

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(2021-2022)

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

64

SIXTY FOURTH REPORT

**[Report on delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the
Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), Noida]**

(Presented on 17th December, 2021)



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

December, 2021/Agrahayana, 1943(Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
(2021-2022)

Shri Ritesh Pandey

-

Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Shafiqur Rehman Barq
3. Shri Margani Bharat
4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
5. Chowdhury Mohan Jatua
6. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
7. Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe
8. Dr. A. Chella Kumar
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 Sankar 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. Shri Kundan Kumar - Committee Officer
5. Shri K.P. Kashyap - Assistant Committee Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, Chairperson of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House (2021-22), having been authorized by the Committee to present this Report on their behalf, present this Sixty Fourth Report in respect of the delays in laying the Annual Reports together with Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), Noida.

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. The Committee considered the matter of the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), Noida for the years from 2015-16 to 2019-20 and took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), Noida in this regard at their sitting held on 22nd September, 2020.

4. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 13th December, 2021.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), Noida 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
15 December, 2021
24 Agrahayana, 1943 (Saka)

Ritesh Pandey
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table
Lok Sabha

Report

Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), NOIDA

The Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), NOIDA, is a Mini Ratna Category- 1 continuously profit making and fast growing Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Education, offering management and consultancy services in all areas of education and human resource development, both within India and overseas. EdCIL undertakes end-to-end projects on turnkey basis from concept to commissioning and ensures effective management of activities from identification of objectives through continuous monitoring leading to optimal fulfillment of targets within the stipulated time frame. The audit report of any Public Sector Enterprise (PSE) shall be laid before each House of the Parliament as per Article 151 of the Constitution of India. However, the Ministry of Education has not laid the annual reports and audited accounts of the EdCIL for the period of 2015-16 to 2018-19 within the stipulated time period.

2. In terms of the recommendations 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 reports and audited accounts of the organizations/companies are required to be laid on the Table of the House within nine months of the closure of the accounting year. To comply with this requirement, a proper time schedule should be laid down for compilation of the annual report and annual accounts and their auditing. The Committee felt that normally a period of 3 months would be sufficient for compilation of annual accounts and their submission for audit; the next 6 months might be given for auditing of accounts; printing of the report and sending it to the Government for laying. If for any reason, the annual reports and audited accounts of the Institutes could not be laid within the prescribed period of 9 months, the Ministry concerned should lay a statement within 30 days of the expiry of the aforesaid period or as soon as the House meets whichever is later, explaining the reasons as to why the documents could not be laid.

3. The scrutiny by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table reveals that the annual reports and audited accounts of the EdCIL, NOIDA, were laid on the Table of the House with delays ranging from 07 to 13 months. Thus, the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the EdCIL failed to comply with the parliamentary requirement of laying their documents within 9 months of the closure of the financial year. The date of laying and the extent of delay in laying of the annual reports and audited accounts of the EdCIL, NOIDA, have been given in **Annexure-I**.

4. The chronological sequence, as submitted by the Ministry, in respect of the finalization of the annual reports and audited accounts of the EdCIL for the years 2015-2016 to 2018-2019, is given in **Annexure-II**.

5. On being enquired by the Committee about the reasons for the delay in laying the annual reports and audited accounts of the EdCIL for the years 2015-16 to 2018-19, the Ministry in their written reply had submitted as under: -

"For the years 2015-16 to 2017-18:

Delays might be at various intervening points involved in the entire process which is difficult to be identified as on date. However, noted for future for timely submission'.

'For the year 2018-19:

*Delayed CAG audit because of non-availability of dates;
Delay in holding of AGM due to non-availability of dates of concerned senior officials',
and
Printing delays due to lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic, however, noted for future
timely submission."*

6 On being asked whether the delays in laying the documents indicate that due importance was not given to the timely laying the papers before the Parliament and things were taken in a casual manner, the Ministry in their written reply had submitted as under:-

"Annual Accounts are prepared by the EdCIL and are handed over to statutory auditors for the purpose of audit who then finalize the accounts and then accounts are submitted to BOD for their approval. Once approved, the accounts are submitted to CAG for their audit and after which they are presented to the shareholders in the Annual General Meeting for approval and adoption, printing and translation. The report is then submitted to the Ministry which in-turn presents the same to the House. Due importance is given to the matter of laying the documents before the Parliament in time; however certain delays might have happened in any of the above intervening steps. The delays occurred till now is deeply regretted. Henceforth, these delays will be timely identified and plugged in so that papers are laid before the Parliament within the given time frame"

7. On being enquired about identifying the stages in which delays have occurred during these years and steps taken or proposed to be taken to curtail such delays in future, the Ministry /EdCIL in their written reply submitted as under: -

"Annual Accounts are prepared by EdCIL and are handed over to statutory auditors for the purpose of audit who then finalize the accounts and then accounts are submitted to BOD for their approval. Once approved, the accounts are submitted to CAG for their audit and after which they are presented to the shareholders in the Annual General Meeting for approval and adoption after which the report is handed over to printing agency for translation and bulk printing. The report then is submitted to the ministry which in-turn presents the same to the House. Since multiple stakeholders are involved in finalizing the annual report, the delays happened at various intervening points. The same are being identified so that in future these delays are plugged in and remedial actions may be taken timely to submit the papers before the scheduled date and time frame."

8. On being enquired about any problem/challenges faced in connection with translation of the documents into Hindi, subsequent printing thereof and efforts made to overcome the problems, the Ministry in their written reply submitted as under: -

"Yes. The following challenges are faced:

*No dedicated Rajbhasha officer at the executive level and also required support staff;
Average responses time by external translation (Retd. Government officers) which is
approximately one month;
Typing and proof reading which takes 2-3 weeks time
Printing agency also takes 2-3 weeks time.
Specifically this year due to Corona pandemic lockdown happened from March 22, 2020,
onwards which also delayed the printing of annual reports;*

Following efforts are being made to overcome these problems:

Specific Rajbhasha official is being nominated to ensure the timely completion of activities relating to translation, proof reading and printing."

9. On being enquired about the time schedule laid down by the Ministry or the EdCIL regarding normative time for the completion of the task at each stage involved in the finalization of the annual reports and audited accounts, the Ministry in its written reply submitted as under: -

"EdCIL ensures that books of accounts are prepared within two months from the end of the accounting period, thereafter accounts are presented to the statutory auditors, Board of Directors and CAG respectively. Finally, AGM gets completed within the due date as per Companies act 2013."

10. On being enquired whether there is any mechanism in the Ministry to monitor the progress of work in this regard and to ensure timely laying the documents, the Ministry, in its written reply, submitted the following: -

"Ministry keeps on monitoring the progress of the work at regular intervals and the final annual report is submitted to the Ministry at the AGM which takes place in the administrative ministry."

11. On being asked by the Committee whether any remedial measures have been taken or proposed to be taken both by the Ministry and the EdCIL to ensure the timely laying of the documents before the Parliament within the prescribed period of nine months from the close of the Accounting Year, in future, the Ministry in its reply submitted the following: -

"The reasons of delays happened till now are being examined and steps are being taken to ensure that henceforth, the annual report can be submitted to the Parliament within the prescribed period duly monitoring the process at all intervening points/stakeholders."

12. The Committee considered the matter of delays in laying the annual reports and audited accounts of EdCIL for the years 2015-16 to 2018-19 and took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Education and the EdCIL, NOIDA on 22th September, 2020, on the issue.

13. Elaborating further the reasons for the delay in laying the annual reports and audited accounts of the EdCIL, the Secretary of the Ministry, during the evidence explained before the committee as under:-

“सभापति महोदय, मैं इस बात से इत्तेफाक रखता हूँ कि विगत वर्षों में ईडीसीआईएल द्वारा वार्षिक रिपोर्ट करने में विलम्ब हुआ है जैसाकि आपने बताया कि सीए के अप्रूवल के बाद एजीएम तक आने में समय लगा है और एजीएम के बाद डॉक्यूमेंट को भेजने में समय लगा है।”

Translation: Hon'ble Chairperson, I agree that there has been a delay in laying the annual report by EDCIL in the past years. As you said, after the approval of CA it has taken time to reach AGM and after AGM it has taken time to send the document.

14. The Committee subsequently note that the annual report and audited accounts of the EdCIL for the year 2018-19 have been laid on the Table of the House on 08.02.2021 with delay of about 13 months.

Observations and Recommendations

15. The Committee are constrained to note that the Ministry of Education(Department of Higher Education) and the Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), NOIDA, have not adhered to the time frame stipulated in the recommendations of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table contained in paras 1.16 and 3.5 of its First Report, paras 4.16 and 4.18 of Second Report (5th Lok Sabha) and Paras 1.12 and 2.6 to 3.8 of Second Report (6th Lok Sabha) presented to the House on 08.03.1976,12.05.1976 and 22.12.1977 respectively, regarding layingtheannual reports and audited accounts on the Table of the House within nine months from the closure of the accounting year. The documents of the EdCIL, NOIDA, for the year 2018-19 which were required to be laid on the Table of the House within 09 months from the closure of the respective financial year, have been laidon the Table of the House on 08.02.2021 with delay of about 13 months. The Committee also note that the documents for the year 2019-20* have not been laid as yet.

16. While examining the reasons for the undue delay in laying the documents of the EdCIL, the Committee are highly disappointed to note the avoidable delay in CAG audit due to non-availability of dates and also delay in holding of AGM due to non-availability of dates of concerned senior officials.However, the Committee feel that the impact of COVID-19 pandemic is understandable.The Committee also note that the Ministry and the EdCIL had failed to finalize the annual accounts within the stipulated time. The Committee opine that the non-availability of the senior officers can never be anexcusefor not discharging the Parliamentary obligations and duties.

17. The Ministry of Education(Department of Higher Education) has not been able to put in place an effective monitoring mechanism to ensure the laying of the documents of the EdCIL on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament within the stipulated time, which is a matter of serious concern. The Committee strictly recommend thatcomprehensive and holistic efforts must be made by the Ministry to ensure a timely laying of the documents in future. The Committee should be apprised of the compliance of these directions and also measures taken by the Ministry to avoid such delays in future.

18 The Committee also impress upon the Ministry that if due to unavoidable reasons, the annual reports and audited accounts of the EdCIL 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 prescribedtime period, should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days or as soon as the House convenes, whichever is later.

New Delhi

13 December, 2021

22 Agrahayana, 1943 (Saka)

Ritesh Pandey

Chairperson

Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

*Laid on Table of the House on 29/11/2021

Annexure- I
Vide para 3 of the Report

Statement Showing the dates of laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts
of the EdCIL, Noida for the years 2015-16 to 2019-20

Year	Date by which required to be laid	Date of laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts	Extent of Delay
2015-16	31.12.2016	31.07. 2017	07 Months
2016-17	31.12.2017	30.07.2018	07 Months
2017-18	31.12.2018	22.07.2019	07 Months
2018-19	31.12.2019	08.02.2021	13 Months
2019-20*	31.12.2020	Not laid	-

***Laid on Table of the House on 29/11/2021**

Annexure II
Vide para 4 of the Report

The chronological sequence in respect of finalization of Annual Reports and Audit Accounts of the EdCIL, Noida for the year 2015-16 to 2018-19

Sl. No	TASK	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
FOR ANNUAL REPORT					
1.	Draft of Annual Report was approved by the Competent Authority	28.09.2016	26.09.2017	27.09.2018	26.12.2019
2.	Draft of Annual Report sent of translation	10.04.2017	18.12.2017	21.01.2019	Last week of Feb, 2020
3.	Annual Report sent for printing by EDCIL	02.03.2017	05.01.2018	15.03.2019	Last week of March, 2020
4.	Final Prints of Annual Report were received in EDCIL	19.07.2016	17.07.2017	13.07.2018	12.07.2019
5.	Annual Report was consired in the AG Meeting of the Company	28.09.2016	26.09.2017	27.09.2018	26.12.2019
6.	Date on which copies of Annual Report were received from EDCIL	January, 2017	15.01.2018	24.01.2019	27.05.2020

Sl. No	FOR AUDITED ACCOUNTS	DATE			
1	Closing of Cash book	31.03.2016	31.03.2017	31.03.2018	31.03.2019
2	Final Adjustment	31.03.2016	31.03.2017	31.03.2018	31.03.2019
3	Completion of final accounts and Balance sheet	25.05.2016	30.05.2017	25.05.2018	24.05.2019
4.	Date of Approval of Annual Accounts by competent authority	-	-	-	-
5.	Commencement of Audit	30.05.2016	01.06.2017	29.05.2018	30.05.2019
6	Period on which Audit was completed	19.07.20116	17.07.2017	13.07.2018	12.07.2019
7.	Date to EDCIL for comment/query on which Auditor sent the draft Audit Report	Throughout the period	Throughout the period	Throughout the period	Throughout the period

8.	Submission of comments/queries sent by Auditor	Throughout the period	Throughout the period	Throughout the period	Throughout the period
9.	Translation of Accounts- in Hindi, Printing etc.	10.04.2017	05.01.2018	15.03.2019	Last week of March 20
10.	Date on which the copies of the Audited Annual Accounts were received in the Ministry of Education	January, 2017	15.01.2018	24..01.2019	27.05.2020
11	Date of laying of the Annual Reports, Audited Accounts etc.	31.07.2017	30.07.2018	22.07.2019	Not Laid*
	Extent of Delay	07 months	07 months	06 months	-

*The documents of the EdCIL for the year 2018-19 actually laid on the Table of the House on 08.02.2021.

**THE EXTRACTS OF THE MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2019-2020)**

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The Committee sat on Tuesday, 22nd September, 2020 from 11:00 hrs. to 13:30 hrs. in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Shyam Singh Yadav

-

Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
3. Shri Raja Amareshwara Naik
4. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
5. Shri T.N. Prathapan

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. B.Visala - Director
3. Shri R.K.Chaudhary - Under Secretary

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**REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION) AND
EdCIL(India) Ltd., NOIDA**

1. Shri Madhu Ranjan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Manoj Kumar - CMD, EdCIL
3. Shri P.K.S. Shishodiya - CGM, EdCIL
4. Shri Devendra K. Sharma - Company Secretary, EdCIL
5. Ms. Jasmeet Kaur Chhabra - Assistant Manager, EdCIL

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

3. to 11. XX XX XX XX

12. The Chairperson then welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the EdCIL (India), Ltd., Noida to the sitting of the Committee and explained to them that the meeting has been called to discuss the reasons for delays in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the EdCIL(India), Ltd. The Chairperson also explained to the witnesses the provisions of Direction 58 of Directions issued by the Speaker, Lok Sabha regarding confidentiality of the proceedings.

13. Shri Madhu Ranjan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education apprised the Committee that due to some reason Shri Rakesh Ranjan, Additional Secretary, was not able to appear before the Committee. Therefore, he was authorized to represent the Ministry before the Committee. He made power point presentation about the functioning of the EdCIL and apprised the Committee that delay in finalisation of printing agency, proofreading and translation of the documents in Hindi version were the main reasons for delay for the years 2015-2016 to 2017-2018. The delay for the year 2018-2019 was due to late receipt of CAG Report (in October, 2019) and non convening the AGM. He also apprised the Committee about the measures taken by them to ensure timely laying of the documents in future.

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

The witnesses then withdrew.

15. to 23. XX XX XX XX

24. A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting of the Committee has been kept on record.

The Committee then adjourned.

**THE EXTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF
THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
(2021-2022)**

The Committee sat on Monday, 13th December, 2021 from 1500 hours to 1630 hours in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe , New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Ritesh Pandey - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Shri PallabLochan Das
3. Choudhary Mehboob Ali Kaiser
4. Shri Raja Amareshwara Naik
5. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Munish Kumar Rewari - Additional Director
3. Smt. Manjinder Pubbi - Under Secretary

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2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.
3. Thereafter, the Committee took up the Ten (10) draft Reports/Action Taken Reports regarding the delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the following organisation for the consideration :-
 - i. Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), Noida;
 - ii. National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Noida;
 - iii. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi;
 - iv. Central Tibetan School Administration (CTSA), Delhi;
 - v. Food Corporation of India, New Delhi;
 - vi. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi;
 - vii. V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida;
 - viii. Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone (VSEZ) Authority; Cochin Special Economic Zone (CSEZ) Authority; Kandla Special Economic Zone (KSEZ) Authority; and Madras Special Economic Zone (MEPZ) Authority.;
 - ix) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the Committee in the Thirtieth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Port Blair Municipal Corporation (PBMC), Port Blair; and
 - x) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the Committee in the Thirty First Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Commission of Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi.
4. After deliberations, the Committee adopted the all Ten (10) draft Reports/Action Taken Reports without modifications.
5. The Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to present these Reports to the Parliament.

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The Committee then adjourned.
