GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA ADMITTED UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 578 (TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025)

PRESS REGISTRAR GENERAL

578: SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that office of the Press Registrar General India has failed to update all details of print media as on date 30 June 2025;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that thousands of applications for changes of data updation in registration certificate and penalties for regularity with RNI-PRGI are pending with Government, for which the publications can not file proper annual statements for the current year therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to register all the Radio, TV and Electronic Media of the country in a single database along with viewers information thereof and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of initiatives taken by the Government to register all the social media and other platforms within the purview of Government registration or empanelment thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING; AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; {DR. L MURUGAN}

(a) and (b):

The Press and Registration of Periodicals Act, 2023 (PRP Act, 2023) and the Press and Registration of Periodicals Rules, 2024 (PRP Rules) came into effect from 1st March 2024. The new Act has reformed and streamlined the process of registering periodicals.

Press Sewa Portal is now a single-window digital platform for all registration-related matters. It is aimed at ensuring efficiency and transparency. Physical records of more than 1.5 Lakh periodicals under the previous Act have also been digitized and migrated to Press Sewa Portal.

Revision and updation of particulars of any periodical is an ongoing process.

PRP Act has done away with the penal provisions for non-submission of particulars but the penalties are levied for non-submission or delayed submission of annual statements. Currently, no penalty is being imposed for failing to publish regularly or for any other matter under the new PRP Act, 2023.

Clearing of pending penalties is not a prerequisite for filing annual statements.

To facilitate the publishers further, Government has extended the last date for filing the Annual Statement for the financial year 2024-25 up to 31st July 2025.

(c) and (d):

The Government of India has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 on 25.02.2021.

Rule 18 of the IT Rules, 2021 requires publishers of news and current affairs content and publishers of online curated content to furnish certain basic information to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.
