

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

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

50

FIFIETH REPORT

[Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee in their Fifth Report (Chapter-I) (Sixteenth Lok Sabha)] regarding delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi.

Presented on 12 February, 2019



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

February, 2019/ Magha, 1940(Saka)

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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. Shri Munish Kumar Rewari - Additional Director
3. Smt. Rajni Bhagat - Committee Officer

*Consequence upon resignation of Shri Manohar Untwal w.e.f. 21.12.2018

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Fiftieth Report on the Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Fifth Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee regarding delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi. .

2. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 12 February, 2019

3. For facility of reference, observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold type in the body of the Report.

NEW DELHI
February, 2019
Magha, 1940 (Saka)

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

REPORT

This Report of the Committee deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations made in their Fifth Report (Chapter-I) regarding delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi which was presented to Lok Sabha on 22.12.2015.

2. The Action Taken Notes have since been received from the Government in respect of all the recommendations/observations contained in the aforesaid Report. Accordingly, the Statement showing the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fifth Report (Chapter-I) (16th Lok Sabha) are given in **Appendix**.

3. **The Committee in their Fifth Report (Chapter-I) had pointed out the failure of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change regarding timely laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Authority for the years 2009-2010 to 2013-2014 and recommended that the documents of the Authority should be laid within stipulated time in future.**

4. **The Committee appreciate that the Government have accepted all the recommendations of the Committee made in the said Reports and have also taken steps for the their implementation, Though the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Authority for the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 were laid with delay of 02 and 03 months respectively. For the year 2016-17 and 2017-18 these documents have been laid within stipulated time period. The Committee expect that concerted efforts of the Government shall continue to ensure timely laying of the documents of the aforesaid Authority in future also.**

**February, 2019
Magha, 1940(Saka)**

**CHANDRAKANT B. KHAI
Chairperson,
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table**

(Vide Para 02 of the Report)

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE CONTAINED IN THEIR FIFTH REPORT(CHAPTER-I) (16TH LOK SABHA)

Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 1.18)

The Committee have time and again emphasized that both the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of an Organisation should be laid simultaneously to enable the Members of Parliament to get a complete picture of the working and activities of the Organisation. And if for any reasons the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of an Organisation cannot be laid within nine months after the close of the Accounting Year, the concerned Ministry should lay a Statement within 30 days after the expiry of nine months or as soon as the House meets, whichever is later explaining the reasons as to why the Annual Report and Audited Accounts could not be laid within stipulated time. However, the Committee is disappointed to note that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change did not comply with the requirement in laying of the documents of CZA, New Delhi for the years 2009-10 to 2013-14. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend the Ministry/CZA to strictly adhere to the stipulations to this effect, in future.

Reply of the Government

The Central Zoo Authority (CZA), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India lays the Annual Report and Audited Accounts simultaneously to enable the Members of Parliament to get a complete picture of the working and activities of the Organization. In case of delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited accounts on the Table of Both the Houses of Parliament within stipulated time, the reasons for delay is enclosed while laying the report before Parliament. The Ministry advises the Authorities to follow the prescribed norms for submission of the Annual Report and Audited Reports. However, it is ensured that no such delay will happen in future and, if the delay happens the Central Zoo Authority through

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change shall lay a statement within 30 days after the nine months or as soon as the House meets.

(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change O.M. No. 12/05/2015-16/CII/CPL dated 5th January and reminder dated 15th July, 2016)

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 1.19)

The Committee also note that the Annual Reports and the Audited Accounts of the CZA for the years 2009-2010 to 2013-2014 were laid on the Table of the House with delay ranging from 04 months to 23 months and the major delay in laying of the documents for the aforesaid years was due to the long time taken for getting the documents printed from the Printing Authorities. The representative of CZA during evidence submitted before the Committee that the work related to translation and printing of the Reports was done by outsource Agencies. They further submitted that though the time limit for completing the job has been fixed by CZA, however, that could not be materialised due to frequent change of officers during the year 2012-13 and repeated correction made in printed reports at various levels. The Committee take a serious view over the fact that the Ministry/ CZA could not overcome the problem of delay in laying of Reports since 2009-2010. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that effective and conclusive measures be taken by the Ministry in this regard so as to avoid in future, delay in laying of the documents. The Committee may be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government

In the past delay has occurred in submission of Annual Reports of CZA, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for laying it before the Parliament, which is deeply regretted. The CZA ensure its level best to complete the printing process as early as possible and for the future, CZA has prepared a strategy to ensure timely collection of data from all sections soon after the completion of financial year, completion of Internal Audit followed by furnishing of Audit Reports by Audit Authorities, approval from concern authorities and printing thereof, to

lay the Annual Report and Audited Report within stipulated time in Both the Houses of Parliament.

(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change O.M. No. 12/05/2015-16/CII/CPL dated 5th January and reminder dated 15th July, 2016)

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 1.20)

The Committee further note that another reason for delay in laying of the documents of CZA for the year 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 was delay in getting final Audit Reports from the audit Authorities after receipt of draft Audit Reports. From the information furnished by the Ministry/CZA, it appears, that the matter of early furnishing of Audit Reports was not taken up with Audit Authorities by the Ministry/CZA. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take up the matter with the Audit Authorities and impress upon them to complete their task in time to avoid consequential delay in laying of the documents before Parliament. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government

The Central Zoo Authority has taken the note on the matter and the Annual Accounts of CZA for the Financial year 2015-16 has been prepared and submitted to Audit Authorities within the stipulated time period of 30th June, 2016. Matter has been taken up with Audit Authorities for early submission of Audit Report. Accordingly, Audit Authorities are in the process of auditing the Annual Accounts of CZA for the financial year during current month. The Central Zoo Authority, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change ensure that sincere efforts shall be made to avoid delay in laying of the documents before Parliament, Government of India in future.

(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change O.M. No. 12/05/2015-16/CII/CPL dated 5th January and reminder dated 15th July, 2016)

Recommendation (Paragraph No. 1.21)

The Committee observe from the Ministry's response that no detailed time schedule has been laid down by them indicating normative time for completion of task at each stage involved in

finalization of the document viz. finalization/completion of annual accounts and report auditing of accounts, approval of the documents from the competent authority, translation and printing, processing at the Ministry for being laid on the Table of the House. The Committee take serious view of the casual attitude of the Ministry on the matter because it is not clear as to how, in the absence of any mechanism for adhering to formal time schedule and its proper/regular monitoring, at a senior level, the Ministry would ensure timely finalization and laying of the documents. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the time schedule mechanism should be laid down henceforth and a senior officer should be deputed with the specific job of monitoring the time-schedule for laying of Reports on a regular basis. The Committee would like to be apprised of the positive and conclusive action taken in this regard within 3 months from the date of presentation of the Report.

Reply of the Government

As recommended by the Committee a time schedule mechanism has been laid down by CZA and the Finance Officer, Central Zoo Authority has been entrusted to monitor the specific job of monitoring the time schedule for laying of annual Reports and Audited Accounts of CZA simultaneously in regular basis. The Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Central Zoo Authority for financial year 2014-15 had been laid on the Table of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha of Parliament, Government of India vide dated 8th March, 2016 respectively.

(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change O.M. No. 12/05/2015-16/CII/CPL dated 5th January and reminder dated 15th July, 2016)

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

The Committee sat on Monday, 11 February, 2019 from 15:00 hrs to 15:30 hrs. in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Chandrakant Khaire - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Smt. Veena Devi
3. Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar
4. Shri B.B. Patil
5. Shri Virendra Singh
6. Shri P.R. Sundaram

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. Preeti Srivastava - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Maya Lingi - Additional Director
3. Shri Munish Kumar Rewari - Additional Director

2. At the outset, Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.
3. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration the following Draft Reports for consideration :-

(i) Draft Reports regarding delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi;

(ii) Draft Reports regarding delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Mizoram;

(iii) Draft Reports regarding delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Commission of Safai Karamchari, New Delhi;

(iv) Draft Reports regarding delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceutical Limited, Gurgaon;

(v) Draft Reports regarding delay in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, SAS Nagar, Mohali.

(vi)Draft Report relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their First Report on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Prasar Bharti, New Delhi;

(vii)Draft Report relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their Fourth Report on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi;

(viii)Draft Report relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their Fourth Report on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Disaster Management, New Delhi;

(ix)Draft Report relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their Fifth Report on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi; and

(x)Draft Report relating to the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their First Report on Delay in laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the All India Council of Technical Education, New Delhi;

4. After deliberations, the Committee adopted the Reports without modifications.
5. The Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to present the same to the Parliament during ongoing Session.

Then the Committee adjourned.