

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
(2018-2019)**

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

40

FOURTIETH REPORT

(Presented on 5 February, 2019)



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
February 2019/ Magha, 1940(Saka)**

C O N T E N T S

PAGE

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2018-2019)		(iii)
INTRODUCTION		(v)
<u>REPORT</u>		
Delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT), Delhi.		01-05
ANNEXURES		
Annexure-I	Statement showing the funds released to the National Council of Educational Research and Training for the years 2014-15 to 2017-18	06
Annexure-II	Statement showing the date of laying of the documents on the Table of the House and time taken by the Ministry in the process of laying of the documents after receipt of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts from the NCERT for the years 2013-14 to 2016-17.	07
Annexure-III	Statement showing the details of chronological sequence of different activities involved in finalization of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NCERT for the financial years 2013-14 to 2016-17.	08

<i>APPENDICES</i>		
Appendix-I	The extracts of the Minutes of sitting of the Committee on Papers Laid on The Table (2017-2018) held on 05 July, 2018	09-10
Appendix-II	The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee held on 4.02.2019	11-

(iii)

COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(2018-2019)

Shri Chandrakant Khaire - ***Chairperson***

M E M B E R S

2. Shri Dushyant Chautala
3. Shrimati Veena Devi
4. Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar
5. Shri Laxman Giluwa
6. Shri Choudhury Mohan Jatua
7. Shrimati Mausam Noor
8. Shri Bheemrao B. Patil
9. Shri Sanjaykaka Ramchandra Patil
10. Shri Bishnupada Ray
11. Shri Uday Pratap Singh
12. Shri Virendra Singh
13. Shri P.R. Sundaram
14. Vacant
15. Vacant*

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Dr. Preeti Srivastava | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Maya Lingi | | Additional Director |
| 3. | Shri R.K. Chaudhary | - | Committee Officer |
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*Consequent upon resignation of Shri Manohar Untwal w.e.f. 21.12.2018

INTRODUCTION

I, Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House (2018-19), having been authorized by the Committee to present this Report on their behalf, present this Fortieth Report in respect of delay in laying of the Annual Reports together with Audited Accounts of the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT), Delhi.

2. In terms of the recommendations of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (Second Report (6th Lok Sabha), para 1.12] presented to the House on 22 December, 1977, all Statutory/Autonomous Organisations, Public Undertakings, Corporations, Joint Ventures, Societies, etc., which are financed out of funds drawn from the Consolidated Funds of India, after being voted by the Parliament, in the form of shares, subsidies, grants-in-aid, etc., either wholly or partly should lay their Annual Reports/Audit Reports (both English and Hindi versions).

The Committee have, in their First Report, Second Report (5th Lok Sabha) and Second Report (6th Lok Sabha) presented to the House on 08 March 1976; 12 May 1976 and 22 December 1977 respectively, emphasized that the Autonomous Organizations should lay their Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review Statement within nine months of the close of the respective Accounting Year.

3. The Committee considered the matter of delays in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Council of Education Research and Training and took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Human Resource Development at their sitting held on 5th July, 2018.

4. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 4th February, 2019.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Human Resource Development for furnishing the written replies, other material/information and for placing their views in the matter before the Committee.

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

New Delhi
February, 2019
Magha, 1940(Saka)

Chandrakant B. Khaire
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

Report

Delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), Delhi.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), an apex national body works on the entire gamut of school education viz., research in school education, innovative pre-service and in-service teacher training programmes, development of instructional materials for students, teachers and practitioners and extension activities for strengthening the State Level education Organizations like SCERTs, DIETs, etc. in mainstreaming their educational endeavour. It formally began its work on September 1, 1961. The Council was set up by the Government to assist and advise the Central and State Governments on policies and programmes for qualitative improvement in school education. NCERT is a non-profitable organization. Grant-in-aid is provided by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on quarterly basis to meet out the expenditure incurred every year since inception. The status of funds released to NCERT for the last 4 years is given in **Annexure - I.**

2. In terms of the recommendation of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table contained in its First Report, Second Report (5th Lok Sabha) and Second Report (6th Lok Sabha) presented to the House on 08 March 1976, 12 May 1976 and 22 December 1977 respectively, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Organization/Company are required to be laid on the Table of the House within nine months of the closure of Accounting Year.

3. As per the Rule 70(iv) and Rules 71 of the Rules of NCERT also the Annual Accounts and the Annual Report of the Council are required to be laid on the Table of the Parliament within nine months of the close of the accounting year of the Council. However the Ministry of Human Resource Development has not laid the Annual Reports and Audited Account of NCERT for the years 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 within stipulated time.

4. The scrutiny by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table reveals that the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of NCERT, Delhi were laid on the Table of the House with delays ranging from 2 ^{1/2} months to 11 ^{1/2} months. The date of laying and extent of delay in laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NCERT have been given in **Annexure-II.**

5. The Ministry in their written reply have stated that due to certain administrative constraints, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the years 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015-16 were delayed by more than 2 ^{1/2} months, 4 months, 11 ^{1/2} months respectively.

6. The chronological sequence, as submitted by the Ministry, in respect of finalization of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NCERT for the years 2013-2014 to 2016-2017 are given at **Annexure-III**.

7. Regarding identification of stages of delays occurred during all these years and the Council propose to curtail delays in future, Ministry in their written reply have stated as under: -

"Despite the Ministry's regularly impresses upon the NCERT for timely completion of the entire process and laying their Annual Report and Annual Accounts on the Table of the Parliament within nine months of the closure of the relevant financial year, the Council has not been able to adhere to the time limit stipulated for submission of the approved and authenticated Annual Accounts to C&AG. The NCERT has also not been able to convene the meeting of their Executive Committee and General Council timely". The Ministry would follow up the matter more vigorously with NCERT in future so that such delays do not recur".

8. About the status of computerization of Accounts to facilitate speedy and timely compilation of Accounts, the Ministry in their written replies have submitted as under: -

"The process of accounting has been computerized in NCERT and accounts are compiled through computerized method".

9. As regards streamlining the process of time schedule giving target dates for completion of work at each stage regarding finalisation of Annual Report and Annual Audited Accounts, the Ministry in their written note have submitted as under:-

Sl. No.	Task	Date by which task be completed
1.	Compilation and completion of Annual Accounts	By 31 st May
2.	Approval of Annual Accounts by FC/BOG	Before 15 th June
3.	Submission of Annual Accounts to Audit	Before 1 st July
4.	Completion of Audit by AG/CAG and Certificate from Audit	By 31 st October
5.	Approval of documents by FC/BOG	By 15 th November
6.	Dispatch of Annual Accounts to Ministry of HRD	3 rd Week of November
7.	Completion of formalities in MHRD Bureau/Division	By 30 th November

8.	Laying of Audited Annual Accounts & Annual Report in Parliament	During December
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10. The Committee considered the matter of delays in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of NCERT for the years 2013-2014 to 2015-2016 and took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Human Resource Development on the issue on 5th July, 2018.

11. Elaborating further the reasons for delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NCERT, the Secretary of the Ministry during the evidence explained before the Committee as under:

"There is continuous delay in laying of the documents of the NCERT since the year 2013-14. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NCERT for the years 2013-2014; 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 were laid on the Table of the House with delay of more than 2 ^{1/2} months, 4 months, 11 ^{1/2} months respectively. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts of NCERT for the year 2016-2017 have also been received by them on 11th April, 2018 and the same would be laid on the Table of the House During current Session of Parliament (Monsoon Session, 2018). He further stated that the Secretary of the Ministry had convened a special meeting wherein the issue of delay in laying of the documents of NCERT was analysed in detail and it was found that the main reasons for delay was convening the meeting of the Finance Committee, Executive Committee and General Body. He assured that efforts would be made to convene the meeting in time, if convening the meeting of the Competent Authorities were not possible, efforts will be made to approve the documents by circulation".

12. The Committee subsequently noted that the Annual Report and Audited Account for the year 2016-17 were laid on the Table of the House on 06.08.2018 (i.e. with a delay of more than 7 months. The Annual Report and Audited Account for the year 2017-18 have not been laid on the Table of the House yet.

Observations/Recommendations

13 The Committee note that the Ministry of Human Resource Development and National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) have not adhered to the provisions of Rule 70(iv) and Rules 71 of NCERT, which provide for laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of NCERT on the Table of the House within nine months of the close of the accounting year. Thus similar recommendations of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table contained in Paras 1.16 and 3.5 of its First Report (5th Lok Sabha), Paras 4.16 and 4.18 of Second Reports of 5th Lok Sabha and Paras 1.12 and 2.6 to 3.8 of Second Report of 6th Lok Sabha presented to the House on 08.03.1976, 12.05.1976 and 22.12.1977 respectively regarding laying of these documents on the Table of the House within nine months from the closure of the accounting year have also not been complied with. The Committee are disappointed to note that the Ministry of Human Resource Development did not adhere to the stipulated time frame in respect of these documents of NCERT for years 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 which were laid with delays ranging from 2 ^{1/2} to 11 ^{1/2} months. The Committee also note that the documents for the year 2017-2018 which were required to be laid on the Table of the House by 31st December, 2018 are yet to be laid.

14. While examining the reasons from delays of 2 ^{1/2} months to 11 ^{1/2} months in laying of the documents of the NCERT, the Committee note that undue delay had occurred in convening the meeting of the Finance Committee, Executive Committee and General Body. The Committee expressed its concern over these delays.

15. Thus the Ministry of Human Resource Development has apparently not been able to put in place an effective monitoring mechanism to ensure laying of document of NCERT on the Table of both the Houses of

Parliament within the stipulated time. The Ministry must make all out efforts to ensure that henceforth these documents are laid within stipulated time. The Committee shall be informed of the compliance of these directions as also measures taken by the Ministry to avoid delays in future.

16. The Committee also impress upon the Ministry that if due to unavoidable reasons, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NCERT could not be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time; a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within prescribed period should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days or as soon as the House meets, whichever is later.

New Delhi
February, 2019
Magha, 1940(Saka)

Chandrakant B. Khaire
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

Annexure – I
vide para 01 of the Report

Statement showing the funds released to the National Council of Educational Research and Training for the years 2014-15 to 2017-18

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Schemes	BE	RE	Opening Balance	GIA Released	Total funds available
2014-15	Non-Plan	239.72	206.37	60.93	145.44	206.37
	Plan	20.00	17.66	2.78	14.88	17.66
Total		259.72	224.03	63.71	160.32	224.03
2015-16	Non-Plan	235.00	212.28	23.07	189.21	212.28
	Plan	25.00	22.31	2.14	20.17	22.31
Total		260.00	234.59	25.21	209.38	234.59
2016-17	Non-Plan	214.50	215.07	1.07	214.00	215.05
	Plan	15.00	14.43	1.82	12.61	14.43
Total		229.50	229.50	2.89	226.61	229.50
2017-18	Revenue	230.00	288.71	6.12	288.71	294.84

Annexure – II
vide para 04 of the Report

Statement showing the date of laying of the documents on the Table of the House along with delay period for the years 2014-15 to 2016-17.

S. No.	Year	Date of laying of the documents on the Table of the House	Extent of delay
1.	2013-2014	18.03.2015	2 Months 17 days
2.	2014-2015	09.05.2016	4 Months 8 days
3.	2015-2016	18.12.2017	11 Months 17 Days
4.	2016-2017	06.08.2018	7 Months 5 days
5.	2017-2018	Not yet laid	-

Annexure-III

vide para 06 of the Report

**The chronological sequence in respect of finalization of
Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Council of Educational
Research and Training (NCERT)
for the year 2013-14 to 2016-17.**

Sl. No	Task	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	The date of appointment of the auditors for auditing the Accounts . Time taken in Appointment after closure of F/Y	28.10.2014 7 months	30.09.2015 6 months	06.07.2016 4 months	30.06.2017 3 months
2.	The date of commencement of Audit	03.11.2014	26.10.2015	04.11.2016	23.08.2017
3	The date of Completion of Annual Accounts of the NCERT Time taken by Audit Authority for Audit	09.12.2014 37 days	08.12.2015 44 days	01.12.2016 28 days	20.09.2017 29 days
4.	The date of submission of draft Annual Audited Report to MHRD.	26.12.2014	07.01.2016	23.12.2016	31.10.2017
5.	Date of Approval of Draft Annual Report by MHRD. Time taken for approval	09.01.2015 13 days	25.01.2016 18 days	28.12.2016 5 days	16.11.2017 16 days
6.	Date of submission of final Annual Report to MHRD. Time taken after finalization of Annual Report	03.02.2015 2 months 24 days	12.04.2016 3 months 27 days	27.06.2017 7 months 25 days	NA
7.	Date of laying of the Annual Report, Audited Accounts etc. Extent of delay	18.03.2015 2 months 18 days	09.05.2016 4 months 8 days	18.12.2017 11 months 17 days	06.08.2018 7 Months 5 days

**THE EXTRACTS OF THE MINUTES OF SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2017-2018) HELD ON 05 JULY, 2018**

The Committee sat on Thursday, 05 July, 2018 from 11:00 hrs to 13:05 hrs. in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Chandrakant Khaire - Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Dushyant Chautala
3. Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar
4. Shri Laxman Giluwa
5. Shri Manohar Untwal

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.C. Tiwari - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Rita Jaikhani - Director
3. Smt. Maya Lingi - Additional Director

**REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY)**

1. Smt. Rina Ray Secretary
2. Shri Sanjay Kumar Joint Secretary

**REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH
AND TRAINING (NCERT), DELHI**

1. Prof. Hrushikesh Senapaty Director
2. Major Harsh Kumar Secretary

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2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

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11. Thereafter, the matter for delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the NCERT was taken up for consideration. The representative of the Ministry submitted before the Committee that there is continuous delay in laying of the documents of the NCERT since the year 2013-2014. The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NCERT for the years 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 were laid on the Table of the House with delay of 3-4 months, 5-6 months and 12 months respectively. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts of NCERT for the year 2016-2017 have also been received by them on 11 April, 2018 and the same would be laid on the Table of the House during current Session of Parliament, 2018. The representative assured the Committee that the documents of NCERT for the year 2017-2018 would be laid within stipulated time i.e. 31 December, 2018. He apprised the Committee that the Secretary of the Ministry had convened a special meeting wherein the issue of delay in laying of the documents of NCERT was analysed in detail and it had been found that the main reason for delay was convening the meeting of the Finance Committee, Executive Committee and General Body. It was apprised to the Committee that efforts would be made to convene the meeting in time. If convening the meeting of the Competent Authorities would not be possible, efforts will be made to approve the documents by circulation.

13. Thereafter, the Hon'ble Chairperson thanked the representatives of the Ministry and NCERT for useful discussion in connection with examination of the subject.

The witnesses then withdrew.

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The Committee then adjourned.