

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

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

92

NINETY-SECOND REPORT

[Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Thirty Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojan Parishad , Panchkula]

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 05 August,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-Second Report on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in the Thirty-sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojan Parishad , Panchkula.

2. The Thirty-sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 11.02.2021. The Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) furnished their replies on 02nd March, 2022 indicating the action-taken on the observations/recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 01 August, 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

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

Draft Report on action taken by Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Thirty Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojan Parishad , Panchkula.

This Report of the Committee deals with the action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) [MOE (DS&L)] on the Recommendations/Observations made by the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2020-2021) in its Thirty Sixth Report (17th Lok Sabha) which, dealt with the matter of the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojan Parishad , Panchkula (HPSPPP) for the years 2015-2016 to 2019-2020 and which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 11.02.2021.

2. The action-taken replies to all the Observations/Recommendations of the said Report have been received from the MOE (DS&L) on 02nd March, 2022. Accordingly, the reply showing the action-taken by the MOE (DS&L) on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Thirty Sixth Report (17th Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.

3. **The Committee note from the action taken replies furnished by the MOE (DS&L) that the Financial Management and Procurement Manual, which is a guide for budgeting and financial reporting procedure, accounting and auditing requirements and procurement procedures to ensure that the funds are disbursed, utilized and accounted for in an efficient and effective manner, has been introduced by the MOE (DS&L). The MOE (DS&L) had also emphasized the states to follow the time schedule to comply with timely submission of the Annual Reports. The Committee appreciate the efforts made by both the Ministry and HPSPPP in adhering to the recommendations made by the Committee in their original Report and observe that the Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review Statement of the HPSPPP for the year 2020-2021 have been laid together on 14.12.2021, within the stipulated time. The Committee expect that the HPSPPP will adhere to the time schedule given by the MOE (DS&L) and also the requisite documents of the HPSPPP will also be laid within the**

stipulated time in future as has been assured by the MOE (DS&L) in its action-taken reply.

New Delhi

01 August, 2022
10 Sravana, 1944 (Saka)

Ritesh Pandey
Chairperson
Committee on Papers Laid on the
Table

Reply Showing Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on the Recommendations/ Observations contained in the Thity Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha)

Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojan Parishad , Panchkula

Recommendation Serial No. 21

The Committee note that despite knowing the time frame and procedures for laying of Annual Reports and Audited Reports, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojana Parishad for the years 2015-2016 to 2018-2019 were laid on the Table of the House by the Ministry of Education with delays ranging from 2 ½ months to 11 months. Thus, the Ministry/SSA has failed to comply with the Parliamentary requirement of laying their documents within 9 months of closure of financial year. Timely submission of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of an organization is required to enable scrutiny of these documents by the House at the time of consideration of demands for grants pertaining to the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry/SSA should make all out efforts to plug the systemic loopholes so as to eliminate avoidable delays to ensure that requisite documents are laid on the Table of the House within the stipulated time period.

Reply of the Government

The State Implementation Societies are registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 with the respective State Governments and are responsible for the maintenance of proper accounts and other relevant records, as well as preparing Annual Accounts comprising the receipts and payments accounts and Statement of Liabilities.

In order to guide and assist the implementing agencies in programme management, the Ministry of Education, Department of School Education & Literacy has brought together the procedures, rules and regulations at one place in the Financial Management and Procurement Manual (FMP Manual).

The FMP Manual is intended to be used by the States/UTs as a guide for budgeting and financial reporting procedures, accounting and auditing requirements, and procurement procedures to be followed throughout the country. The provisions laid down in the manual are mandatory and are to be followed by the States and UTs to ensure that the funds are disbursed, utilized and accounted for in an efficient and effective manner.

The Ministry emphasizes the State to follow strict time schedule to comply with timely submission of the Annual Reports. In this regard a D.O. letter dated 08.01.2020 was issued to the Education Secretaries –**Annexure-1**.

The State government has reported that as per the directions issued, remedial measures have already been taken and necessary directions have been issued to all concerned, by the

State to curb the delays in submission of Annual Reports to the Ministry and as a result, the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts for the F.Y. 2019-20 were submitted to the Ministry well in time (i.e. on 29.09.2020) before the last date and the recommendations have been noted for future.

(Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) O.M. No. 4-2/2021-IS-10/IS.8) dated 2nd March, 2022)

Recommendation Serial No. 22

While examining the reasons for delays in laying of the documents of the SSA, for the years from 2015-2016 to 2018-2019, the Committee note that after submission of Annual Accounts of SSA for these years, the Audit Authorities took from 88 days to 188 days in the process of auditing the Annual Accounts and furnishing the draft Audit Reports. The Committee also notes that the time lag between receiving of draft Audit Report and final Audit Reports for these years was 07 days to 28 days. The Committee, therefore, desires to know the specific reasons for taking a long time in the process of auditing the Annual Accounts and also remedial measure proposed to be taken by them so that audit work is completed by Audit Authorities in a time bound manner.

Reply of the Government

The State government has reported the following reasons for delay in submitting the audit report of SSA from 2015-16 to 2018-19:

- (i) Delay in appointment of CA firm
- (ii) Frequent transfer of State Project Director. During this period, 9 SPDs changed.
- (iii) Irregular Meetings of the Executive Committee (EC) of SSA

Also that all concerned have now been directed for timely submission of Audit Report. The audited accounts for the financial year 2019-20 were submitted to the Ministry on 29.09.2020 well in time. Assurance is also given that there will be no delay in future.

(Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) O.M. No. 4-2/2021-IS-10/IS.8) dated 2nd March, 2022)

Recommendation Serial No. 23

Another factor which caused delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the SSA for the aforesaid years was time taken by the Ministry/SSA in getting Hindi Translation and printing of the documents. The Ministry/SSA took 45 days to 190 days in this process for the aforesaid years. The Committee feel that these factors are well within the control of the SSA and delay, if any, on this account would reflect adversely on its management. The Committee expects SSA to take steps to avoid such unreasonable delays in future.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry emphasizes the State to follow strict time schedule to comply with timely submission of the Annual Reports. In this regard a D.O. letter dated 08.01.2020 was issued to the Education Secretaries –Annexure-1.

The State government has also reported that the recommendation has been noted for compliance in future.

(Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) O.M. No. 4-2/2021-IS-10/IS.8) dated 2nd March, 2022)

Recommendation Serial No. 24

The Committee also wonders why the Ministry has taken 07 months for processing and laying the documents of the SSA for the year 2017-2018 after receiving them from the SSA on 14.05.2019. The Committee feel that if the Ministry themselves show such an apathetic and indifferent attitude; no better results can be expected from the organizations and bodies which look to the Ministry for guidance. The Committee, therefore, urges the Ministry to avoid such delays in future.

Reply of the Government

Due to administrative reasons like work re-allocation (Huge no. of files were transferred from other sections, scrutiny and streamlining of files took considerable amount of time due to shortage of staff (as no ASO,SSA,JSA were in the section during the period, the Annual Reports for the year 2017-18 could not be laid timely just for that particular year. However, once the records were streamlined, Annual Reports for the years 2018-19 and 2019-20 were laid in the first Parliament Session held after the receipt of the Reports. The advice of the Committee is being followed to avoid such delays in future.

(Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) O.M. No. 4-2/2021-IS-10/IS.8) dated 2nd March, 2022)

Recommendation Serial No. 25

The Committee note with some satisfaction that an online monitoring system has been introduced by the Ministry for early completion of the Audited Report and Annual Reports and a time schedule has also been laid down by the Ministry for completion of various activities concerning these reports. Accordingly, the Committee urge that in future the time schedule should be strictly adhered to and it should be ensured that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the SSA are laid in time.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry emphasizes the State to follow strict time schedule to comply with timely submission of the Annual Reports. In this regard a D.O. letter dated 08.01.2020 was issued to the Education Secretaries –**Annexure-1**.

The State government has also reported that the recommendation has been noted for compliance in future.

(Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) O.M. No. 4-2/2021-IS-10/IS.8) dated 2nd March, 2022)

Recommendation Serial No. 26

The Committee also impress upon the Ministry to note that in case of delay in laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the SSA, a statement explaining the reasons as to why these could not be laid within the prescribed period, should be laid on the Table of the House within 30 days of the expiry of the aforesaid or as soon as House meets whichever is later, as recommended by the Committee in their earlier reports.

Reply of the Government

After expiry of 9 months from the closure of the financial year, a comprehensive report is prepared for the Annual Reports of all the States/UTs and extension is sought individually for each State and UT, from each House, upto the next Parliament session, explaining therewith the reasons for late laying of the respective Annual Report. Letters seeking extension of time for laying of Annual Reports of Samagra Shiksha for the years 2018-19 and 2019-20, are placed at Annexure- II.

(Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) O.M. No. 4-2/2021-IS-10/IS.8) dated 2nd March, 2022)

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

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee

The Committee sat on Monday, 1st 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

Witnesses

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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 to vi xx XX XX XX

vii. **Action Taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on the Recommendations/ Observations made by the Committee in their Thirty Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in**

**laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Haryana Prathmik
Shiksha Pariyojan Parishad , Panchkula;**

viii to xiii

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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.
