



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

ELEVENTH REPORT OF THE SIXTH ASSEMBLY

SUBJECT: IN THE MATTER OF ALLEGED ILLEGAL FEE HIKE
AND FINANCIAL IRREGULARITIES IN FRANK ANTHONY
SCHOOL, LAJPAT NAGAR – IV, DELHI

PRESENTED ON 02ND DECEMBER, 2019

ADOPTED ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2019

Legislative Assembly, Old Secretariat, Delhi – 110054

INDEX

1. Composition of the Committee	1
2. Preface	2
3. Introduction	3
4. Proceedings	4
5. Observations and Conclusions	7
6. Recommendations	8

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
(2019-2020)

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Sh. Saurabh Bhardwaj	CHAIRMAN
2. Sh. Pankaj Pushkar	MEMBER
3. Sh. Akhilesh Pati Tripathi	MEMBER
4. Ms. Bhavna Gaur	MEMBER
5. Ms. Bandana Kumari	MEMBER
6. Ch. Fateh Singh	MEMBER
7. Sh. Girish Soni	MEMBER
8. Sh. Raju Dhingan	MEMBER
9. Sh. Shri Dutt Sharma	MEMBER

Assembly Secretariat:

1. Sh. C. Velmurugan	Secretary
2. Sh. Sadanand Sah	Deputy Secretary
3. Sh. Manjeet Singh	Deputy Secretary

PREFACE

1. I, the Chairman, Committee on Petitions, having been authorised by the Committee to present on their behalf, this Report on the petition received from Mr. Devesh Kumar countersigned and presented by Sh. Akhilesh Pati Tripathi Hon'ble MLA and referred to the Committee by the Hon'ble Speaker, Delhi Legislative Assembly. The Petition levelled allegations against Frank Anthony Public School at Lajpat Nagar – IV, New Delhi 110024 stating that there is an illegal fee hike and that the school is engaged in profiteering and has transferred money earned from the school to other organisations/accounts.
2. The Committee considered and adopted the Draft Report at their sitting held on 29.11.2019
3. The observations / recommendations of the Committee on the above matter have been included in the Report.
4. I would like to thank all the Members of the Committee for their continued guidance.
5. The Committee places on record their profound appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered by Sh. Sadanand Sah Deputy Secretary, Sh. Manjeet Singh Deputy Secretary, Sh. Subhash Ranjan Section Officer, Ms. Smruthi Rammohan, Fellow Delhi Assembly Research Centre (DARC) and other staff of the Assembly Secretariat in the preparation of this report.



Dated: 30.11.2019

Delhi

SAURABH BHARDWAJ

CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

INTRODUCTION

1. Mr. Devesh Kumar, resident of A6 Vijay Nagar filed a petition dated 13.03.2019 citing illegal fee hike in Frank Anthony Public School located at Lajpat Nagar – IV, New Delhi 110024. The Petition also alleged that the school management has engaged in profiteering and has transferred school funds to other accounts/organisations. The petition further argued that the government should conduct audit of the school accounts from time to time to verify whether there are any malpractices taking place in the school. The Petition was countersigned and presented to the Hon'ble Speaker, Delhi Legislative Assembly by Sh. Akhilesh Pati Tripathi, Hon'ble MLA and was referred to the Committee on Petitions on 18.03.2019.

PROCEEDINGS

1. In order to ascertain the facts and investigate the allegations levelled in the said Petition, the Committee on Petitions conducted its meetings on 03.04.2019, 12.04.2019, 26.04.2019, 10.06.2019 and 05.08.2019 and deliberated the matter comprehensively with the Directorate of Education (DoE), Government of National Capital Territory, Delhi (GNCTD)
2. A copy of the said Petition was forwarded by the Legislative Assembly Secretariat on 22.03.2019 to the Secretary, Directorate of Education along with a detailed letter requesting information on the following points:
 - a. Copies of books of accounts for the last 5 years of Frank Anthony Public School;
 - b. Copies of books of accounts of Society/Trust, which runs the school for the last 5 years;
 - c. Names and details of the Managing Committee Members of the Society/Trust as on date along with further details of changes occurred in the last five years;
 - d. Details of surplus/deficit generated at the end of the financial year for the last 5 years and where such surplus was utilised;
 - e. The details of surplus which has been transferred from the School to the Society/Trust, which runs the School in the last 5 years.

In this regard, Mr. Yogesh Pratap, Deputy Director of Education, Private School Branch sent his response to the Legislative Assembly Secretariat on 30.03.2019 stating that the Deputy Director of Education, South East has been informed by the school that all the requisite information will be submitted and that the school requested an extension of time to submit all the required documents.

During the Committee meeting of 12.04.2019, it was noted that documents from Frank Anthony Public School including Balance sheets, Income and Expenditure accounts for the last five years, details of surplus/deficit generated at the end of the financial year for the last five years and how the surplus was utilised, names and details of Managing Committee members of the Society were submitted to Mr. Sanjay Chaturvedi, Deputy Director, South East, DoE on 09.04.2019 and a copy of all records were submitted before the Committee on 12.04.2019. During this meeting, Vice President of the Committee of the All India Anglo-Indian Education Institution submitted before the Committee that no financial transactions take place for profiteering and that the Society sponsors deserving Anglo-Indian children for their education.

3. In the subsequent meeting of the Committee on 26.04.2019, Mr. Yogesh Pratap, Deputy Director of Education, Private School Branch stated that financial statements and accounts are under scrutiny and that a status report shall be submitted within 20 days approximately. Further, a written response was sent to the Legislative Assembly Secretariat dated 07.06.2019 that Chartered Accountants deputed in the South East Branch of the DoE are verifying the financial records of the school. The same was reiterated during the Committee meeting held on 10.06.2019 and that the audit report shall be made available in two months.
4. Similar submissions were made during the Committee meeting held on 05.08.2019 and through a written response provided by the Private School Branch of the DoE dated 24.07.2019.
5. Through a letter dated 06.09.2019 addressed to the Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Mr. Yogesh Pratap, Deputy Director of Education, Private School Branch in the matter of the Frank Anthony Public School stated that the financial documents submitted by the school were found incomplete at the first instance. Complete books of accounts were

sought and the school submitted these records on 04.09.2019. The letter added that the new documents are being examined by CAs deputed in the DoE branch. The same response was reiterated through a letter dated 16.09.2019.

OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

From the scrutiny of the responses filed by the concerned Government departments, Government records and the deliberations of the Committee meetings, the following observations are brought on record:

1. The Committee observed that DoE failed to provide the audit report of the financial records of Frank Anthony Public School within the stipulated time period, as assured by the officials of the DoE.
2. The Committee also noted that while the Petition alleges illegal fee hike, the Petitioner for the said case did not provide any details of how much and when a fee hike was imposed, if any. Furthermore, the Petitioner did not provide any documentary evidence to substantiate his claim.
3. Without the audit report from the DoE, the Committee observed that it was not in a position to verify the claims made in the said Petition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Committee recommends that the Directorate of Education (DoE), Government of National Capital Territory Delhi (GNCTD) must submit its audit report on the financial statements of Frank Anthony Public School to the Vidhan Sabha within 30 days from the adoption of this report.
2. Action Taken Report on the recommendation of the Committee should be submitted by the Chief Secretary, GNCTD to the Vidhan Sabha within 30 days from the adoption of this report.



Date: 30.11.2019
Delhi

SAURABH BHARDWAJ
CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS