

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
(2020-2021)**

44

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

FORTY FOURTH REPORT

**[Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations made by the
Committee in their First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha)] on delay in laying of the Annual
Reports and Audited Account of Bharat Broadband Network Ltd.**

(Presented on 10 August,2021)



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

August, 2021/Sravana, 1943(Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(2020-2021)

Shri Ritesh Pandey

-

Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
3. Shri Margani Bharat
4. Dr. A. Chellakumar
5. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
6. Shri Chowdhury Mohan Jatua
7. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
8. Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe
9. Shri Raja Amareshwara Naik
10. Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal
11. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
12. Shri T.N. Prathapan
13. Shri S. Ramalingam
14. Shri Saptagiri Ulaka
15. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. B.Visala - Director
3. Shri Munish Kumar Rewari - Additional Director
4. Smt. Manjinder Pubbi - Under Secretary
5. Smt. Rajni Bhagat - Committee Officer

(iii)

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 Forty Fourth Report on the Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Bharat Broadband Network Ltd.

2. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 26 July, 2021.
3. For facility of reference, observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold type in the body of the Report.

NEW DELHI
July , 2021
Sravana, 1943 (Saka)

RITESH PANDEY
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 First Report (17th Lok Sabha) which was presented to Lok Sabha on 20.03.2020.

2. The First Report (17th Lok Sabha) dealt with delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Bharat Broadband Network Ltd, (BBNL). In all, the Committee made 03 Observations/Recommendations in the Report. The Action Taken replies have 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 First Report (17th Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.

3. **The Committee in their aforesaid First Report had pointed out the failure of the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications) in timely laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of BBNL for the years 2015-2016 to 2018-2019. The Ministry, in their action taken replies, has also accepted that the delay occurred due to the time taken in the finalization of Annual Accounts, obtaining approval of the documents from the AGM and getting the documents printed. The Committee feel that such kinds of reasons are well within the control of the BBNL and could have been addressed with proper planning and coordination. The Committee, however, note that the Ministry has made sincere efforts on their part, as the documents of the BBNL for years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019, received by the Ministry on 28.12.2018 and 6.12.2019 respectively, were laid on the Table of the House with minor delays. However, the documents of the BBNL for the year 2019-2020 have not been laid as yet. The Committee, therefore, recommend to the Ministry that instructions should be issued to BBNL to lay the documents for the year 2019-2020* at the earliest and also to ensure timely laying of the documents in future. The Committee would like to be informed about the efforts made by the Ministry in this regard.**

July, 2021
Sravana,1943 (Saka)

RITESH PANDEY
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table
Lok Sabha

*Laid on 16 March,2021

APPENDIX – I
(Vide Para 2 of the Report)

**STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE CONTAINED IN
THEIR FIRST REPORT (17TH LOK SABHA)**

BHARAT BROADBAND NETWORK LTD.(BBNL), NEW DELHI

Recommendation (Paragraph No 15.)

The Committee note that the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications) itself has not adhered to the stipulated time frame for laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Bharat Broadband Networks Ltd.(BBNL), New Delhi for the years 2015-2016 to 2018-2019

Reply of the Government

The status of receiving annual reports from Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) and submission to Lok Sabha Secretariat for laying on the Table of the House is as given below:

Year and Date of hold of AGM	Date of Laying of Annual Report on the table of the houses	Reasons or delay in submission.
2015-16 29.11.2016	05.04.2017	Annual Report was received late from BBNL due to delay in finalization of Annual Accounts and translation. Thereafter, The Annual Report was submitted to Lok Sabha Sectt. for laying on Table of the House in the running session (Budget Session) of Parliament
2016-17 27.12.2017	25.07.2018	Annual Report was received late from BBNL due to delay in AGM and finalization of Annual Accounts by the time authentication of Hon'ble MoSC was obtained Budget Session 2018 got concluded. Therefore, Annual Report for 2017-18 was submitted to Lok Sabha Sectt. for laying on Table of the House in the Monsoon session of Parliament in 2018
2017-18 27.09.2018	04.01.2019 (On 28.12.2018, Annual Report was submitted to LSS	Annual Report was received late from BBNL. However, the same was submitted to Lok Sabha Sectt.

	for laying on Table of the House.	on 28.12.2018 (Friday) for laying on the Table of the Hose. The AR&AA was laid on Table of the House on 04.01.2019.
2018-19 29.11.2019	05.02.2020 (on 10.12.2019, Annual Report was submitted to LSS for laying on Table of the House)	Annual Report was received from BBNL on 06.12.2019 and after obtaining the approval of MoSC, was submitted to LSS for laying on 10.12.2019. The Winter Session 2019 ended on 13.12.2019 and the last day allocated to the Department was 11.12.2019. Therefore the AR&AA could not be laid on 11.12.2019 and was finally laid on Table of the House in the first week of Budget Session of Parliament 2020.

(Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications vide OM No. 59-255/2020-SU-IV dated 01 October,2020)

Recommendation (Paragraph No 16.)

While examining reasons for delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of BBNL for the years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017, the Committee was apprised that Change in Director (Finance) Selection of printing agency, transfer of Staff and proof reading process were the reasons for delay for the year 2015-2016 and Change in Accounting Policy for the year 2016-2017. These procedural matters should have been taken care of well within the stipulated time frame. The Committee note that due to remedial measures taken by the Ministry/Institute like Strengthening of accounts section, automation/customization of Tally ERP and also assurance for timely laying of the documents given by the representative of the Ministry, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the BBNL for the year 2017-2018 were laid on 04.01.2019 with a delay of 03 days and for the year 2018-2019 have been laid on 05.02.2020 with a delay of one month. The Committee, therefore, direct the Ministry to monitor the progress at regular intervals in order to adhere to the time schedule and to ensure that in future Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of BBNL are laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time.

Reply of the Government

The Department has made its best efforts for laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts within the stipulated time i.e., by 31st December. As stated above in the reply to Observation No. 15, for the year 2017-2018, Annual Report was received in the Department on 21.12.2018 and after obtaining approval of Hon'ble MOC, the same was submitted to LSS on 28.12.2018 and the AR&AA was laid on Table of the House on 04.01.2019 i.e. on the day allocated to Department. For the year 2018-2019, Annual Report was received in the Department on 06.12.2019. Last day allocated to the Department in Winter Session 2019 of the Parliament was 11.12.2019. On 10.12.2019, Department has submitted the Annual Report to LSS for laying which could actually be laid on the Table of the House on 05.02.2020 i.e. during first week of Budget Session of the Parliament 2020. The department will endeavor to lay the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts within the stipulated time.

(Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications vide OM No. 59-255/2020-SU-IV dated 01 October,2020)

Recommendation (Paragraph No 17.)

If due to unavoidable reasons, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the BBNL could not be laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within the prescribed period should be laid on the Table of the House strictly within 30 days as recommended by the Committee in its earlier reports.

Reply of the Government

As recommended by the Committee, in case of any delay in laying of AR&AA on the Table of the House, a statement explaining the reasons will be laid on the Table of the House strictly within 30 days.

(Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications vide OM No. 59-255/2020-SU-IV dated 01 October,2020)

