

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:108

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010

COMMONWEALTH GAMES BROADCASTING RIGHTS

Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Singh Chaudhary Lal

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

- (a) whether irregularities have been reported in awarding of broadcasting rights for the Commonwealth Games including sub-contracting of such rights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the nature of the irregularities alleged in the matter;
- (c) the details of the amount involved in awarding of such rights, the name of the companies, the terms and conditions, the criteria adopted for selection and the steps taken for the verification of its technical and financial antecedents before awarding the rights;
- (d) whether the Government has ordered any probe into the alleged irregularities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

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

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.108 FOR ANSWER ON 16-11-2010

(a) to (e) Prasar Bharati has informed that the contract for production and coverage facilities and activities under the host broadcasting assignment was signed between Doordarshan, a constituent of Prasar Bharati and M/s SIS Live UK a partnership firm of the United Kingdom. No broadcasting rights were given to this entity.

Following a number of reports alleging irregularities related to operation of this contract, the comments of Prasar Bharati have been sought in this regard. In addition an audit by CAG is currently underway in the matter. Further, Government has constituted a high level committee under Shri V.K. Shunglu to look into the issues relating to the organizing and conduct of the Commonwealth Games which interalia will include broadcasting of the games. Appropriate action would be initiated thereafter.