

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3684  
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014  
PRASAR BHARATI ACT  
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

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

- (a) whether the Prasar Bharati Act provides for accountability of Prasar Bharati to the Parliament instead of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the provisions of the Act are implemented in letter and spirit;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken thereon?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

(a) & (b): The Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 has provided for accountability of Prasar Bharati to the Parliament under Section-13. This section mandates a Parliamentary Committee to oversee the functioning of Prasar Bharati.

In respect of the matter related to laying of Annual Report, the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, under Section-31 envisages that the Central Government shall cause the report to be laid before each House of Parliament. Further, the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, under Section-20(2) envisages that the Annual Financial Statement shall be prepared by the Corporation and forwarded to the Central Government for its approval. Further, under Section- 21 of the Act, it is envisaged that the accounts of the Corporation as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India or any other person appointed by him in this behalf together with the audit report thereon shall be forwarded by the Corporation to the Central Government for causing it to be laid before each House of the Parliament.

(c) & (d) : Yes Sir. It is the endeavour of the Government to implement the provisions of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 in letter and spirit. The Government has taken several steps for implementing the provisions of the Act, which inter-alia include the following:

i. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology scrutinizes the demand for grants in respect of Prasar Bharati and also reviews the other aspects of functioning of Prasar Bharati. ii. The composition and functioning of the Prasar Bharati Board is ensured as per the Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Act. iii. The status of the employees of the Prasar Bharati has been settled in accordance with Section 11 of the Act. iv. It is ensured that the Prasar Bharati exercises its powers and functions in accordance with Section 12 of the Act. v. The Annual Report and the Annual Audited Accounts of Prasar Bharati are caused to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament. vi. In pursuance of Section 34 of the Act, Rules and Regulations framed under the Act are caused to be laid in the Parliament. vii. Annual Financial Statement of Prasar Bharati is approved by the Central Government in accordance with Section 20(2) of the Act.

(e): Some of the provisions of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 have not yet been fully implemented for which the Government has taken the following actions:

i A proposal for constitution of Prasar Bharati Recruitment Board under Section 10 of the Act is under final stages of consideration. ii The Cabinet in its meeting dated 14.9.2012 has approved for transfer of property and assets on book value to Prasar Bharati as per provisions of Section 16 (a) of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990. Prasar Bharati has been asked to inventorise the assets so as to enable the Government to finalise the terms and conditions of transfer of property and assets on book value to them.