

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.03.2011
ANSWERED ON
IRREGULARITIES IN BROADCASTING RIGHTS OF CWG .

1158

Shri M.P. Achuthan

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

(a) whether it is a fact that V.K. Shunglu panel had indicted suspended CEO of Prasar Bharati, B.S. Lalli and Doordarshan Director General, Aruna Sharma and recommended the registration of a criminal case for irregularities in the award of broadcasting rights of Commonwealth Games; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (Dr. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The V.K. Shunglu panel vide para 6.3 of the chapter 6 (Recommendations) of the First Report on Host broadcasting has recommended that the '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 M/s SIS LIVE/Zoom Communications Ltd.' and has further recommended that 'certain actions seem to attract penal provisions under the Indian Penal Code and Prevention of Corruption Act. This aspect also needs to be separately investigated.' In this regard Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has taken the following steps:

(i) Director General, Doordarshan has been reverted to her parent cadre following the expiry of her tenure on 19.02.2011. 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.

(ii) 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. Central Bureau of Investigation (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.