



विधान सभा
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

सदन पटल पर रखे गए पत्रों संबंधी समिति
COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

प्रथम प्रतिवेदन
FIRST REPORT

(25 फरवरी, 2019 को प्रस्तुत)
(PRESENTED ON 25 FEBRUARY, 2019)

विधान सभा, पुराना सचिवालय, दिल्ली-110054
Legislative Assembly, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054

**DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

**समिति का गठन
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE**

1.	श्री अजय दत्त Shri Ajay Dutt	सभापति Chairman
2.	श्री गुलाब सिंह Shri Gulab Singh	सदस्य Member
3.	श्री मनजिन्दर सिंह सिरसा Shri Manjinder Singh Sirsa	सदस्य Member
4.	श्री मोहम्मद इशराक खान Shri Mohd. Ishraq Khan	सदस्य Member
5.	श्री रितुराज गोविन्द Shri Rituraj Govind	सदस्य Member
6.	श्रीमती सरिता सिंह Smt. Sarita Singh	सदस्य Member
7.	श्री शरद कुमार Shri Sharad Kumar	सदस्य Member
8.	श्री सुखबीर सिंह दलाल Shri Sukhbir Singh Dalal	सदस्य Member
9.	श्री विजेन्द्र गर्ग Shri Vijender Garg	सदस्य Member

विधान सभा सचिवालय:
Assembly Secretariat:

1.	श्री सी. वेलमुरुगन Shri C. Velmurugan	सचिव Secretary
2.	श्री सुनील दत्त शर्मा Shri Sunil Dutt Sharma	उप सचिव (विधायी) Deputy Secretary (Legislation)
3.	श्रीमती सरिता मिश्रा Smt Sarita Misra	अनुभाग अधिकारी Section Officer

FIRST REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Background:

Erskine May's Treatise on The Law, Privileges, Proceedings and Usage of Parliament states that *"The first step in parliamentary control is the requirement that a document be laid before Parliament..."*

Laying of Paper on the Table of the House is one of the most crucial procedure to ensure accountability of the Executive towards the Legislature. Papers are laid on the Table of the House in order to provide authoritative and authentic facts and information to the House. Papers are so laid either in compliance with specific provisions contained in the Constitution, Statutes, Rules of Procedure or in pursuance of directions of the Hon'ble Speaker from time to time. The House has the power to amend, or reject; in part or whole; any piece of delegated legislation which in its view is beyond the powers of the Executive.

The Extract of the relevant Rules of the Procedure and Conduct of Business in Delhi Assembly dealing with papers to be laid on this subject are annexed with the Report (**Annexure I**).

The papers that are mandatorily required to be laid on the Table by the Hon'ble Ministers can be broadly classified as follows:

1. Rules, Sub-Rules, Regulations, Bye-Laws framed by the Executive Authorities in exercise of the delegated powers of legislation.
2. Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Public Undertakings incorporated under the Companies Act or created under specific laws.
3. Reports of Statutory Bodies other than Public Undertakings created under the Constitution or specific laws.

Besides the above, the Hon'ble Ministers and Members can also lay papers on the Table of the House with the prior permission of the

- Hon'ble Speaker. However, this Report confines itself with the papers that are to be mandatorily laid on the Table of the House.

Recommendations & Conclusions:

- The Committee observed that the procedure of laying papers was not being adhered to in its true letter and spirit by the Departments and hence would like to reiterate the importance of the procedure and implement strict adherence.
- The Assembly Secretariat is examining the various papers laid till date during the term of the VI Assembly and the findings of the Committee in this regard shall form part of the next report of the Committee.
- To streamline the process of laying of Papers on the Table, the Committee has summarized the instructions on this procedure (**Annexure-II**) and devised a *proforma* to be submitted by the Department (**Annexure-III**). Departments are directed to scrupulously adhere to the provisions of the Rules of Procedure in this regard and follow these instructions.
- Presently the Assembly Secretariat receives 125 copies each in English and Hindi of the papers sought to be laid on the Table. These are circulated amongst the Hon'ble Members after it is laid on the Table by the Hon'ble Minister concerned. In view of the suggestions of Hon'ble Members and directions of the Hon'ble Speaker to reduce the use of paper it has been decided that this requirement be reduced. An indicative list of the number of copies of various papers required to be sent to the Assembly Secretariat annexed to this Report (**Annexure-IV**)

- Soft copy of the papers that have been laid, shall be emailed to all the Hon'ble Members (in PDF / E-Book format) by the Assembly Secretariat. It shall also be uploaded on the website of the Department after it has been laid on the Table of the House.

Place: Delhi
Date: 22/2/2019


(AJAY DUTT)
Chairman,
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

Extracts of the Rules regarding Papers Laid on Table

“158. Laying of Regulations, Rules, etc. on the Table

(1) Copies of the regulations, rules, sub-rules, bye-laws etc., framed from time to time in pursuance of the power conferred on the Government, Constitution, or an Act of Parliament or of the Assembly or any law in force, shall, whether the relevant Act or law does not require them to be laid before the House, be laid on the Table for the specified period as provided in the corresponding law.

(2) Where the specified period is not so completed, the regulations, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc., shall be re-laid in the succeeding session or sessions until the said period is completed in one session.

(3) If a regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc. is modified in accordance with the amendment passed by the House, the amended regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc. shall be laid on the Table.”

“(N) COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

229. Constitution and functions

(1) There shall be a Committee on Papers laid on the Table of the House consisting of not more than nine members.

(2) The Committee shall be nominated by the Speaker.

(3) The functions of the Committee shall be to examine all papers laid on the Table of the House by the Ministers and to report to the House on-

(i) whether there has been a compliance of the provisions of the Act, rules or regulations under which the papers have been laid;

(ii) whether there has been any unreasonable delay in laying the papers;

(iii) if there has been any such delay whether a statement explaining the reasons for delay has been laid on the Table and whether those reasons are satisfactory;

(iv) whether both Hindi and English versions have been laid on the Table;

(v) whether a statement explaining reasons for not laying the Hindi version has been given and whether such reasons are satisfactory;

(vi) the Committee shall perform such other functions in respect of the papers laid on the Table of the House, as may be assigned to it by the Speaker from time to time.

(4) A member wishing to raise any of the matters referred to in sub-rule (3) shall refer it to the Committee and not raise it in the House."

"(M) LAYING OF A PAPER OR DOCUMENT ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE

289. Laying of any paper or documents on the table of the House

No paper or document shall be laid on the Table without the order or the authority of the Speaker:

Provided that when a paper or document is laid on the Table, prior notice shall be given to the Secretary:

Provided further that whenever statutory regulations, rules, sub-rules, bye-laws, etc. are required to be laid on the Table, prior notice thereof shall be given by the minister to the Secretary in writing along with the authenticated copies of the relevant documents at least, one day in advance."

Instructions on Papers to be Laid on the Table of the House:

1. Notices (duly signed by the Hon'ble Minister) for all Papers that are required to be laid on the Table should be sent to the Assembly Secretariat as soon as notification/summons for the session (following the date of issue of the relevant Paper) is issued. In case the House is already in session, the Notice should be sent immediately.
2. Two sets of the paper to be laid are to be authenticated by the Hon'ble Minister with signatures and stamp on the first and last page.
3. Soft copy of the Papers (along with enclosures, if any) in PDF / E-book format should be e-mailed to assemblydelhi@gmail.com along with the Notice.
4. As soon as the paper is laid on the Table by the Hon'ble Minister, the soft copy in PDF / E-book format should be uploaded on the Department's Website and the link shared with the Assembly Secretariat through email.
5. A Statement of Objects and Reasons and a Statement containing Explanatory Memorandum (duly signed by the Hon'ble Minister) should be appended in case of laying of Rules on the Table.
6. In case of amendment of existing Rules, the relevant extract of the original rules should also be attached.
7. Departments are also to ensure that the Papers required to be laid on the Table; complete in all respects (English and Hindi Version) are sent to the Assembly Secretariat at least two days in advance of the day on which it is proposed to be laid on the Table.
8. The process of laying of Papers on the Table of the House is very important as it authorizes the Hon'ble Members to move a Motion for its modification/ annulment. Departments are therefore required to provide the information as mentioned in the enclosed **proforma** along with the notice of the Hon'ble Minister.
9. Departments may coordinate with the Directorate of Information and Publicity for supplying adequate copies to the Media. However, it may be ensured that these are circulated to the media personnel only after the paper has been laid in the House by the Hon'ble Minister.

Annexure-III

NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT
ADDRESS OF THE DEPARTMENT

PROFORMA TO BE ATTACHED TO THE NOTICE OF THE HON'BLE MINISTER
REGARDING PAPERS TO BE LAID ON THE HOUSE

1.	Brief Subject	
2.	Statutory or other requirement under which the paper is to be laid on the Table: (not the Statutory provision under which the paper has been issued) In case of Government Notification; name of the Act and Section which provides for laying should be clearly stated	
3.	Whether published in the Gazette? If yes, the details thereof: (Number, Date, Part and Section of the Gazette)	
4.	Whether subject to modification by the House?	
5.	Period specified in the Principal Act by which it is required to be laid:	
6.	Whether it is being laid within the stipulated time? (If not, Delay Statement to be enclosed)	
7.	Whether English/ Hindi versions are being laid together? If not, the date on which the English version was laid?	
8.	Date on which the Paper is proposed to be laid:	

Date:

(Signature of Head of Department)

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Annexure-IV

Indicative list of the number of copies to be sent by the Departments

Sl. No.	Brief Subject	No. of copies required (In English and Hindi)
01	Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor's Address to the Assembly	100
02	Hon'ble Minister of Finance's Budget Speech and Demand for Grants	100
03	Bills & Ordinances	100
04	Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under Section 48 of the National Capital Territory Act, 1991	100
05	Reports regarding Economic Survey	100
06	Reports of the Finance Commission	100
07	Action Taken Reports of the Government on any issue	100
08	Other papers i.e. Rules/ Notifications/ Reports / Regulations / Bye-laws etc.	30