



विधान सभा
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

विशेषाधिकार समिति
COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

आठवीं विधान सभा का द्वितीय प्रतिवेदन (अंतरिम प्रतिवेदन)
SECOND REPORT (INTERIM REPORT) OF THE EIGHTH ASSEMBLY

23.03.2026 को प्रस्तुत
PRESENTED ON 23.03.2026

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

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES **(2025-2026)**

Shri Parduynn Singh Rajput

Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Abhay Kumar Verma
3. Shri Ajay Mahawar
4. Shri Neeraj Basoya
5. Shri Ram Singh Netaji
6. Shri Ravi Kant
7. Shri Satish Upadhyay
8. Shri Surendra Kumar
9. Shri Surya Prakash Khatri

Assembly Secretariat

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Shri Ranjeet Singh, IAS | Secretary (LAS) |
| 2. Shri Sadanand Sah | Deputy Secretary (Legislation) |
| 3. Shri Ravinder Kumar | Section Officer (Legislation) |
| 4. Shri Raghu Nath | Section Officer (Legislation) |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee of Privileges having been authorized by the Committee to present its **Second Report** (Interim Report) on their behalf before the House in the matter of “Authenticity of Faansi Ghar” 2022 in Delhi Legislative Assembly Premises.

The First Report of Committee of Privileges was presented on 06.01.2026 and adopted by the House on 09.01.2026.

The Committee held sittings on 16.02.2026 and 06.03.2026 to consider the matter. The Report of the Committee was adopted in its Sitting held on 19.03.2026.

The Committee appreciates the cooperation and valuable assistance rendered by the Officers and staff of the Assembly Secretariat during its sittings as also in the preparation of the Report.

The committee authorized the Chairpersons and in his absence Shri Abhay Kumar Verma, Hon’ble Chief Whip/Hon’ble Member of the Committee for presenting the Report of the Committee in the House.



Place: Delhi
Dated: 19.03.2026

(Parduymn Singh Rajput)
Chairperson
Committee of privileges

R E P O R T

Brief Facts:

On 07th August 2025, the Hon'ble Speaker referred to the Committee of Privileges, the matter regarding the authenticity of the existence of a 'Faansi Ghar' in the Delhi Assembly and its inauguration on 09th August 2022, for investigation.

The Committee had called Shri Arvind Kejriwal, the then Hon'ble Chief Minister; Shri Manish Sisodia, the then Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Shri Ram Niwas Goel, the then Hon'ble Speaker and Smt. Rakhi Birla, the then Hon'ble Deputy Speaker to appear before the Committee and provide their views including any information regarding the authenticity of the existence of the 'Faansi Ghar'. However, none of them appeared before the Committee in its sittings held on 13th November' 2025 and 20th November, 2025.

The Committee after examining their replies and contentions reported to the House (First Report adopted by the House on 9th January 2026 available at **Annexure-I** and online at <https://delhiassembly.delhi.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-01/privilege060126.pdf>) with the conclusion that: *“From the above narration of events, it is evident that Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla had deliberately and willfully chosen to stay away from the proceedings of the Committee of Privileges in spite of being provided adequate clarifications, opportunity and time. They were very much aware that the High Court had not passed any directions or orders in this matter. In fact, their Advocates had not even sought any such interim relief, before the Court during the proceedings. All the four of them were purposefully using the pretext of the court proceedings to avoid appearing before the Committee. The Committee reported to the House that “the action of Shri*

Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla to not appear before the Committee constitutes contempt of the House and its Committee”.

The Committee made the following recommendations:

“Recommendations:

- 1. The Committee recommends that the House may take proper action as deemed fit against Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Ram Niwas Goel, Shri Manish Sisodia and Smt. Rakhi Birla for their wilful absence from the sittings of the Committee of Privileges which were scheduled for 13th November 2025 and 20th November 2025 without just cause or permission of the Committee.*
- 2. As regards the main matter which was referred to the Committee by the Hon’ble Speaker, regarding the authenticity of the existence of ‘faansi ghar’, the Committee shall continue its examination of the parties and witnesses and submit a Report in the next session.”*

The House agreed with the recommendations of the Committee and adopted the Report in its sitting held on 9th January 2026. The House also adopted the following Motion in this regard:

“That this House agrees with the Recommendations contained in the First Report of the Committee of Privileges presented to the House on 6th January 2026:

That this House directs Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Ram Niwas Goel, Shri Manish Sisodia and Smt. Rakhi Birla to appear in person before the Committee of Privileges as and when summoned and:

- (i) *Explain their absence from the sittings of the Committee which were scheduled on 13th November 2025 and 20th November 2025; and*
- (ii) *Provide any information or documents that may be in their possession to the Committee of Privileges for establishing the authenticity of the existence of a 'Faansi Ghar' in the Assembly precincts.*

That in the event of Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Ram Niwas Goel, Shri Manish Sisodia and Smt. Rakhi Birla failing to appear before the Committee of Privileges as and when summoned, the Hon'ble Speaker may take any necessary steps to enforce their attendance."

The Secretariat forwarded the copy of the Report to Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Ram Niwas Goel, Shri Manish Sisodia and Smt. Rakhi Birla on 27th January 2026. Vide notice/ summons issued on 07.02.2026 they were asked to appear before the Committee on 16.02.2026 and submit any written statement in advance to the Committee if deemed necessary.

However, in identically worded replies received on the day of the sitting, Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia and Smt. Rakhi Birla expressed their inability to be present for the sitting and sought a later date. In their replies, they *inter alia* stated that:

1. They had immense respect for the Legislative Assembly of Delhi and its Committees, however all institution and bodies function under the Constitution of India and operate under the constitutionally defined limits.
2. The Delhi Assembly and its Committee does not have any jurisdiction over the issue "authenticity" of the "Faansi Ghar".

3. They had nothing to say on the issue of “authenticity” of “Faansi Ghar” and it can be determined on the administrative side of the Vidhan Sabha Secretariat.

Shri Ram Niwas Goel, also sought exemption from appearing on 16.02.2026 on the pretext that he was pre-occupied till 20.02.2026.

Keeping in view the replies, the Committee, in all fairness and in the interest of natural justice, decided to give a final opportunity to Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla to appear before the Committee. The Committee decided to call them on 06.03.2026 as requested by them.

Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla appeared and deposed before the Committee on 06.03.2026. Shri Manish Sisodia, however, sent intimation just before the Committee was scheduled to begin its sitting, stating that he could not be present for the sitting as he had to leave urgently on 05.03.2026.

The Committee shall report on the issue of authenticity of the ‘Faansi Ghar’ in its final Report later after examining the available records and the written/oral submissions of Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla.

In the present interim Report, the Committee intends to limit its findings on the issue of contempt committed by Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla by not appearing before the Committee in its sittings.

Observations and Conclusion:

As mentioned earlier, the Committee had already given its findings to the House that Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla, were in contempt of the House due to their wilful and deliberate absence from the sittings of the Committee held on 13.11.2025 and 20.11.2025. The House agreed to the findings of the Committee. However, the House in its collective wisdom had decided to give one more opportunity to them and seek their explanation for their absence.

The First Report of the Committee and the decision of the House through the Motion adopted on 09.01.2026 was communicated to Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla by the Assembly Secretariat, vide its letter dated 27.01.2026. Thereafter vide letter dated 07.02.2026, their written comments were sought to explain their absence from the sittings of the Committee which were scheduled on 13th November 2025 and 20th November 2025, as directed by the House.

Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia and Smt. Rakhi Birlar replied on 16.02.2026. However, they failed to mention any reason for their non-appearance before the Committee in its sittings held on 13.11.2025 and 20.11.2025. Instead, the reply repeated their contentions as to how the Assembly and its Committee lacked jurisdiction and that there was no issue of privilege involved in the matter of the 'Faansi Ghar'. They had also mentioned Supreme Court judgements in support of his contention.

In his deposition before the Committee on 06.03.2026 Shri Arvind Kejriwal reiterated the same and stated that he did not appear before the

Committee because he was of the opinion that the Committee lacked jurisdiction in this matter and because his petition in this matter was pending before the Hon'ble High Court. He added that when the Committee did not agree to his request for keeping the matter pending till the decision of the Hon'ble High Court, he was now appearing before the Committee.

Shri Manish Sisodia did not appear before the Committee on 06.03.2026.

Shri Ram Niwas Goel, in his deposition on 06.03.2026 stated that he had no solid grounds for his non-appearance.

Smt. Rakhi Birla in her deposition on 06.03.2026 stated that she stands with her written comments submitted earlier to the Committee and had nothing more to add on the issue of non-appearance before the Committee.

The Hon'ble Chairperson in his opening remarks in the sitting of the Committee held on 06.03.2026 had categorically stated and clarified that the Committee was only interested in knowing:

- (i) Explanation for their contemptuous action of wilful absence from the Committee sittings; and
- (ii) whether they had any information or documents in their possession that could help establish the existence of the 'Faansi Ghar' and the Committee was not examining whether any breach of privilege or contempt was involved or not at this juncture.

The Chairman also informed Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla that the judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court (viz., Amrinder Singh v. Punjab Vidhan Sabha, Sita Soren v. Union

of India and Raja Ram Pal v. Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha & Ors.) mentioned in their replies, had been taken on record and the Committee would study them and report to the House accordingly.

As and when Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla had taken the plea that the matter be kept deferred till the decision of the Hon'ble High Court (14.11.2025 and 19.11.2025), they were informed that the Hon'ble High Court had not passed any interim directions/ orders and that the sittings of the Committee shall be held as scheduled and that he should comply with the summons and appear in person. In fact, the Hon'ble High Court itself in its order dated 24th November 2025 [WP (C) 17025/2025], clarified that it had '*not yet passed any interim order, and is in the process of hearing arguments on the maintainability of the present petition*'. The matter is still before the Hon'ble High Court and the next date of hearing is scheduled for 4th April 2026.

From the written submissions of Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla and oral deposition of Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla before the Committee, it was evident that they had no valid reason for defying the summons of the Committee other than the fact that a writ petition was pending before the Hon'ble High Court. The Committee had responded to their pleas on these grounds and stated that they should appear before the Committee, especially as the Court had not given any interim relief or directions. The Committee would have definitely examined their requests for exemption from appearance on any other valid reason. In fact, when they sought exemption from the sitting of 16th February, 2026, the Committee accommodated their requests and deferred the sitting to 06th March 2026.

Neither the reference of the matter to the Committee by the Hon'ble Speaker, nor in any correspondences/ notices, did the Committee accuse or seek explanation of Shri Kejriwal on breach of privilege or contempt in the 'Faansi Ghar' matter. The Committee had been entrusted with the task of investigating the authenticity of the existence of a 'Faansi Ghar' in the Delhi Assembly and they were only required to assist the Committee by providing any information or documents in his possession, if any, because they were closely associated with its inauguration.

Recommendations:

The Committee has already dealt in detail in its First Report as to why it held Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla to be in contempt of the House and its Committee. In spite of the House providing them another opportunity, they still failed to provide any satisfactory explanation for defying the summons of the Committee and non-appearance in its sittings held on 13.11.2025 and 20.11.2025. The Committee, therefore, holds Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla in contempt of the House and the Committee for their deliberate and wilful absence.

Shri Manish Sisodia did not appear on 06th March 2026 also and submitted a very late response to the Committee on the date of the sitting, just before the scheduled commencement of the sitting. He stated that he had to leave Delhi on 05.03.2026 at short notice "*due to an urgent and unavoidable requirement*". However, as he had expressed regret and apologized for his absence, the Committee decided to not recommend any action against him for his absence on 06th March 2026.

Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Manish Sisodia, Shri Ram Niwas Goel and Smt. Rakhi Birla are all former elected Members of the Delhi Assembly and had held important responsibilities. As experienced legislators they ought to have set an example by co-operating with the Committee instead of defying it. They should have been well aware of the consequences of defying the directions of the Committee and the House.

The Committee recommends that the House may take proper action as deemed fit against Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Shri Ram Niwas Goel, Shri Manish Sisodia and Smt. Rakhi Birla for their wilful absence from the sittings of the Committee of Privileges which were scheduled for 13th November 2025 and 20th November 2025 without just cause or permission of the Committee.

Delhi
Date: 19.03.2026


(Parduymn Singh Rajput)
Chairperson
Committee of Privileges