

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 3905**  
**(TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2018)**

**NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECTION 13 OF THE PRASAR BHARATI ACT**

**3905. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA:**

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

- (a) whether Government has not yet implemented the Section 13 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 which talk about instituting a Committee of 22 Members from both the Houses of the Parliament, according to the system of proportional representation to oversee the discharge of functions of Prasar Bharati, if so, the reasons therefor, if not, the details thereof and the steps taken to implement the same; and
- (b) in absence of the implementation of section 13, whether the Prasar Bharati be called an independent body, if so, the steps taken to rectify the same?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING [COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)]**

(a): The Group of Ministers (GOM) on Prasar Bharati after taking note of the recommendation of the Shunu Sen Committee, felt that not much purpose would be served by having a separate Parliamentary Committee and had recommended for deletion of section 13 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990.

Based upon the recommendations of Group of Ministers (GOM), draft Prasar Bharati Amendment (BCI) Bill, 2013 including the omission of Section 13 of the Prasar Bharati (BCI) Act, 1990, was circulated for inter-Ministerial consultation. Subsequently, it was felt that there was a need to further assess and analyse the proposal. Accordingly, the said proposal was withdrawn.

(b): Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCIT), consisting of 21 members from Lok Sabha and 10 members from Rajya Sabha, having jurisdiction on Ministry of I&B (and also on its media units, attached and subordinate offices) gives its recommendations on Prasar Bharati from time to time.

In addition to SCIT, other Parliamentary Committees, viz., Standing Committee on Labour, and Parliamentary Committee on Official Language also give their recommendations (pertaining to subject allotted to respective Committee) on Prasar Bharati from time to time.

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