

A report on the Welcome meeting by M(P), Prasar Bharati with Recognised Associations

Dear Comrades,

The Presidents & General Secretaries of the 10 Recognised Associations had a welcome and introductory meeting with the Member (Personnel), Prasar Bharati in the conference Hall of the Prasar Bharati Secretariat at 11.30 Hrs today. While welcoming the Associations, the M (P) expressed the intention of PB management to create an atmosphere of mutual trust and settling of the issues through discussions. He informed that since the meeting is called only for welcoming the Associations, the discussion on issue will be held in subsequent meetings.

The two hour long meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere in which we sought immediate attention of Management on the following points:

Meetings at various levels as per JCM Scheme: We demanded that efforts be initiated to restart regular meetings of councils under JCM pattern. i.e. Prasar Bharati Council headed by CEO, Prasar Bharati, Office Council headed by both DGs, Zonal Councils headed by ADG(Zone) and LISCC meeting headed by Head Of Office. We demanded the directive for the same may be issued by the PB Secretariat. M(P) assured to start the JCM scheme, issuing the order after consulting officials in PB Secretariat.

Regular Meetings with Associations in addition to JCM Scheme: It was demanded that at least two Associations be called for routine meetings every months, so that all ten Associations are granted assured meetings within 4-5 months. M(P) assured to look into it.

Shortage of Funds in Salary Head: It was pointed out that a peculiar situation prevailed in Prasar Bharati during 2004-2007 when despite sanctioning of funds (RE & FE) from Directorate, funds were not released by Prasar Bharati in the name of 'shortage of funds'. Similar situation has started appearing once again when during the recent financial year closing (March 31, 2013). While the salaries were delayed at most of the stations, Prasar Bharati once again told stations to manage with whatever funds they are receiving irrespective of RE/FE sanctions. We demanded immediate release of remaining funds in salary head as per RE/FE to all stations. M(P) assured to take up the matter with finance wing.

Annual Subscriptions: It is demanded to make annual subscriptions of members of every Association in place of monthly subscription to ease the workload on Associations as well as on office. Further we demanded that Prasar Bharati should collect the subscriptions and hand it over to Associations. M(P) expressed his concern that it might prove to be a gigantic exercise for office, but he will certainly look into it as it will prove to be much more systematic.

Facilities to Associations: It was demanded that Association be provided the following facilities for smooth functioning;

1. Office with all facilities
2. All related official communications be sent to Association/s
3. Zonal office bearers of recognised Associations be brought back to zonal headquarters for smooth functioning of the zonal committees/ councils.

M(P) assured to provide all facilities as per the rules and possibilities.

Implementation of Transfer Policy: When it was informed by M(P) that Prasar Bharati is planning to modify the transfer policies, we pointed that the existing transfer policy is taking care of the interest of the employees and organization, but only lacunae is that it is not being followed in letter and spirit. Because of the lack of transparency, many a times injustice is done to staff, and circumstances compel them to explore all possibilities for transfer adjustment. M(P) assured to make efforts for smoother implementation of the existing transfer policy.

Effective Steps to take care of Court Cases: It was pointed out that Prasar Bharati takes utmost care of court cases involving Prasar Bharati management and ensures that services of top level legal experts are hired to defend the interest of the management. But in a number of cases involving the interest of employees, Prasar Bharati adopts a lopsided approach, which results in long delays and further injustice to employees. M(P) assured to look into it.

(Anilkumar S)
General Secretary

(Umesh Chandra)
President