraints. The following are few major challenges faced by these schools and the measures taken by the Ministry to resolve the problem:

(a) **Pay & Pension to the Staff:** The responsibility of providing pension and retirement benefits to the retired employees of Sainik Schools lies with the concerned State Government. However, share of contribution is not received from a few States timely or on regular basis. Sainik Schools Society is regularly pursuing the matter with concerned State Govt. to formalize the responsibility of the State Govt. by signing MoA. As a result, MoA has been signed with concerned State Govt. in respect of 25 Sainik Schools out of a total of 33 Sainik Schools.

(b) **Infrastructure:** Few of the Sainik Schools are more than 60 years old and their infrastructure have depleted to a considerable extent. For rejuvenation of such schools, a special one-time infrastructure grant of Rs. 62.96 crore was allotted in F.Y. 2022-23.

(c) **Demand for New Sainik Schools:** The Ministry received various proposals from the State Government(s) for opening of Sainik Schools in their State(s). Government has introduced and approved an initiative to set up 100 New Sainik Schools across the country in partnership mode with NGOs/Private/State Government Schools. As on date, Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India has approved 86 New Sainik Schools and signed Memorandum of Agreement with 64 such New Sainik Schools in various States/UTs across the country. Further, process to approve more New Sainik Schools is underway.

2.65 The Committee learnt that as per the standing directives of Board of Governors, Sainik Schools Society, Ministry of Defence, school fee will be increased by 10% every year. The Committee desired to know specifically about the reasons for escalation in fee structure of Sainik Schools and enquired whether the Ministry of Defence has any proposal to minimize/subsidize or Control the escalated fee structure of Sainik Schools at par with other similar residential recognised educational institutions in the country, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“Sainik School are created on a centre-state partnership model. The state government provides the land infrastructure, ongoing maintenance and in many cases also the pension liabilities and terminal benefits of Sainik School employees. The central government through the Ministry of Defence provides the Principal, the Vice

Principal, the Admin Officer, the NCC and physical training core Component.

The running costs of the school including salaries to academic and support staff are paid from the tuition fees collected from the students. The escalation in fees for cadet hence may not be avoided.”

2.66 The Committee sought the reasons about Sainik School employees neither being treated as Central Government servants nor as State Government servants and to whom the benefits of Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS), Children Education Allowance (CEA) and Bonus have not been extended, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“Sainik Schools are created on a centre-state partnership model. The state government provides the land infrastructure, ongoing maintenance and in many cases also bear the pension liabilities and terminal benefits of Sainik School employees. The central government through the Ministry of Defence provides the Principal, the Vice Principal, the Admin officer, the National Cadet Corps (NCC) and army physical training core component.

The running costs of the school including salaries to academic and support staff are paid from the tuition fees collected from the students.

The Sainik School employees, including the academic Staff are governed by the Sainik Schools Society rules and regulations of 1997. Engagement of these employees is done locally by the concerned School. As the employees of Sainik Schools are neither Central Government employees nor State Government employees, Central government benefits or state government benefits cannot be extended to them.

It may be appreciated that even if salaries are to be increased or additional allowances are to be provided, the same may impact the tuition fees being paid by the students.

Certain additional benefits are made available to Sainik School employees which includes rent free residential accommodation and meals for the teaching staff when taken in the mess with the cadets.”

2.67 Further, the Committee desired to know whether the Ministry of Defence has any proposal to extend pay structure of 7th Central Pay Commission to other staff of Sainik Schools at par with regular employees the schools, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“The pay structure of the 7th Central Pay Commission has been extended only to the regular employees of the Sainik Schools. There is no proposal in Ministry to extend pay structure of 7th Central Pay Commission to other than regular employees of the schools.”

CHAPTER III

RASHTRIYA INDIAN MILITARY COLLEGE AND RASHTRIYA MILITARY SCHOOLS

(i) Rashtriya Indian Military College

Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) was established on March 13, 1922 to recruit Indian citizens into the officer ranks of the Indian Army. The aim of RIMC is to send the RIMC Cadets Corps to the National Defence Academy and Naval Academy as per the Directive of the Ministry of Defence.

3.2 During the course of oral evidence regarding selection procedure of cadets in Rashtriya Indian Military College, the representative of Ministry apprised the Committee as under:-

“.....आरआईएमसी का एडमिशन भी नेशनल इंटीग्रेशन का एक अमूल्य उदाहरण है। आरआईएमसी का सेलेक्शन ऑल इंडिया लेवल पर एंट्रेंस एग्जामिनिशन के थ्रू किया जाता है। साल में दो बार, जनवरी और जुलाई में यह एग्जाम कंडक्ट किया जाता है। इस समय आरआईएमसी का मैक्सिमम स्ट्रेंथ 250 है। आरआईएमसी में इंटेक 8वीं क्लास में जाता है, जब बच्चे की उम्र साढ़ ग्यारह से तेरह साल के बीच में होता है।“

“राष्ट्रीय भारतीय सैन्य कॉलेज में एडमिशन इस प्रकार से होते हैं। हर साल, साल में दो बार एक ऑल इंडिया लेवल एंट्रेंस एग्जाम के जरिए आरआईएमसी देश के विभिन्न राज्यों से एक-एक छात्र चुनता है। यह प्रक्रिया जनवरी और जुलाई में होती है। ट्रेनिंग के लिए आरआईएमसी हर एडमिशन प्रक्रिया में लगभग 25 लड़के और पांच लड़कियां आठवीं कक्षा में दाखिल करता है। सन् 2025 के जुलाई से गर्ल्स सैन्य छात्रों की संख्या, हर बैच में पांच से दस कर दी जाएगी।“

3.3 When the Committee desired to know about determination of state-wise quota based on the population for admission in RIMC, the Ministry in their post evidence reply submitted that the admission quotas are allocated on state-wise basis proportionate to each State's population for ensuring broad representation.

3.4 The Committee sought to explain about the rational for holding board exams twice annually in RIMC, the Ministry in their post evidence reply submitted as under:-

“RIMC follows a semester system aligned with the structure of National Defence Academy (NDA) & Naval Academy (NA) necessitating to board exams annually. Army HQ’s (Army Education Directorate) conducts these exams following the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) curriculum.

30 cadets are included every 6 months in RIMC.”

3.5 On the issue of participation in various activities by cadets in Rashtriya Indian Military College, the representative of Ministry apprised the Committee as under:-

“सरकार की पॉलिसीज को ध्यान में रखते हुए और आरआईएमसी कैडेट्स को सबसे बेहतरीन ट्रेनिंग प्रदान करने के मकसद से आरआईएमसी में इस समय काफी इनीशिएटिव्स चल रहे हैं।

डिजिटल लर्निंग- जिसमें डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म और इंटरनेट के माध्यम से भारत के कोने-कोने से सीनियर कमांडर्स और एजुकेशन के क्षेत्र में सीनियर लीडर कैडेट्स से रेगुलर बेसिस पर इंटरैक्शन करते हैं, उनको मोटिवेट करते हैं और देश का अच्छा नागरिक बनने की प्रेरणा देते हैं।

स्वच्छ भारत- आरआईएमसी का हर कैडेट न केवल अपने आस-पास, बल्कि पूरे कैंपस और देहरादून को स्वच्छ रखने का महत्व समझता है। इस कार्यवाही को हम हर रविवार श्रमदान के माध्यम से भी अंजाम देते हैं।

पर्यावरण- आरआईएमसी का हर कैडेट अपने 5 सालों की ट्रेनिंग के दौरान आरआईएमसी के कैंपस और देहरादून में कम से कम 35 पेड़ लगाने का काम करता है।

एआई लर्निंग मॉड्यूल्स- आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस को मद्देनजर रखते हुए आरआईएमसी में हमने एआई लर्निंग मॉड्यूल्स की स्टैब्लिशमेंट की है और इस समय कैडेट्स हॉबीज और क्लब्स के जरिए एआई को एजुकेशन और देश को बढ़ावा देने के लिए इस्तेमाल करते हैं।

नेशनल मैथ्स क्विज, हाल ही में आरआईएमसी ने नेशनल मैथ्स क्विज जीता है, जिसमें देश के बेहतरीन स्कूल्स ने पार्टिसिपेट किया था।

नेशनल स्कूल डिबेट, हाल ही में आरआईएमसी ने नेशनल स्कूल डिबेट भी जीता है, जिसमें देश के बेहतरीन से बेहतरीन स्कूलों ने पार्टिसिपेट किया था।”

3.6 Further, on being asked by the Committee about participation in shooting competitions by RIMC cadets, the Ministry in their reply submitted as under:-

“Details of cadets from RIMC participated in shooting competitions is given in the Annexure-III “

3.7 With regard to induction of girls cadets in Rashtriya Indian Military College, the representative of Ministry apprised the Committee as under:

“गर्ल्स कैडेट्स, जुलाई 2022 से आरआईएमसी में गर्ल्स कैडेट्स की भी ट्रेनिंग हो रही है। अभी वर्तमान में आरआईएमसी में 14 गर्ल्स कैडेट्स ट्रेनिंग कर रहे हैं, जो आरआईएमसी की स्ट्रैथ का 25 परसेंट है।

उनका इंडक्शन प्लान - वर्ष 2028 तक गर्ल्स का स्ट्रैथ लगभग 100 के बराबर इन्क्रीज किया जाएगा, जिसके लिए इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर, एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर और डारमेट्रीज का क्रिएशन इस समय चल रहा है। उस समय आरआईएमसी का स्ट्रैथ 250 बॉयज और 100 गर्ल्स होगा।“

(ii) Rashtriya Military Schools

There are five Rashtriya Military Schools which are located at Ajmer, Belgaum, Bengaluru, Dholpur and Chair. The aim of these schools is on the similar patten of Sainik Schools to impart quality education and to prepare the cadets to join the Defence Services as officers.

3.8 The details of reservation of seats for admission in Rashtriya Military Schools are as under:

(i) 70% for wards of Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs) / Other Ranks(OR)of Army, Navy and Air Force including Ex-Servicemen (27%, 15%, 7.59% reservation for OBC, SC and ST respectively is applicable)

(ii) 30% for wards of officers of Army, Navy and Air Force (including retired officers) and civilians (27%, 15%, 7.5% reservation for OBC, SC applicable)

(iii) A total of 50 seats are earmarked for killed in Action category, in all five RMSs put together, at any point of time.

(iv) For class VI, 10% seats or 30 vacancies maximum (put together in all 05 RMSs) reserved for girl candidates.

3.9 During the course of oral evidence, on students' participation in activities in Rashtriya Military Schools, the representative of Ministry apprised the Committee as under:-

“.....In order to provide the overall development of the cadets, apart from the education, we carry out curricular as well as co-curricular,

club activities and sports activities which are given there on the slide.

We have declamation, painting competition, debates, dramas, archery, pot making etc. Science club is there. In fact, we have clubs for the subjects. These are a few slides which we have brought.

We carry out almost all the sports activities in all the schools. There are periodic competitions between the schools and they also participate in various district and national-level competitions. We have NCC in all our five schools. All the activities, which have been designed for NCC cadets, are being carried out regularly including firing. Adventure activities are the part of our curriculum and extra-curricular activities of the schools. They go for trekking; they go for rock climbing, mountaineering. We also carry out cycle expedition.

Academic infrastructure has been development to the world-class level in all the schools and the efforts are on in this regard. The Government has been giving adequate funds to all the schools to provide them all the necessities of CTL and labs. School infrastructure has been development over a period of time. We are still in the process of improving the infrastructure so as to provide adequate and viable accommodation to the girl cadets also.

We carry out Armed Display Activity by the armed forces. This is one of the activities which we have shown here. This was done exclusively by the girls to align them for the future role.

We also participated in Government initiatives, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, celebration of Chandrayan 3 success, Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. All these activities were carried out in all the schools. Demo on waste management was also carried out. Apart from these, all other academic activities are carried out to make the students efficient to appear for NDA examination.

(iii) Management and Governance of RMS and RIMC

3.10 When the Committee desired to know about the management and governance of the five Rashtriya Military Schools (RMS) and Rashtriya

Indian Military College (RIMC), the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

Rashtriya Military Schools: The Central Governing Council (CGC) headed by the Defence Secretary is the Apex policy making body for these RMSs. A Local Board of Administration headed by the Major General/Brigadier, looks after the local administration of the schools. School is headed by a Principal of the rank of Lt. Colonel.

Rashtriya Indian Military College: Rashtriya Indian Military College is headed by an officer of the rank of Colonel as Commandant. Two more officers are authorized to RIMC for performing the duties of Administrative Officer and Assistant Administrative & Training Officer.”

3.11 On being enquired about the difference between the curriculum and fee structure of Rashtriya Indian Military College, Rashtriya Military Schools and Sainik Schools, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“RMSs and RIMC follow CBSE curriculum and both are funded out of Defence Budget of the Central Government.

Fee Structure: -

The present fees structure per annum in RMSs is as under: -

S No	Category	Fee per annum
1	OR	Rs 12,000/-
2	JCOs	Rs 18,000/-
3	Officers	Rs 25,000/-
4	Civilians	Rs 51,000/-

In case of SC/ST, 25% fee is charged in each category.

The fee structure of RIMC is as under: -

S No	Category	Fee per annum
1	Boarder Cadet (General)	Rs 1,48,650/-
2	Boarder Cadet (SC/ST)	Rs 1,31,850/-
3	Day Scholar Cadet *	Rs 65,700/-

* Only wards of RIMC staff is allowed as day scholar.

3.12 When the Committee desired to know the motive behind setting up of Rashtriya Military Schools and Rashtriya Indian Military College and

differences between them, the Ministry, in their written reply submitted as under :-

“RIMC is a feeder institute to National Defence Academy & Naval Academy. The aim of Rashtriya Military Schools (RMS) is to impart quality education and prepare cadets to join Defence Services.

Admissions to RIMC is carried out in grade - VIII whereas admission to RMS is done in class VI and class IX. Statewise quota is earmarked for admission to RIMC whereas reservation of 70% to wards of Junior Commissioned Officers / Other Ranks and 30% to wards of officers and civilians is provided in RMS's.”

3.13 When the Committee desired to know whether the budget allocation to Rashtriya Military Schools and Rashtriya Indian Military College in BE for 2024-25 is sufficient to meet the requirement, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“An amount of Rs. 713.97 Lakhs has been allocated in the BE 2024-25 for RMS's. Similarly an amount of Rs. 598 Lakhs has been allotted to RIMC in the BE 2024-25.

The Budget allocations are sufficient to meet the present requirements.”

3.14 On being asked whether Sainik School students are given preference for admission in the Military College and Military School, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“Candidates are selected through an All India level Entrance Exam. No preference is given to any student from a Sainik School for admission to RIMC and RMS.”

3.15 When the Committee desired to know whether any preference is given to the students from Rashtriya Military Schools, Rashtriya Indian Military College and Sainik Schools for joining the Armed Forces and also the status of dropout rate in these institutes, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“So far, approximately, 1907 cadets of RMSs and 2763 cadets of RIMC have joined the Armed Forces. No preference is given to the

cadets of Sainik Schools, RMSs and RIMC in Armed Forces. The average dropout rate in last five years for these institutes is as under:

S. No.	Institute	Average dropout rate for last five years
(i)	Sainik Schools	6.93%
(ii)	Rashtriya Military Schools (RMS)	6.96%
(iii)	Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC)	7.1%

3.16 The Committee have been informed that there is one Military College and 5 Military Schools in the country, whereas there are 33 Sainik Schools under the erstwhile pattern and the Government has approved the scheme for establishment of 100 more Sainik Schools under the PPP mode. On a specific query regarding any plan to open new Military College and Military Schools under any such scheme, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under:-

“No proposal for opening of new RIMC/ RMS is under consideration.”

3.17 During the course of oral evidence, the Committee desired to know about inclusion of topics related to modern technology used in warfare in the curriculum, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under :-

“Elements of strategic thinking, information technology and associated scientific principles are embedded across various subject taught in RIMC and RMS’s. Guest lectures are also organised to provide perspective of modern warfare.”

3.18 The Committee also enquired about emphasis given on Indian Military History, Indian Warriors and their warfare techniques, the Ministry in their post evidence reply submitted as under :-

“Students are provided with insights into the bravery and sacrifices of Indian freedom fighters and Armed Forces. RIMC maintains a well stocked library with separate section on military history. Cadets also participate in military historic seminars.”

3.19 The Committee desired to know about participation in Yoga and Pranayam by cadets, the Ministry in their reply submitted that Yoga and Pranayam are integral to the physical training curriculum and the cadets regularly engage in these practices.

3.20 To be specific, the Committee also desired to know whether there is any reservation for children of civilians, the Ministry in their written reply intimated the Committee as under:-

“State-wise quota is earmarked for admission to RIMC. For admission to RMS’S 30% seats are reserved for children of service officers and civilians.”

3.21 When the Committee desired know about the challenges and constraints being faced by Rashtriya Military Schools and Rashtriya Indian Military College, the Ministry through written reply submitted as under:-

“No challenges are being faced by Rashtriya Military Schools and Rashtriya Indian Military College.”

PART-II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Background of Sainik Schools

The Committee note that Sainik Schools are set-up in 1961 and a jointly run by the Central and State Governments, under the overall governance of Sainik School Society, Ministry of Defence. The foremost objective of Sainik Schools is to prepare the cadets/students academically, physically and mentally and also instil qualities of leadership, patriotism and discipline in them for entry into the National Defence Academy (NDA) and the Indian Military Academy alongwith ensuring the removal of regional imbalances in the Officers cadre of the Armed Forces. Further, Sainik Schools play an important role to provide balanced education/training that includes academics, physical training and character development which helps the young cadets to become good and responsible citizens of the nation. The Committee observes that the ultimate objective is also to make accessible high quality education within the reach of the common man. The Committee, further note that prior to the scheme for establishment of Sainik Schools, there existed 5 Rashtriya Military Schools and 1 Rashtriya Indian Military College, with the same objectives as that of Sainik Schools. All of these institutions basically train and nurture cadets for entry into the coveted National Defence Academy or other defence institutions/sectors. The Committee,

in course of its examination of the issues, have commented upon the topics like allocation of funds, performance of Sainik Schools, training to teachers, scholarships for deserving students, provision of grants-in-aid for Sainik Schools infrastructure, opening of new Sainik Schools under PPP mode, proper infrastructure for girl students and timely updation of curriculum for best results. Further, the examination of the subject has revealed certain impediments in achieving the laid out objectives for which Sainik Schools were established alongwith their performance, which could be improved or taken care of to reach the expected levels. Some concerns have also surfaced on the issue of the opening of new Sainik Schools during the course of examination, whereas the expansion of Sainik Schools has proved to be a piecemeal process. Further, the States interested in opening of the new schools have also not been able to conclusively pursue their requests, especially when the financial obligation on the part of the State Governments was conveyed. The various recommendations/observations of the Committee emerging out of the detailed deliberations on the subject have been enumerated in the succeeding paragraphs of the report.

Budget allocation for functioning of Sainik Schools

2. The Committee note that at present there are 33 Sainik Schools under erstwhile pattern located in various parts of the country. The Committee further note that the Government has approved the initiative

of setting up of 100 new Sainik Schools in partnership mode with NGO's/Private Schools/State Governments in a graded manner class-wise, starting from class 6th onwards with a vision to create a system that combines academic vigour with a degree of discipline and increased focus on value-based education. As per the latest information provided by the Ministry of Defence, Sainik Schools Society has approved 86 new Sainik Schools so far in partnership mode with NGO's/Private Schools/State Governments. The Committee observes that for the functioning of Sainik Schools, allocated funds are utilized in providing various grant-in-aids, scholarships, incentives, special grants to Sainik Schools. In F.Y. 2023-24, out of the allocated budget of Rs. 175.87 crore, an amount of Rs. 152.43 crore was allocated for Sainik Schools. The balance amount of Rs. 23.44 crore was surrendered to Government account. Although the amount of Rs. 152.43 crore, as stated by the Ministry was adequate to fulfil the obligation of Ministry of Defence towards functioning of Sainik Schools, the Committee are of the view that surrendered amount of Rs. 23.44 crore could have been gainfully utilized towards various other issues, especially those pertaining to lacking infrastructure of Sainik Schools. The Committee desire that the Ministry in future may ensure that all sanctioned amount is gainfully and effectively utilized and generally no surrender of funds should take place. Further, to cater to the additional requirement with regard to BE 2024-25, an amount of Rs. 670 crore was projected for Revised Estimates 2024-25,

which was Rs. 494.13 crore more than the earlier allocated amount of Rs. 175.87 crore. The Committee are of the considered view that sufficient funds should be allocated to Sainik Schools, wherever necessary, to meet the heads of grant-in-aids, scholarships, incentives and special grants in respect of erstwhile Sainik Schools and also in terms of annual fee support and training grant to new upcoming Sainik Schools. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Defence should make all out efforts to impress upon the Ministry of Finance for providing sufficient budgetary support or allocation for required infrastructure development, alongwith ensuring timebound modernization of 33 Sainik Schools, as well as the new upcoming schools, so as to ensure that Sainik Schools function smoothly towards playing the unique role of recruiting and training future leaders for the Armed Forces and other national service sectors.

Performance/comparison of Sainik Schools with Rashtriya Military School, Rashtriya Indian Military College

3. The Committee note that Sainik Schools were established after the Rashtriya Military Schools and the Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC), with clearly defined aims and objectives i.e to prepare cadets for entry into NDA, and to rectify regional imbalance in the Officers cadre of Indian Armed Forces. These institutions were designed with a robust organizational structure extending from the Ministry of Defence at the

apex level to Local Boards of Administration at the ground level. The importance accorded to Sainik Schools is evident from the fact that the Raksha Mantri serves as the Chairman of the Board of Governors. Further, to ensure efficient functioning and streamlined operations, Sainik Schools are staffed with serving Service Officers in key leadership positions such as Principal, Vice-Principal, and Administrative Officer, in addition to APTC/NCC instructors and other requisite skilled personnel.

The Committee also observe that Sainik Schools are established on expansive campuses and are equipped with well-developed infrastructure and facilities to impart quality education and comprehensive training. These institutions are intended to develop cadets into capable individuals who can serve as officers in the Armed Forces in the future. Keeping in view the above moto of Sainik School, the Government should make all out efforts to increase the intake of the NDA cadets from Sainik School at par with RIMC.

The Committee further note, based on submissions from the Ministry, that in recent years students have been increasingly exploring diverse career options, influenced by wider availability of opportunities and personal interests. In this context, the Committee are of the view that Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Military Schools, and RIMC must adapt to evolving aspirations and advancements, particularly in relation to the range of career choices made available to students.

While reaffirming the core objective of new Sainik Schools—namely, nurturing candidates for entry into the Armed Forces—the Committee emphasize that students should also be encouraged to pursue alternative career pathways aligned with their interests and aptitudes directly or indirectly related to national defence.

The Committee are of the considered view that the time is opportune for students of Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Military Schools, and RIMC to be motivated to pursue careers not only in the Armed Forces but also in allied fields related to defence research, innovation, design, and medicine. Accordingly, the Committee recommend that the Ministry, through these schools and colleges, adopt a multi-pronged approach to build awareness and instil a sense of purpose aligned with students' interests from an early stage. Such an approach would ensure holistic development and enable students to emerge as responsible citizens and future leaders of the nation.

Training for teaching staff

4. The Committee note that most of the Sainik Schools have the required number of Service Officers, APTCs and NCC staff. Across the 33 Sainik Schools, there are approximately 800 teachers, and significant emphasis is being placed on their training and professional development. The Committee note that the Ministry has entered into an MoU with IITE, Gandhinagar, under which training has already commenced. The

programme comprises three phases, and every teacher is required to undergo each phase, beginning from the induction stage. The Committee observe that a detailed training pattern has been decided with the Gandhinagar Institute which is available for all Sainik Schools including the schools under PPP mode. *In this regard, the Committee recommend that, particularly in the context of the PPP mode, training should place greater emphasis on instilling discipline, fostering national values, integrating modern technological advancements, including the use of AI and adopting contemporary pedagogical strategies.*

The Committee further recommend that the teachers should be systematically and periodically trained to deliver quality education, build-awareness of defence culture and expectations, while aligning with the latest curriculum in force alongwith cultivating leadership values, discipline and patriotism. The outcome of the training imparted to the teachers should also be quantified, especially in terms of the increased academic performance of students and number of selection of cadets in NDA. The Committee, further desire that the Ministry should make concerted efforts by exercising the requisite due diligence, so that the number of cadets selected for NDA and other defence related domains invariably goes up. The Committee while appreciating the efforts of the Ministry towards training of teaching staff also urge the Ministry to take assistance from various institutes of repute by conducting a proper study on the performance of teaching staff alongwith the requirement of

additional teachers training institutes, in order to ensure that the objective of setting up of the Sainik Schools are fully met and results achieved as per the expectations.

Scholarships and Incentives

5. The Committee note that the State Governments provide scholarships based on the income slabs of parents of the cadets/marks scored by the students of Sainik Schools belonging to that State as per their own policy. The Committee observe that the Ministry of Defence also provides a part of scholarship as Central Assistance to those cadets who have been awarded State Government scholarship. The Committee further note that the Central Government also provides incentive to those cadets who are selected for National Defence Academy/Naval Academy. In this regard, all cadets of Sainik Schools who join the National Defence Academy/Naval Academy are given NDA incentive in the form of reimbursement of entire tuition fee paid for classes XI and XII by such cadets. The Committee are of the view that substantial amount is being spent by the parents of the students/cadets in terms of payment of entire tuition fees during their course study in Sainik Schools. Also, the students/cadets are coming from various economic and social backgrounds and different income groups. In this regard, the Committee while appreciating the new PPP scheme which envisages to provide Annual Fee Support of 50% of fee (subject to an upper limit of Rs 40,000

per annum) for 50% of the class strength (subject to an upper limit of 50% students per year) from class 6th to class 12th, on Merit-cum-Means basis are of the view that with respect to scholarship and incentives, more initiatives are required to motivate the students and retaining them within the ecosystem of Sainik Schools.

The Committee desire the Ministry to ensure increased incentive towards merit, need, category and performance based scholarships and initiatives towards providing a holistic support. The Committee also recommend the Central Government to enhance their share/component within the scholarship/incentive schemes, wherever possible. Further, the Committee also desire that assistance with regard to admission and examination support, educational infrastructure support alongwith providing guidance for higher education towards specialized research areas be regularly provided. The Committee, with regard to special schemes for girl cadets, recommend that the Ministry should review its existing scholarship policy with a view to include special scholarship scheme for girl cadets, towards motivating and providing them with an opportunity to serve the nation. Further, with regard to class based incentives, the Committee desire that the reimbursement of entire tuition fee paid for classes XI and XII as incentive may be extended to include classes IX to XII. The Committee strongly feel that such an increased amount as incentive would definitely motivate the cadets of Sainik Schools for joining National Defence Academy/Naval Academy and other

defence related establishments thereby meeting the objectives of Sainik Schools.

Grant-in-aid

6. The Committee note that the Ministry of Defence provides training grant to the tune of Rs. 10 lakh to each Sainik School every year for meeting expenditure related to NDA training of cadets as well as in-service training of teachers. The Grant-in-aid for infrastructure development to the tune of Rs. 1 crore is also provided to each Sainik School every year based on their proposals. The Committee observe that the main reason for non-allotment of infrastructure grant to some of the Sainik Schools was due to non-submission of requisite documents for availing the said grant including non-submission of vetted Utilization Certificates of the last availed grants. The Committee recommend that all required formalities like submission of required documents, utilization certificates, etc. to ensure timely allotment of grants should be amicably resolved well in advance to avoid any delay in disbursement of the grant. As regards, submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) which is a pre-requisite for further grants/release of funds, the Committee desire that a timeline be drawn for submission of UCs so that further release of funds/grants are not delayed due to non-submission of UCs.

The Committee have also been informed that Sainik Schools are being upgraded with world-class infrastructure suitable for residential

purposes with continuous support from the State Governments and Central Government. The Committee appreciate the role being played by Central and State Governments towards providing grants-in-aid for training and infrastructure development of Sainik Schools. *In this regard, the Committee desires that the ongoing efforts to develop world-class infrastructure in Sainik Schools be sustained as a continuous process, with timely provision of additional grant-in-aid whenever required.* Further, regarding infrastructure development the requisite criteria of changing paradigm and advancement of the training modules should be given top priority.

7. Inclusive education for students of economically weaker sections

The Committee are pleased to note that reservation in admission to Sainik School is being provided to students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. In addition, certain State Governments provide merit-cum-means based scholarships to the students who are domicile of the States and admitted in the Sainik Schools. The Committee have also been informed that there is no proposal in Ministry of Defence for extending any other benefit apart from existing benefits to cadets of Sainik Schools. The Committee feel that students from economically weaker sections of the society irrespective of their social background should get an opportunity for admission in Sainik Schools by ways of extending inclusive education to

them so that all the students should be benefitted by fostering empathy, social skills, understanding of diversity, thus boosting academic outcomes, confidence and real-world readiness through collaborative learning with peers from varied backgrounds. The Committee, therefore, desire the Ministry of Defence to review its existing Sainik Schools Society Rules & Regulations, 1997 (SSSR&R, 1997) for consideration of exemption and provisions for minimizing or subsidizing fees to the students belonging to economically weaker sections of the society for their admissions and studying in Sainik Schools so that they also get an opportunity to serve the nation.

Fee structure of Sainik Schools

8. The Committee note that Sainik School are created on a Centre-State partnership model. The State Government provides the land infrastructure, ongoing maintenance and in many cases also the pension liabilities and terminal benefits of Sainik School employees. The Committee have been informed that the Central Government through the Ministry of Defence provides the Principal, the Vice Principal, the Admin Officer, the NCC and physical training core component to Sainik Schools. As per the standing directives of Board of Governors, Sainik School Society, Ministry of Defence, the school fee will be increased by 10 percent annually (*Annexure IV*). The scheme for Sainik School under PPP mode envisages to provide Annual Fee Support of 50% of fee (subject to

an upper limit of Rs. 40,000 per annum) for 50% of the class strength (subject to an upper limit of 50 students per year) from class 6th to class 12th on Merit-cum-means basis. It is also proposed to incentivize the approved schools with an amount of Rs. 10 Lakh, as training grant to each such approved school annually based on annual academic performance of the students in class 12th. The Committee also note that the running costs of the school including salaries to academic and supporting staff are paid from the tuition fees collected from the students, and hence, the escalation in fees for cadet may not be avoided. The Committee observe that the high annual fee for admission in Sainik Schools which generally include tuition fee, food, uniform, sports, text book, annual charges, transportation charges is creating significant burdens upon the middle-class families with their meagre income. Further, the parents have also to bear annual 10% increase of tuition fee as per rules of Sainik Schools Society throughout the study of their ward. Although scholarships are available based on parental income, however, the scholarship is not available to all students. The Committee are of the view that the annual fee hike of 10 per cent poses barrier for many deserving students from low-income, middle-class, and lower middle-class families. Such increases deprive meritorious candidates from gaining admission to Sainik Schools, thereby limiting their access to quality education and opportunities to serve the nation.

The Committee, therefore, urges upon the Ministry of Defence to address the issue of high annual fee on priority basis and take necessary steps in this regard like creation of Fund to grant financial assistance or special concession to wards particularly belonging to middle-class and lower middle-class/low income families so that after selection for admission their dream to study in Sainik School may come true and is in no way shattered due for non affordable high fee structure.

Opening of new Sainik Schools under PPP mode

9. The Committee note that the Central Government has approved the initiative of setting up of 100 new Sainik Schools in partnership with NGO's/Private Schools/State Governments in a graded manner class-wise, starting from class 6th onward. As on 5 August, 2025, Sainik Schools Society has approved 86 new Sainik Schools in partnership mode with NGO's/Private Schools/State Governments. Out of these, Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) has been signed with only 64 new Sainik Schools and Academic Session has already begun in 45 such schools. The Committee are constrained to note that the signing of MoA in respect of 22 newly approved Sainik Schools is pending for want of requisite documents from the entities as per the terms and conditions of the approval letter issued by Ministry of Defence to the approved New Sainik Schools. The Committee further note with concern that the process for evaluation of applications to approve 14 New Sainik schools

is still not completed by Sainik Schools Society. The Committee desire that Sainik Schools Society should establish a dedicated mechanism and appropriate coordination, in a time bound manner with States/Union territories for speedy disposal of all pending application/requests, so that the target of setting up of 100 New Sainik Schools could be achieved. For this, the Committee recommend setting up of High Powered Committee to phase out all roadblocks to ensure that the future of students is not compromised in any way for want of basic coordination between Centre and State Governments. The Committee also recommend that the Ministry of Defence and Sainik Schools Society should prepare a comprehensive action plan to sensitize and create awareness among the State Governments/Union territories, so that at least one new Sainik School under PPP mode is established in each State/Union territory.

Review of Criteria/Parameters for opening of new Sainik Schools

10. The Committee note that the main criteria and parameters for approval of new Sainik Schools comprises land availability i.e. 6 acres land for day school and 8 acres land for residential schools alongwith other conditions i.e. adequate academic and administrative infrastructure, sufficient and qualified academic and administrative Staff, affiliation with board of education (CBSE/State), transparent fee structure, sound financial health of school, signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) and recommendation of the School Evaluation

Committee. The Committee have been informed that a well laid down policy and criteria is followed for establishment of new Sainik Schools. Further, necessary documentation and on-ground verification is carried out before setting up of new Sainik Schools in accordance with the existing Rules & Regulations for new Sainik Schools. The Committee are of the considered view that most of the smaller north-eastern States and hilly States like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Union territory of Ladakh have limited amount of suitable land due to their peculiar geographical condition which renders distribution of land for various other purposes equally important. The Committee are of the opinion that such States/areas which are bound by such unavoidable hindrances should be positively backed by the Government, so that they are not left behind. The Committee would also like to reiterate that contribution of such States/areas to the armed forces is well known and therefore, they urges the Government to ease up the conditions and requirements both in terms of land, infrastructure and financial obligations, which is required for establishment of new Sainik Schools. In this regard, the Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should review/revisit its existing policy, particularly relating to land criteria required for establishment of new Sainik Schools. Further, the Government should also consider granting approval to such States/Union territories on priority which lack suitable land for setting of up new Sainik Schools as a special case to achieve the desired objectives. The Committee also

desire that sincere efforts should be made to utilise the unutilized/surplus land available in cantonment areas if feasible for new Sainik Schools, without compromising the requirement of defence.

Upgradation of infrastructure for girl students

11. The Committee are pleased to note that the admission of girl cadets in Sainik Schools has started from the academic year 2018 and at least ten girls are admitted every year in each school. The Committee note that as on 21th October 2024, 1578 girl cadets were studying in 33 Sainik Schools. The Committee have learnt that the first batch of students in new Sainik Schools has started in Academic Year 2022-23. Further, the details of the girl students of new Sainik Schools who will qualify for NDA can be known only when these girls will be eligible to appear in NDA exam after appearing or passing out of class 12th. The Committee have been informed that in the academic year 2024-25, the number of girls in both the existing Sainik Schools and in the new Sainik Schools has crossed 2,000. Also, an amount of Rs. 3.3 crore per Sainik School was provided by the Ministry of Defence for construction of girls' hostels. The Committee have also been apprised that in view of the increase in the recruitment of girl cadets in Sainik Schools, proactive efforts are being made to provide favourable and hygienic residential facilities for girl cadets in each school. The Committee have been further apprised that approval for one of the all-girls' school have been given at

Mathura which is yet to be started alongwith some private trusts like Rani Chennamma Sainik School in Kittur where only the girl students are being trained. The Committee desire that the Ministry should take all necessary steps for upgradation of the existing infrastructure facilities with a view to provide best possible, favourable and hygienic facilities to girls cadets. The Committee while appreciating the efforts made by the Ministry towards girls education in Sainik Schools would also like the Ministry to take required steps to incrementally increase the number of all-girls Sainik Schools, which would surely pave the way for intake of more female officers in the NDA course alongwith other areas of defence related institutions/organisations.

Facilities for Girls Cadets in RIMC

12. The Committee note that the aim of Rastriya Indian Military College (RIMC) is to educate, train and nurture cadets into capable and effective leaders while inspiring them to take up profession of armed forces as their natural preferred calling. The Committee observe that the selection is carried out on the basis of an All India Entrance Examination held twice a year which includes written examination, interview and medical. Currently, the maximum strength of RIMC is 250. The Committee have been given to understand that the intake at RIMC starts from 8th class, when the child's age is between eleven and thirteen years. Further, RIMC admits about 25 boys and 5 girls in the Eighth grade in each

admission process. The Committee have also been apprised that the number of girl students will increase from five to ten in each batch from July 2025. The Committee further note that the induction plan of RIMC is to increase the strength of girls to about 100 by the year 2028, for which the creation of necessary infrastructure is currently underway. The Committee appreciate the efforts being made by the Government towards ensuring regular induction of girl cadets in RIMC. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to reinforce its commitment and take all necessary steps in a time bound manner for providing requisite infrastructure including administrative infrastructure, dormitories and related facilities for girls cadets in RIMC, which would eventually result in enhancement of their physical and mental faculties for preparation and induction into the armed forces of the nation. The Committee would also like the Ministry of Defence to share a status report on the same within three months of the presentation of the report.

Periodical review and updation of Curriculum in RIMC and RMS

13. The Committee observe that the elements of strategic thinking, information technology, modern technology used in warfare and associated scientific principles are embedded across various subjects taught in RIMC and RMS. Yoga and Pranayam are integral to the physical training curriculum and the cadets regularly engage in these practices. The Committee have been informed that guest lectures are also organised to provide perspective of modern warfare. The Committee

while appreciating the efforts to keep the curriculum up-to-date, desire that the curriculum related to modern technology and warfare such as the concepts associated with AI, cyber and space warfare, autonomous systems (e.g drone warfare), defence related directed energy and quantum technology, geopolitics of energy related concepts, etc. should be included and required to be reviewed periodically so that cadets of RIMC and RMS are in sync with the latest information and development in those fields. The Committee also recommend for inclusion of student and faculty exchange programmes for increased exposure with defence schools and universities of friendly countries so that the students are aware of the best practices in defence related education and curriculum.

Minimizing Dropout rate in Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Military School and Rashtriya Indian Military College

14. The Committee note that the average dropout rate during the last five years in the Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Military School and Rashtriya Indian Military College is 6.93 per cent, 6.96 per cent and 7.1 per cent, respectively. The Committee feel that the seats which fall vacant after the cadets leave these institutions midway remain vacant until the next entrance examination is held. This has a rippling effect as on one side the precious resources of the Government go waste due to idling of seats, on the other side it curtails the opportunities of candidates who intends to join the

NDA course. The Committee, therefore, urges upon the Ministry to address this dropout issue on priority basis.

**New Delhi;
16 March, 2026
25 Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)**

**RADHA MOHAN SINGH
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Defence**

Annexure -I**LIST OF 33 SAINIK SCHOOLS functioning under erstwhile pattern**

Ser	Name of School	State	Year
1	Sainik School Satara	Maharashtra	1961
2	Sainik School Kunjpura	Haryana	1961
3	Sainik School Kapurthala	Punjab	1961
4	Sainik School Balachadi	Gujarat	1961
5	Sainik School Chittorgarh	Rajasthan	1961
6	Sainik School Korukonda	Andhra Pradesh	1962
7	Sainik School Kazhakootam	Kerala	1962
8	Sainik School Purulia	West Bengal	1962
9	Sainik School Bhubaneswar	Odisha	1962
10	Sainik School Amaravathinagar	Tamil Nadu	1962
11	Sainik School Rewa	Madhya Pradesh	1962
12	Sainik School Tilaiya	Jharkhand	1963
13	Sainik School Bijapur	Karnataka	1963
14	Sainik School Goalpara	Assam	1964
15	Sainik School Ghorakhal	Uttarakhand	1966
16	Sainik School Nagrota	Jammu	1970
17	Sainik School Imphal	Manipur	1971
18	Sainik School Sujanpur Tira	Himachal Pradesh	1978
19	Sainik School Nalanda	Bihar	2003
20	Sainik School Gopalganj	Bihar	2003
21	Sainik School Punglwa	Nagaland	2007
22	Sainik School Kodagu	Karnataka	2007
23	Sainik School Ambikapur	Chhattisgarh	2008
24	Sainik School Rewari	Haryana	2009
25	Sainik School Kalikiri	Andhra Pradesh	2014
26	Sainik School Chhingchhip	Mizoram	2017
27	Sainik School Jhunjhunu	Rajasthan	2018
28	Sainik School East Siang	Arunachal Pradesh	2018
29	Sainik School Chandrapur	Maharashtra	2019
30	Sainik School Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh	2019
31	Sainik School Mainpuri	Uttar Pradesh	2019
32	Sainik School Amethi	Uttar Pradesh	2020
33	Sainik School Sambalpur	Odisha	2020

Annexure-II**LIST OF 45 NEW SAINIK SCHOOLS (ON PARTNERSHIP MODE) WHERE ACADEMIC SESSION HAS COMMENCED**

S. No.	Name of School	District	State
1.	Adani World School	SPSR Nellore	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Tawang Public School	Tawang	Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Sundari Devi Saraswati Vidya Mandir	Samastipur	Bihar
4.	Keshav Saraswati Vidya Mandir	Patna	Bihar
5.	Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Military Academy	Silvassa	Dadra And Nagar Haveli
6.	Shri Brahmanand Vidya Mandir	Junagadh	Gujarat
7.	Shri. Motibhai R Chaudhari Sagar Sainik School	Mehsana	Gujarat
8.	Banas SainikSchool	Banaskantha	Gujarat
9.	Royal International Residential School	Fatehabad	Haryana
10.	Shri Baba Mastnath Residential Public School	Rohtak	Haryana
11.	Raj Luxmi Samvid Gurukulam	Solan	Himachal Pradesh
12.	Sangolli Rayanna Sainik School	Belagavi	Karnataka
13.	Viveka School of Excellence	Mysure	Karnataka
14.	Vedvayasa Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School	Kozhikode	Kerala
15.	Saraswati Vidhya Mandir Higher Secondary School	Mandsaur	Madhya Pradesh
16.	Padmashree Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil Sainik School	Ahmednagar	Maharashtra
17.	SK International School	Sangli	Maharashtra
18.	Dayanand Public School	Patiala	Punjab
19.	The Vikasa School	Tuticorin	Tamil Nadu
20.	Shri Bhawani Niketan Public School	Jaipur	Rajasthan
21.	Adarsh Public School,	Solapur	Maharashtra
22.	Samvid Gurukulam Senior Secondary School, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh	Mathura	Uttar Pradesh

23.	Vidyadhiraja Vidyapeetom Central School	Alappuzha	Kerala
24.	Good Day Defence School	Hanumangarh	Rajasthan
25.	Ganpat Rai Salarpuria Saraswati Vidya Mandir	Bhagalpur	Bihar
26.	Sree Sarada Vidyalaya,	Ernakulam	Kerala
27.	Wood Park School	Hamirpur	Himachal Pradesh
28.	Bhartiya Public School	Sikar	Rajasthan
29.	Smt Kesari Devi Lohia Public School	Kurukshetra	Haryana
30.	National English Medium School	Bidar	Karnataka
31.	Bhonsala Military School	Nagpur	Maharashtra
32.	The Great India School	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
33.	Shri Hanwant Senior Secondary English Medium School	Jodhpur	Rajasthan
34.	Saraswati Gramodaya Higher Secondary School	Hoshangabad	Madhya Pradesh
35.	Aadharshila Vidya Mandir	Bilaspur	Chhattisgarh
36.	Delhi Public School	Rajnandgaon	Chhattisgarh
37.	Allons Public School	Bemetara	Chhattisgarh
38.	Gokuldas Public School	Khargone	Madhya Pradesh
39.	Syna International School	Katni	Madhya Pradesh
40.	Shakuntalam International School	Etawah	Uttar Pradesh
41.	Surya Sainik School	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
42.	HJD Institute	Kachchh	Gujarat
43.	Tagore Science Residential School	Nagpur	Rajasthan
44.	Mannan Memorial Residential School	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
45.	North-East Military School	Chirang	Assam

Annexure to Point no (5)

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**CDTS PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS LEVEL SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIP
IN LAST 02 YEARS**

S.No	Activity	Duration	Held at	Participation/ Achieved	Position
Precision Shooting					
1	21 st Uttarakhand State Shooting Championship	27-Jul-23	3-Aug-23	Jaspal Rana Shooting Range, Dehradun	09 Cdts of RIMC shooting team, incl 02 Girl Cdts participated and won 03 Gold Medals.
2	18 th Uttarakhand Inter School Shooting Championship	11-Aug-23	13-Aug-23	Jaspal Rana Shooting Range, Dehradun	03 Cdts of RIMC shooting team participated and won 03 Silver Medals.
3	18 th All India IPSC Shooting Championship	30-Oct-23	3-Nov-23	Emerald Heights International School, Indore	09 Cdts participated and won 03 Silver Medals and 01 Bronze Medal.
4	17 th JJ Singh Shooting Competition	24-Feb-24	2-Mar-24	AMU, Mhow	04 Boys & 04 Girls Cdts participated in the competition. Cdt Rahul Pathak secure bronze medal in Mens 10m Air Rif event. Total 8 teams participated. Overall Posn in Rif & Pistol Men - 5th. Overall Posn in Rif & Pistol Women - 6th. Overall Result - 5th.
5	22 nd Uttarakhand State Shooting Championship	5-Aug-24	11-Aug-24	Jaspal Rana Shooting Range, Dehradun	RIMC Shooting team secured 11 Gold, 07 Silver & 04 Bronze Medals across various events.
6	All India IPSC Girls Shooting Championship	3-Oct-24	6-Oct-24	Emerald Heights International School, Indore	08 Girl Cdts participated in the competition

Telephones:

2301 0600(Honorary Secretary)
2301 2938(Under Secretary)
2301 4731(Sainik Schools Cell)

Most Immediate
By Speed Post

No.32(50)/2015/D(SSC)(pt)
Board of Governors
Sainik Schools Society
Ministry of Defence
New Delhi.
Dated 22nd December, 2015

To

The Education Secretaries
All State Governments &
Union Territory Administrations

Principals
All Sainik Schools

Subject: **Revision of Tuition Fees in Sainik Schools.**

This is in continuation to this office letter No.8(1)/99/D(SSC)/Vol-II dated 25th Feb, 2010 on the subject.

2. Hon'ble Raksha Mantri has approved enhancement of tuition fees to Rs.60,000/- from existing Rs.52,494/- for the current year i.e. 2016-17 and further enhancement of 10% per year in subsequent years.

3. Further, all other expenditure like Messing/Clothing and Pocket Money etc. will continue to be borne by the parents as in vogue at present.

(N.B.Mani)
Under Secretary
for Honorary Secretary, Sainik Schools Society

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE (2023-24)

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
DEFENCE (2023-24)**

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 6th February, 2024 from 1500 hrs to 1615 hrs in Committee Room C, Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Lt. Gen. Dr. D. P. Vats (Retd.)-Acting Chairperson

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

- | | |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 2 | Shri Durai Murugan Kathir Anand |
| 3 | Kunwar Danish Ali |
| 4 | Shri Reddeppa Nallakonda Gari |
| 5 | Shri Annasaheb Shankar Jolle |
| 6 | Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser |
| 7 | Prof. (Dr.) Ram Shankar Katheria |
| 8 | Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde |
| 9 | Shri Prathap Simha |
| 10 | Shri Durga Das Uikey |

Rajya Sabha

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 11 | Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi |
| 12 | Smt. P.T. Usha |

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Dr. Sanjeev Sharma | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri Tirthankar Das | - | Director |
| 3. Shri Rahul Singh | - | Deputy Secretary |

LIST OF WITNESSES

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Sl. No.	Name & Designation
1.	Smt. Dipti Mohil Chawla, Additional Secretary
2.	Shri Rakesh Mittal, Joint Secretary
3.	Maj. Gen. Ashish Shah, MGGS (Apvl & Plans)
4.	Maj. Gen VK Bhat, ADG Army Education

2. At the outset, the the Committee were informed that the Hon'ble Chairperson would not be able to attend the Sitting and that as per Rule 258 of 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha', if the Chairperson is absent from any sitting, the Committee shall choose another Member to act as Chairperson for the sitting. In this connection, the Members requested Lt. Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.) to Chair the Sitting.

3. Thereafter, the Acting Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee and informed them about the agenda for the Sitting i.e. Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Report on the subject 'A review of functioning of Zila Sainik Boards in the country' and Oral evidence of the representatives of the MoD on the subject 'Review of Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) and Rashtriya Military Schools'. The Committee then took up for consideration the Draft Report on the subject 'A review of functioning of Zila Sainik Boards in the country'.

4. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the above Report without any modifications. The Committee, then, authorized the Chairperson to finalise the above draft Report and present the same to the House on a date convenient to him.

5. Then, the Acting Chairperson welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Defence and drew their attention to Directions 55(1) and 58 of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha regarding confidentiality of the proceedings of the Committee.

6. The representatives of the Ministry of Defence, through a Power Point Presentation, briefed the Committee on the Subject. Thereafter, the Acting Chairperson and Members of the Committee raised several issues/points, as indicated below and sought clarifications/information from the representatives of the Ministry of Defence thereon:

- a. Change in choice of career of the students of Sainik Schools;
- b. Modifications required in syllabus and training process in Sainik Schools;
- c. Giving exposure to students of Sainik Schools, RIMC, Rashtriya Militray Schools to Defence sector related activities;
- d. Reservation for the students of a particular State in the Sainik School;
- e. Opening of Sainik Schools under PPP model;
- f. Inclusion of patriotic and inspiring stories of the Defence Forces's brave fights in the curriculum of the Sainik Schools, RIMC and Rashtriya Militray Schools;
- g. Number of applications received from the entire country to start Sainik Schools;
- h. Even distribution of Sainik Schools throughout the country;
- i. Exclusive girls' Sainik Schools in different locations;
- j. Strength of teaching and non-teaching staff and steps taken to establish Teachers' training institute for the Sainik Schools;
- k. Employment of retired Defence personnel for inculcating training in various Sainik Schools in the country;
- l. Proposal to start more Sainik Schools in Bihar;
- m. Time limit for starting of remaining new Sainik Schools under PPP mode;
- n. Issue of payment of pension of teachers in the old Sainik schools;
- o. Difference in syllabi of RIMC, Sainik schools and Rashtriya Military Schools; and
- p. Appointment of an Ex-Serviceman as an administrative/training Officer in Sainik Schools.

7. The representatives of the Ministry of the Defence responded to the queries raised by the Members. The Acting Chairperson directed the representatives of the Ministry to furnish written replies/information on the points raised by the Members which were not readily available at the earliest.

The witnesses then withdrew.

The Committee then adjourned.

A copy of verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE (2024-25)

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE (2024-25)

The Committee sat on Friday, the 25th October 2024 from 1100 hrs. to 1230 hrs. in Committee Room C, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Radha Mohan Singh - Chairperson

MEMBERS

2	Dr. Rajeev Bharadwaj
3	Shri Shashank Mani
4	Shri Lumba Ram
5	Shri Jagannath Sarkar
6	Shri Jagadish Shettar
7	Shri Richard Vanlalhmangaiha
Rajya Sabha	
8	Shri Naresh Bansal
9	Shri Prem Chand Gupta
10	Shri Naveen Jain
11	Shri Muzibulla Khan
12	Shri Dhairyashil Mohan Patil
13	Shri Sanjay Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. Sanjeev Sharma - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Tirthankar Das - Director

LIST OF WITNESSES

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Sl. No.	Name & Designation
1.	Smt. Dipti Mohil Chawla, Addl. Secretary
2.	Shri Pawan Kumar Sharma, Joint Secretary
3.	Shri Rakesh Mittal, Joint Secretary
4.	Maj. Gen. Ashish Shah, MGGS (Apvl & Plans)
5.	Maj. Gen VK Bhat, ADG Army Education
6.	Cmde R.K. Sharma, Inspecting Officer
7.	Brig JS Chauhan, Brig AE
8.	Col. Vijay Rana, Principal, SS
9.	Col Anant Thapan, Col AE-2
10.	Lt. Col. Abhishek Rana, Training Officer, RIMC
11.	Lt. Col. YK Verma, GSO-1, (Plg), (Apvl & Plans)

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members and informed them about the agenda of the Sitting *i.e.* to take oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Defence on the subject 'Review of Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) and Rashtriya Military Schools'. He also informed the members that the previous Committee had selected this subject and had taken an oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Defence in connection with examination of the subject, but the examination remained inconclusive. The new Committee has re-selected the subject to complete examination of the subject.

3. The Chairperson then, welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Defence and requested them to give an overview on the Subject. He then drew their attention to Direction 55(1) of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha regarding confidentiality of the proceedings of the Committee and requested them to introduce themselves to the Committee before proceeding to submit their views.

4. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Defence introduced themselves before giving an overview on the subject, through a Power Point Presentation. The Chairperson and Members of the Committee raised several queries on a wide gamut of issues which *inter-alia* include the following:

- inclusion of technology in the curriculum of Sainik Schools to acquaint them in consonance with the requirement of modern warfare;
- inclusion of historical war strategies in the training module in a modernize way which had been used by our brave fighters;
- counselling programme in Sainik Schools;
- opening of more Sainik Schools under PPP mode;
- number of applications received from the entire country to start Sainik Schools;
- provision of State wise quote for admission in Indian Military College;

- facilities which are being provided to students in erstwhile Sainik Schools and new Sainik Schools;
- status of Sainik Schools in Rajasthan State;
- maintenance of ongoing Sainik Schools;
- increase in percentage of girls candidates in the Sainik Schools;
- assimilation of yoga to increase efficiency among students in Sainik Schools;
- difficulties being faced by Sainik Schools under PPP mode;
- increase number of Sainik Schools for girl students in the country;
- admission of wards of civilians at par with the wards of defence forces in the Sainik Schools;
- encourage private trust for setting up schools exclusively for girls students like Chennamma Sainik School in Kittur;
- positioning of required number of service officers, NCC staff and Army Physical Training Corps Instructors in all the Sainik Schools as per norm; and
- setting up of Sainik Schools in other States which has no such Schools.

5. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry responded to the queries raised by the members.

6. The Chairperson thanked the representatives of Ministry for the free and frank discussion held on the subject. The Chairperson also directed the representatives of the Ministry to furnish written replies/information at the earliest on those points raised by the Members but could not be answered during the sitting of the Committee.

The witnesses then withdrew.

The Committee then adjourned.

A copy of verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE (2025-26)

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
DEFENCE (2025-26)**

The Committee sat on Monday, the 16th March, 2026 from 1600 hrs. to 1616 hrs. in the Committee Room No. '62', Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Radha Mohan Singh - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

- 2 Dr. Rajeev Bharadwaj
- 3 Shri Karti P. Chidambaram
- 4 Shri Lumbaram Choudhary
- 5 Captain Viriato Fernandes
- 6 Shri Rahul Gandhi
- 7 Shri Ravindra Shukla Alias Ravi Kishan
- 8 Shri Shashank Mani
- 9 Smt. Mahua Moitra
- 10 Shri Jagadish Shettar
- 11 Shri Virendra Singh
- 12 Shri Richard Vanlalhmangaiha

Rajya Sabha

- 13 Shri Naresh Bansal
- 14 Shri Damodar Rao Divakonda
- 15 Shri Muzibulla Khan
- 16 Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Jyochnamayi Sinha - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Amrish Kumar - Director
3. Shri Ajay Kumar Prasad - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee and informed them about the agenda for the Sitting. The Committee then took up for consideration the following draft Reports:-

- (i) **Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2026-27 on 'General Defence Budget, Border Roads Organisation, Indian Coast Guard, Defence Estates Organisation, Welfare of Ex-Servicemen and Defence Research and Development Organisation (Demand Nos. 19, 20 and 21)';**
- (ii) **Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2026-27 on 'Army, Air Force, Navy, Joint Staff, Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme and Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services (Demand Nos. 20 and 21)';**
- (iii) **Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2026-27 on 'Capital Outlay on Defence Services, Defence Planning, Procurement Policy and Defence Pensions (Demand Nos. 21 and 22)';**
- (iv) **Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2026-27 on 'Defence Public Sector Undertakings, Directorate of Ordnance (Coordination and Services–New DPSUs), Directorate General of Quality Assurance, Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance and National Cadet Corps (Demand Nos. 20 and 21)'; and**
- (v) **Draft Report on the subject 'Review of Sainik Schools, Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) and Rashtriya Military Schools'.**

3. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the above reports without any modifications.

4. The Committee, then, authorized the Chairperson to finalise the above draft Reports and present the same to both the Houses of Parliament on a date convenient to him.

5. ****Does not pertain to the report****

The Committee then adjourned.
