

10. COMMITTEE SECTION (H&FW)

10.1 Functions of the Committee - The Committee Section (H&FW) is entrusted with the task of providing secretarial assistance to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health & Family Welfare. Like other Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees serviced by Rajya Sabha Secretariat, the Committee on Health & Family Welfare is governed by Rules 268 to 277 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States. Further, Rules 74 to 92 of the said Rules relating to Select Committees on Bills also apply *mutatis mutandis* to the Committee. The functions assigned to the Committee, as enumerated in Rule 270 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States are -

- (i) Consideration of Demands-for-Grants of the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare and AYUSH;
- (ii) Examination of Bills pertaining to the Ministries when referred to the Committee by the Hon'ble Chairman or Speaker;
- (iii) Consideration of Annual Reports of the Ministries; and
- (iv) Consideration of national basic long-term policy documents presented to both the Houses and referred to the Committee by the Hon'ble Chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, and report thereon.

10.2 The following Ministries/Departments fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee:-

- (a) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - (i) Department of Health and Family Welfare
 - (ii) Department of Health Research
- (b) Ministry of AYUSH

10.3 Tenure of the Committee: The Committee reconstituted on the 13th September, 2018 under the chairmanship of Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, M.P, was reconstituted *w.e.f.* 13th September, 2019 for another term of one year under the Chairmanship of Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, M.P. The first meeting of the Committee, after its reconstitution, was held on the 23rd September, 2019.

10.4 Consideration of Demands for Grants (2019-20):

The Chairman, Rajya Sabha didn't refer the Demand for Grants (2019-20) to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees for consideration in view of suspension of Rule-272 of the rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), hence the Committee didn't consider the same.

10.5 Reports on the Action Taken by Government on the Committee's Reports on Demands for Grants (2019-20): The Chairman, Rajya Sabha didn't refer the Demands for Grants (2019-20) for consideration to the Department Related Standing Committee in view of suspension of Rule 272 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), hence the Committee didn't consider the same.

10.6 Consideration of Bills:

During the year 2019, three Bills were referred to the Committee on Health and Family Welfare for examination and report. The Committee then deliberated on the future course of action w.r.t. the three Bills, in the backdrop of the time available with the Committee vis-à-vis volume of work involved for completion of examination of said Bills by the Committee. The Chairman sought the opinion/views of the Members of the Committee in this regard. The Committee was of the unanimous view that the three Bills referred to the Committee are exhaustive and entail wide implications. The Committee felt that due to engagement of members in connection with the ensuing General Elections 2019, it will not be possible to hold meetings of the Committee and have extensive deliberations on the three Bills and finalize three Reports thereon. The Committee, therefore, authorized the Chairman to approach the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha to apprise him about inconclusive deliberations of the Committee due to pre-occupation of the Members of the

Committee in the General Election process, 2019. Since all these three Bills have been introduced in Rajya Sabha, the Committee observed that the said three Bills would, not lapse owing to dissolution of Lok Sabha. Therefore, the Committee decided that these Bills may be referred to the reconstituted Committee after the new Lok Sabha is formed. The details of the Bills are as follows:-

Name of the Bill	Date on which referred to the Committee	Status
(i) The Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018	2 nd January, 2019	<p>1st April, 2019</p> <p>Due to the preoccupation of Members of the Committee with General Election for the 17th Lok Sabha, the Committee could not take up the examination of the Bill and the same was taken up by the new Committee after its reconstitution. The re-constituted Committee took up the examination of the Bill.</p> <p>The Committee sought extension of time for the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018 and the Chairman, Rajya Sabha gave extension of time up till the first day of the first week of the first part of the Budget Session, 2020.</p>
<p>(ii) The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2019</p> <p>(iii) The National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2019</p>	14 th January, 2019	<p>Before 30th Jan, 2019 (extension of time given for 3 months i.e. till 29th April, 2019)</p> <p>However, due to the preoccupation of Members of the Committee with General Election for the 17th Lok Sabha, the Committee could not take up the examination of the Bills and the same were taken up by the new Committee after its re-constitution. The re-constituted Committee took up the examination of the two Bills.</p> <p>115th and 116th Reports on the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2019 and the National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2019 respectively were presented/ laid in both the Houses of Parliament on 27th November, 2019.</p>

10.7 Reports on Subjects:

The previous Committee (2018-10) had identified the following subject :-

I. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

- (i) Functioning of AIIMS-like Institutions;
- (ii) Medical Devices: Regulation & Control;
- (iii) Affordability of Cancer and Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) treatment;

- (iv) Promotion of Generic Drugs;
- (v) Manufacturing and availability of vaccines for Universal Immunisation Programme;
- (vi) Functioning of Autonomous Bodies/PSUs under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare;
- (vi) Right to Health;
- (vii) Implementation of Ayushman Bharat; and

II. Ministry of AYUSH

- (viii) Quality Control and Standardization of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy Drugs.

During the year 2019-20, the Committee had selected the following subjects for examination:-

I. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

- (i) Implementation of Ayushman Bharat;
- (ii) Medical Devices: Regulation & Control;
- (iii) Affordability of Cancer treatment;
- (iv) Promotion of Generic Drugs;
- (v) Status of Immunization/Vaccination in India and prevention and preparedness for dealing with Japanese Encephalitis (JE) infection in JE prone areas in the country; and

II. Ministry of AYUSH

- (vi) Quality Control and Standardization of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy Drugs; and

10.8 Visits/Tours: No study visits were undertaken by the Committee during the year 2019.

10.9 Meetings: The Committee held, in all, 10 meetings during the year 2019. The details in respect of the meetings are as follows:-

S. No.	Date/ Time	Time devoted	Agenda
1.	24 th January, 2019 3.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. 9-Members	1 hr 30 mins	Oral evidence of the Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH on (i) the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2019 and (ii) the National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2019
2.	15 th March, 2019 3.30 P.M. to 4.45 P.M. 7-Members	1 hr 15 mins	To hear the views of the Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Senior Advisor, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship on 'The Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018'.
3.	23 rd September, 2019 3.00 pm to 5.22 pm 20-Members	2 hrs 22 min	To hear the views of Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare on the Ayushman Bharat/Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
4.	10 th October, 2019 3.00 pm to 5.02 pm 20-Members	2 hrs 2 min	To hear the views of Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare on the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018.
5.	11 th October, 2019 10.30 am to 12.05 pm 18-Members	1 hr. 35 min	To hear the views of stakeholders on the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018.

6.	21 st October, 2019 3.00 pm to 4.29 pm 14- Members	1 hr. 29 min	To hear the views of Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH on:- (i) The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2019, and (ii) The National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2019.
7.	22 nd October, 2019 11.30 am to 1.08 pm 19- Members	1 hr. 38 min	To hear the views of stakeholders on :- (i) The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2019; and (ii) The National Commission for Homeopathy Bill, 2019
8.	7 th November, 2019 11.00 am to 12.27 pm 19- Members	1 hr. 27 min	To have Clause-by-Clause discussion on (i) The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2019 and (ii) The National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2019 along with clarification of queries on both the Bills by representatives of Ministry of AYUSH.
9.	15 th November, 2019 3.00 pm to 3.11 pm 11- Members	11 min	Adoption of draft 115 th & 116 th Reports on NCISM Bill, 2019 and NCH Bill, 2019.
10.	10 th December, 2019 3.00 pm to 4.24 pm 19- Members	1 hr. 24 min	To hear the views of experts on the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018.

10.10 Reports: During the year under review, the Committee presented two Reports. Details of Reports are given below:

Sl No.	Subject of the Report	Date of Presentation/ laying of Report
1.	One Hundred Fifteenth Report of The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2019	27 November, 2019
2.	One Hundred Sixteenth Report of the National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2019	27 November, 2019

10.11 Goals and Objectives: - The broad objectives of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees have been spelt out in Rule 270 of Rules of Procedures and Conduct of Business in Council of States (Rajya Sabha). The Committee on Health and Family Welfare had the following specific goals to be achieved:-

- (i) Consideration of Demands for Grants (2019-20) of related Ministry/Departments and reports thereon;
- (ii) Consideration of Bills as and when referred to the Committee and report thereon;
- (iii) Consideration of ATNs received from the related Ministry/Departments on the Reports on their Demands for Grants (2019-20) and Report thereon; and
- (iv) Examination of the subjects.

10.12 Status of Computerization: - This Section has been provided seven computers with network connectivity. All typing work including typing of Reports, Notices, Minutes etc., was done on the computers and all the necessary information fed into the softwares installed for the purpose. Besides, soft copies of the various papers received from the concerned Departments, individuals etc. are sent to the Members through e-mail also.

10.13 Inspection of the Section during 2019: - The annual inspection was conducted by Smt. Monica Baa, Additional Director on 20th February, 2019.

10.14 Training: Staff members of this Section took training on the following subjects conducted by various organisations/institutes:-

Sl. No.	Officer/Staff	Subject	Name of Organisations/Institutes
1.	Smt. Harshita Shankar, Under Secretary	Web based Committee Software on 27 th May, 2019	IT Section (H&S)
2.	Shri Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Assistant Committee Officer	Workshop on functioning of Committee System for officers and officials working in Committee Section Training Programme on Subordinate Legislation & its Implication for Officers of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats from 26 th to 30 th August, 2019	Training Cell BPST, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Parliament Library Building, New Delhi
3.	Miss Monika Garbyal, Assistant Committee Officer	Workshop on functioning of Committee System for officers and officials working in Committee Section	Training Cell
4.	Shri Parth Gupta, Assistant Research Officer	Drafting of Committee Reports and Management from 15 th to 18 th April, 2019 Workshop on Noting and Drafting from 25 th to 27 th March, 2019 Web based Committee Software on 27 th May, 2019	BPST, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Parliament Library Building, New Delhi ISTM, New Delhi IT Section (H&S)
5.	Shri Kaushal, Sr. Secretariat Assistant	Web based Committee Software on 27 th May, 2019	IT Section (H&S)
6.	Shri Girish Singh, Sr. Secretariat Assistant	'Effective use of ISM Hindi Software' on 12 th September, 2019	Training Cell

10.15 Monitoring of expenditure: All out efforts were made for strict adherence to control expenditure within the allocated budget under Heads (a) 02 Members-02 00 20-Other Administrative Expenses, (b) 02 Members-02 00 13-Office Expenses, (c) 02 00 11 Members - Domestic Travel Expenses and (d) 01 105 Rajya Sabha Secretariat -01 00 11-Domestic Travel Expenses.

Under the Head	Budget 2019-2020	Expenditure As on December,2019
02 Members-02 00 20-Other Administrative Expenses,	Rs.3,00,000.00	Rs.20,640.00
02 Members-02 00 13-Office Expenses	Rs.3,00,000.00	Rs.2,57,925.00
02 00 11 Members -Domestic Travel Expenses	Rs.32,00,000.00	Rs.24,55,095.00
01 105 Rajya Sabha Secretariat -01 00 11-Domestic Travel Expenses	Rs.7,43,000.00	Rs.7,28,002.00

10.16 Status of weeding out of Records: Files pertaining to the year 2013 (39 files) and 2014 (39 files) have been classified, reviewed and 30 files for the year 2013 and 34 files for the year 2014 weeded out in the second and third quarter of 2019.

10.17 Work done in Hindi: The work done in Hindi in the Section comprises of :-

- (i) Register of the Section is maintained in Hindi;
- (ii) Recommendation for sanctioning leave is made in Hindi;
- (iii) Headings in the files are written in Hindi;
- (iv) Noting in Hindi in Notice and Minutes files; and
- (iv) Where so required to be done.

10.18 RTI: 6 RTI applications and 1 appeal were received and was furnished within the deadline.

10.19 Select Committee on the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019

The Rajya Sabha in its sitting held on Thursday, the 21st November, 2019 adopted a motion for reference of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha, to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha consisting of 23 Members. The Secretariat work relating to this Select Committee was entrusted to Committee Section (Health & Family Welfare) by the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha.

Meetings: The Select Committee held, in all, 5 meetings during the year 2019. The details in respect of the meetings are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Date/ Time	Time devoted	Agenda
1.	3 rd December, 2019 4.00 pm to 4.07 pm 13-Members	7 min	To decide its future course of action.
2.	9 th December, 2019 4.00 pm to 5.22 pm 21-Members	1 hr. 22 min	To hear the views of Secretary, Department of Health Research on the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019.
3.	12 th December, 2019 4.00 pm to 4.24 pm 13-Members	24 min	To further hear the views of the Secretary, Department of Health Research on the recommendations of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee of Health & Family Welfare made in its 102 nd Report on the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2016.
4.	20 th December,2019 2.30 pm to 3.14 pm 9-Members	54 min	To seek clarifications from the Secretary, Department of Health Research on the issues raised by Members during the Meetings of the Committee held on 9 th and 12 th December, 2019.

5.	30 th December,2019 2.30 pm to 4.21 p.m. 13-Members	I hrs 51 mins	to hear the views of the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development; representatives of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights; representatives of National Human Rights Commission and SAMA- Resource Group of Women and Health on the said Bill.
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The Select Committee also decided to undertake a study visit to Vadodara, Anand, Hyderabad and Mumbai from 21st to 24th January, 2020. The Committee Section was involved in the work related to Study visit of the Committee.

10.20 Miscellaneous: - Besides rendering secretarial assistance to the Department Related Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare and the Select Committee for Rajya Sabha on Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019 in discharge of its functions, this Section also dealt with the following items of work:-

- (a) Circulation of minutes and verbatim records of proceedings of Committee meetings to Members of the Committee;
- (b) Correspondence with the Ministries/Departments concerned on matters taken up by the Committee and liaisioning with them;
- (c) Furnishing of information on the matters relating to the Committee to different Sections/Branches of Rajya Sabha/ Lok Sabha Secretariats and outside agencies;
- (d) Submitting Monthly status reports to Committee Co-ordination Section, weekly information on significant development emerging from Debates/Decisions/directions/Observations/Initiatives taken in the each and every Sessions to LARRDIS and yearly review of Annual Action Plan-2019, Annual Action Plan for 2020 to the O&M Section;
- (e) Soft copies of all papers related to meetings received from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare were circulated to Members of the Committee and officers by official e-mail; and
- (f) Reports No.82 to 105, Minutes (English and Hindi) alongwith Verbatim records for the years 2015 to 2017 were bound.