

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE  
(2021-2022)**

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**97**

**NINETY SEVENTH REPORT**

**[Action-taken by the Ministry of Culture on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Fifty-Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM), New Delhi.]**

**(Presented to Lok Sabha on 05.08.2022)**



**सत्यमेव जयते**

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
August 2022/ Sravana 1944 (Saka)**

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**COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**LOK SABHA**

**(2021-2022)**

**Shri Ritesh Pandey**

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**Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

2. Dr. Shafiqur Rehman 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 Sankar Ulaka
15. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Sundar Prasad Das - Director
3. Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj - Additional Director

## 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 Ninety Seventh Report on the action-taken by the Ministry of Culture on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Fifty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM), New Delhi.

2. The Fifty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 15.12.2021. The Ministry of Culture furnished their replies on 22.02.2022 indicating the action taken on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fifty-fourth Report. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on **01.08.2022**.

3. The Committee places on record their appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

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

**New Delhi**  
**03 August 2022**  
**12 Sravana 1944 (Saka)**

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

## **COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (2021-2022), LOK SABHA**

**Action Taken by the Ministry of Culture on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Fifty-Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM), New Delhi.**

This Report of the Committee deals with the action-taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2021-2022) in its Fifty-Fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) which, dealt with the matter of the delays in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM), New Delhi under the administrative control of the Ministry of Culture and which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 15.12.2021.

2. The Committee had made five Observations/Recommendations in its Fifty-Fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha). The action-taken replies to all the five Observations/Recommendations of the said Report were received from the Government on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022. Accordingly, the reply showing the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Fifty-Fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.

3. **The Committee note that the Ministry of Culture and the NMIHACM, New Delhi had noted the recommendations made by the Committee in its original Report and, accordingly, the NMIHACM has taken remedial measures to ensure timely laying of its documents. From the action-taken reply furnished by the Ministry, the Committee note that the data of the NMIHACM is being compiled, simultaneously, in all departments. Also, it has been submitted that dedicated staff has been deployed for full compilation of the Annual Reports. To eliminate delays in getting approval of the documents from the Finance Committee and Board of Management, they have taken decision to get approval of the**

documents through ‘Resolution by Circulation’. The Committee appreciate the efforts made by the NMIHACM in this regard. However, the Committee also observe that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the NMIHACM for 2019-2020 have been laid on the Table of the House on 7.2.2022 with delays of over 13 months. Moreover, the requisite documents of the NMIHACM for the year 2020-2021\* have not been laid, even after the submission of the Ministry that it is expected to be laid in the month of April 2022. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the requisite documents of the NMIHACM, New Delhi for the year 2020-2021 should be laid before the House, at the earliest.

4. The Committee also note, from the action-taken reply furnished by the Ministry that the Annual accounts of the NMIHACM would be approved during the month of June/July every year. However, the provisions of the General Financial Rules clearly mention that the Annual accounts of an organization would be submitted to the audit authorities by 30<sup>th</sup> June every year. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Annual accounts of the NMIHACM should be submitted to the audit authorities, after getting the approval of the same, by 30<sup>th</sup> June every year, as stipulated in the General Financial Rules. The Committee would like to be informed about the action-taken by the Ministry/NMIHACM, within three months of the presentation of this Report.

**New Delhi**  
**01 August 2022**  
**10 Sravana 1944 (Saka)**

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

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\* The Annual Report and Audited Accounts of National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM), New Delhi for 2020-2021 were laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 01.08.2022.

**APPENDIX-I**  
**(vide paragraph 02 of the Report)**

**Reply Showing Action Taken by the Ministry of Culture on the Recommendations/Observations Contained in the Fifty-Fourth Report of the Committee on Papers on the Table (Lok Sabha), Seventeenth Lok Sabha.**

National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology  
(NMIHACM), New Delhi

**Recommendation Serial No. 25**

The Committee are disheartened to observe that the Ministry of Culture had laid the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM), New Delhi for the years 2013-2014 to 2018-2019 before the Parliament (Lok Sabha) with delays ranging between 07 months to 18 months, approximately. The requisite documents of the NMIHACM for the year 2019-2020 have not been laid before Parliament, as yet.

Moreover, requisite documents of NMIHACM for the year 2018-2019 were laid before Parliament on 22.03.2021 only when the Ministry/NMIHACM was called for oral evidence on 28.01.2021. The Committee are concerned with this persistent delay in laying of the requisite documents before the Parliament, since the year 2013-2014 onwards. The Committee, hence, recommend to the Ministry to take strict measures to ensure the timely laying of the requisite documents and to ensure that the requisite documents are laid in accordance with the recommendations of this Committee and General Financial Rules.

## **Reply of the Government**

The delay in submission of the Annual Report has been noted and remedial measures have been taken by National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM) as follows:

- i) Data for compilation of the Annual Report is now being done by NMIHACM on a simultaneous basis from all Departments rather than moving the physical file to each Department one by one.
- ii) Dedicated staff has been deployed by NMIHACM for full compilation of the Annual Report.

The Annual Report for 2019-20 of the Institute was sent to both the House vide this Ministry's letter no. 20/3/2021-Museum-I dated 16.12.2021. The Annual Report for 2019-2020 of the institute along with Audited Account has already been laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 22.12.2021(255<sup>th</sup> Session of Rajya Sabha) and also laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 7.02.2022.

(Ministry of Culture O.M. no. F.No. M-I-20/4/2021-Museum-I, dated 22.02.2022)

## **Recommendation Serial No. 26**

The Committee was apprised that due to some unavoidable circumstances, the requisite documents for these years could not be laid in the scheduled time. On being enquired by the Committee to elaborate the unavoidable circumstances for not laying the documents in time, the representative of the NMIHACM submitted before the Committee that time taken in the reconstitution of the Board of Management and Society, delay in auditing of the annual accounts and also administrative delay on their part were the unavoidable circumstances. However, the Committee observed from the replies furnished by the Ministry that a casual approach was adopted by the NMIHACM at each stage from the compilation of annual accounts,



approaching the auditors for appointment of auditor to sending the documents to the Ministry. Moreover, delay on the part of the Ministry for the reconstitution of the Board and Society could not be justified on any ground. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommends that, in future, it should act well in advance to deal with such issues as it affects the process of finalization of requisite documents.

With regard to the delays on the part of NMIHACM, the Committee find it astonishing to note that even after thirty years after the first oral evidence, no conclusive remedy has been brought up to eliminate such delays. Hence, it is quite evident that both the Ministry and the Institute did not pay any heed to the trust shown and the recommendation made by this Committee in its 6th Report of the Tenth Lok Sabha, as the same issue still persist.

It is evident that merely following GFR 2017 timelines, in this regard, has not yielded the desired result and the requisite documents are still being laid with delays. Therefore, the Committee recommend to the NMIHACM to strictly adhere to the time schedule being followed, to ensure that the requisite documents are timely compiled, approved and laid before the Parliament. And, also, the matter of delays on the part of audit authorities may also be taken up with the Office of CAG.

### **Reply of the Government**

- i) It has been decided in the last meeting of the Finance Committee of NMIHACM held on 02.12.2021 to get the Annual Accounts approved from the Finance Committee and Board of Management through “Resolution by Circulation” rather than waiting for the physical meeting which is one of the factors of delay in submission of the Annual Report.

ii) Efforts will be made by NMIHACM to get the Annual Accounts approved by the month of June / July every year so that auditors can be contacted in time and audit could be completed in a timely manner say by the month of September/October along with issuing of SAR.

Reconstitution of the Board of Management will be taken up by the Ministry in a timely manner to avoid such delays in future.

(Ministry of Culture O.M. no. F.No. M-I-20/4/2021-Museum-I, dated 22.02.2022)

### **Recommendation Serial No. 27**

The Committee takes serious note of the incomplete written submission made by the Ministry/NMIHACM, wherein it has only stated the measures to be taken to avoid delays in future, however, it failed to give clear dates of laying the pending requisite documents before the Parliament, as was desired by the Committee and was also assured by the Ministry during the oral evidence. The Committee would like to be apprised of the reasons for not furnishing the requisite information by the Ministry/ NMIHACM and also the time for laying the pending documents.

### **Reply of the Government**

- i) The Annual Report for 2018-2019 has already been laid in both the houses of Parliament.
- ii) The Annual Report for 2019-20 has already been sent to both the House vide this Ministry's letter no. 20/3/2021-Museum-I dated 16.12.2021. The Annual Report for 2019-2020 of the institute along with Audited Account has already been laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 22.12.2021(255<sup>th</sup> Session of Rajya Sabha) and also laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 7.02.2022.
- iii) Annual Report for 2020-21 is expected to be laid by the month of April 2022.

Subsequent Annual Reports will be laid in the Parliament duly in time following the timelines given in the reply to serial no.26 above.

(Ministry of Culture O.M. no. F.No. M-I-20/4/2021-Museum-I, dated 22.02.2022)

### **Recommendation Serial No. 28**

The Committee note with some satisfaction that a more systematic format for the data collection for Annual Reports from all academic, administrative and finance departments has been developed. As committed during evidence, one cell comprising of personnel from Accounts & Administration section has been created to solely look after the work related to compilation, translation and printing of Annual Report to avoid any delay in future. They also assured that all steps would be taken to get the Annual Report completed and submitted in time from FY 2020-21 onward. The Committee hope that with the remedial measures taken by the Ministry/ NMIHACM, they will lay their Annual Report and Audited Accounts within nine months after the closure of the respective accounting year.

### **Reply of the Government**

- i) It is submitted that Annual Report for 2020-21 will be submitted with a little delay of 3-4 months as the Accounts have been recently approved and Annual Report is in the process of compilation as audit is yet to be taken up by CAG.
- ii) Annual reports for subsequent years will be submitted within the set time frame.

(Ministry of Culture O.M. no. F.No. M-I-20/4/2021-Museum-I, dated 22.02.2022)

### **Recommendation Serial No. 29**

At last, the Committee impress upon the Ministry to note that in case of a delay, only due to unavoidable reasons, in laying of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of any organization/society/institution under its control, a statement explaining the reasons as to why the requisite documents could not be laid within the prescribed time 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**

The recommendation of the Committee has been noted and desired statement will be duly submitted in case of any delay in laying of the Annual Report of any organization/society/ institution.

(Ministry of Culture O.M. no. F.No. M-I-20/4/2021-Museum-I, dated 22.02.2022)

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**The Extracts of the Minutes of the thirteenth sitting of the Committee on Papers  
Laid on the Table (2021-2022) held on 01.08.2022.**

**Committee On Papers Laid On The Table (2021-2022)**

The Committee sat on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2022 from 15:00 hrs. to 15:30 hrs. in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

***Present***

Shri Ritesh Pandey - ***Chairperson***

***Members***

2. Dr. A. Chellakumar
3. Shri Pallab Lochan Das
4. Smt. Aparupa Poddar
5. Shri S. Ramalingam
6. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
7. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

***Secretariat***

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj - Additional Director

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2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting and apprised them about the agenda.

3. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration, four draft Reports and nine draft Action-taken Reports on the following subjects:-

|       |   |   |   |   |    |
|-------|---|---|---|---|----|
| i.    | X | X | X | X | X; |
| ii.   | X | X | X | X | X; |
| iii.  | X | X | X | X | X; |
| iv.   | X | X | X | X | X; |
| v.    | X | X | X | X | X; |
| vi.   | X | X | X | X | X; |
| vii.  | X | X | X | X | X; |
| viii. | X | X | X | X | X; |
| ix.   | X | X | X | X | X; |
| x.    | X | X | X | X | X; |
| xi.   | X | X | X | X | X; |

xii Action Taken by the Ministry of Culture on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Fifty-Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM), New Delhi; and

xiii X X X X X.

4. After deliberations, the Reports and Action-taken Reports as mentioned above have been adopted by the Committee and the Chairperson has been authorized by the committee, as per the factual verification of (narration portion) the Reports and Action- taken Reports, to finalize and present these Reports and Action-taken Reports to Lok Sabha.

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**The Committee then adjourned.**

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