Title : Statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of Standing Committee on Information Technology.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology 2004-05 pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in pursuance of Direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin – Part II, dated September 01, 2004.

The Nineteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Information Technology was presented to the Lok Sabha on 13th May, 2005. The Report relates to functioning of the Registrar of Newspapers for India.

In the Nineteenth Report, the Committee made 14 recommendations in all. The Action Taken Notes on these recommendations/observations have been furnished to the Committee on 2nd September, 2005 (in English version) and on 19th September, 2005 (in Hindi version). These recommendations mainly pertain to: amendment to the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867; opening of more Regional Offices; plan outlay; verification of titles; on-line registration; de-blocking of titles; refusal of title being same as a foreign title; annual statement under the Act; enhancing the minimum number of circulation figure; deletion of ceased publications; verification of circulation claim; publishers' demands on verification; fee for title clearance or registration; and facsimile editions.

* Also Placed in Library. See No. LT 3241/05.

The present status of implementation of the various recommendations/observations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my statement which is laid on the Table of the House. I would request that this may be considered as read.