



National Federation

of

Akashvani and Doordarshan Employees (NFADE)

Room No. 333, Akashvani Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001

Website : www.nfade.org

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Chairman
Anilkumar S.
9818759192

Secretary General
Kulbhushan Bhatia
9968272157

Press Release

Employees of AIR&DD determined to protect the Public Service Broadcaster

National Federation of Akashvani and Doordarshan Employees (NFADE) is an umbrella organization of 21 service associations of around 40,000 employees working in various disciplines of AIR and Doordarshan. NFADE is struggling against the contradictions prevailing in Prasar Bharati Act and its relevance in the present scenario. NFADE has demonstrated its strength by way of conducting mass gate meetings, hunger strikes carried all over the country and a silent march of over 4000 employees from Mandi House to Parliament in 2004, which resulted in formation of a high power group of ministers (GOM) to look into various aspects of Prasar Bharati.


The Federation organised a gate meeting today during lunch hours at Doordarshan Bhavan to reiterate the demand to retain the National & Public Service Broadcaster with the Govt of India by **repealing the Prasar Bharati Act 1990**, especially in the light of developments in electronic media in India for the last few years.

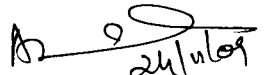
The office bearers of the Federation pointed out that the mess created in the Prasar Bharati for last 6-8 months has compelled them to demand direct funding from Ministry to the Directorates of All India Radio & Doordarshan since it became a habit in Prasar Bharati that the salary for the employees, working in various stations having been delayed even upto the 14th & 15th of the month, that too disbursed only after the intervention of the Federation/Associations. **They pointed out that the Federation has put their demands to Smt. Ambika Soni, Hon'ble Minister for Information & Broadcasting in the meeting held on 26/10/2009.**

Meanwhile the Prasar Bharati Board decided to implement the so-called corporate culture in Prasar Bharati by steps like withdrawing the statutory powers of DGs of AIR & Doordarshan who were supposed to settle a lot of issues within the department (whereas the decision on the status of Prasar Bharati is still pending in government). Strong objection from NFADE, including the strong democratic protests compelled the Prasar Bharati to withdraw the illegal orders.

The leaders pointed out today that efforts are being made to gradually kill Doordarshan by outsourcing the works carried out by the employees with a single motive to fill the pockets of few vested interest officers. In such a live example, Doordarshan News has directed major stations to utilise the hired OB van at a huge cost of Rs.30,000 per day (total 12 Nos throughout the country in first phase) whereas all these stations are already having latest OB vans and our employees are being asked to sit idle till further orders. It is one of the simple example of deep rooted corruption in the absence of any control or checking by the Government.

It is decided to organise a Dharna on 15th December 2009 from 1000 hrs to 1600 hrs at Akashvani Bhavan along with lunch hour Gate meetings^{at} all Capital stations to beef up the agitation to fulfill the demands of the Federation.


(Kulbhushan Bhatia)
Secretary General


(Anilkumar S)
Chairman

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