

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 07.03.2011**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**AWARD OF BROADCASTING RIGHTS FOR CWG**

141

Shri Sanjay Raut

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :-

(a) Whether Government has received the Shunglu Committee Report, which has found irregularities in the award of broadcasting rights for the Commonwealth Games (CWG) by Prasar Bharati;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and (

(c) The steps taken or proposed to be taken against the erring officials of Prasar Bharati for allegedly causing the loss of ` 135 crores to the exchequer in awarding the broadcasting rights for CWG held in October, 2010 to a British firm?

**ANSWER**

## THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

(Smt. AMBIKA SONI)

(a)to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 141 FOR ANSWER ON 07.03.2011

(a) The High Level Committee (HLC) constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri V.K. Shunglu to look into issues relating to organizing and conduct of Commonwealth Games Delhi, 2010 has submitted its First Report on Host Broadcasting to the Government on 29.01.2011.

(b) &(c) First Report on Host Broadcasting is available on the website [www.india.gov.in](http://www.india.gov.in) . In its findings the High Level Committee has concluded that “action/inaction are strongly suggestive of collusion between CEO Prasar Bharati and DG:Doordarshan and the service provider(s), SIS LIVE/ZOOM Communications.

Following are the recommendations and the action taken:

Recommendations made in Chapter 6 of First Report of HLC  
Action Taken 6.1 The Value of services provided in Production and Coverage contract are estimated at below `100 crore. Certain other expenditures have been incurred contrary to the contract. These are to be viewed in the context of `147.60 crore (60% of contract price) paid by Prasar Bharati upto October'2010 and the need to recover the 'excess' amount from M/s. SIS Live  
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has been directed to review the claims made by M/s. SIS Live jointly with Prasar Bharati and in consultation with their financial advisers to ensure that there is no over-payment. In the event of any over-payment having been made, the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has been directed to take appropriate action for recovery, after seeking due legal advice. Accordingly Prasar Bharati has been directed to furnish complete details to the Ministry so that an appropriate decision can be taken in this regard.

6.2 The relationship between Government and Prasar Bharati, in matters where Government has a role to play, and that between the Executive and the Board of Prasar Bharati need to be redefined.Terms of reference of the existing Group of Ministers (GOM) on Prasar Bharati have been modified to include the following:

(i) look into the issue of relationship between the Government and the Prasar Bharati as also between the Chief Executive Officer, Prasar Bharati and the Board of the Prasar Bharati; and

(ii) examine the existing governance structure, in particular, the oversight mechanism put in place by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for host broadcasting arrangements and recommend measures that could be put in place for appropriately strengthening the governance structure.

The GOM has been directed to expedite its work so that necessary corrective administrative and legislative measures could be put in place at the earliest.

6.3 Government may decide on action against the then CEO, Prasar Bharati (Shri B.S. Lalli) and Director

General (Doordarshan) (Ms. Aruna Sharma, IAS) and others who acted in concert with them for providing undue gain to SIS Live/ZOOM Communications Ltd. Director General, Doordarshan has been reverted to her parent cadre following the expiry of her tenure on 19.2.2011. Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has sought the explanation of Shri B.S. Lalli, CEO, Prasar Bharati (under suspension) and Ms. Aruna Sharma, the then DG:Doordarshan on each of the allegations made against them in the report of the Committee. Further action will be initiated by the Ministry after receipt and examination of their explanations.

6.4 Certain action seem to attract penal provision under the Indian Penal Code and Prevention of Corruption Act. This aspect also needs to be separately investigated. A copy of the report was referred to Central Bureau of Investigation through the Department of Personnel and Training for further action as deemed appropriate. CBI has since been permitted by the Ministry under Section 6(A) of Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946 for registration of a regular case and initiation of criminal investigation against Shri B.S. Lalli under Section 120-B r/w 420 IPC r/w 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

As regards the then DG:DD a view will be expeditiously taken after completion of the examination of her suo motu comments on the HLC report as also her response to the explanation sought by the Ministry.