Congratulations! Strength from Unity shines once again

The Nation wide call of 48 Hours Boycott duties was a grand success due to wholehearted efforts of all members & office bearers of Constituent Associations. The agitation sent a clear message to the management that a united federation can raise positive issues for the welfare of the Public Service Broadcaster & employees and also sustain the agitation which had a tremendous impact all over India. Almost all the frontline Media papers and channels carried extensive news on the breakdown to the National Broadcaster.

As an outcome of the impact of the agitation, Shri B.B. Bhatnagar, Regional Labour Commissioner, GOI, on the directive of the Cabinet Secretary called the Federation and the representatives of the Ministry, Prasar Bharati, DG-AIR & DD for a meeting at 11 AM today. In the meeting there were detailed deliberations for more than three hours in which we were able to highlight our demands to the RLC. The RLC sought written clarifications from the Ministry regarding the progress on our demands. The Ministry and Prasar Bharati reiterared their stand that the demand of the Federation for Repeal of Prasar Bharati had already been raised in several platforms including the Hon'GOM and the Hon'ble Standing Committee of the Parliament. They expressed their opinion that the demand of Repeal was neither in the purview of the ministry nor the Hon'ble GOM. They expressed their view that the Repeal can be decided only by the Parliament. The representative from the Ministry said that the concern of the Federation as to the financial viability of Prasar Bharati and the funding to the Corporation shall be dealt with by way of submitting necessary amendments. The Federation also demanded that the consultative committee, under the chairmanship of Secretary, I&B consisting of representatives from the Federation – constituted in the year 2007-08, should be revived for inputs before any amendments to the aspect of financial viability. The RLC said that the Cabinet Secretary stepped in only after the silence of the ministry on the demand of the Federation and its agitation. The RLC expressed his opinion that a report is to be submitted to the Cabinet Secretary and that the highest authorities are aware of the Federations demands. He also expressed his view that the Federation should await the response of the ministry with regard to the demands before taking any further action.

RLC directed that since he is ceased of the matter, the Management will not take any punitive steps/harassment against the agitating employees on this matter, including the 48hours boycott of duties which was completed 9AM today.

The meeting was very fruitful in as much as conveying the determination of the federation not to compromise on the welfare of its employees and at the same time to save the National Public Service Broadcaster.

RLC has called follow-up meeting on 03/12/2010 and directed Ministry of I&B and NFADE to send the comments in advance.

Keep the Unity at any cost! NFADE Zindabad Unity of Employees Zindabad

(Kulbhushan Bhatia) (P.N.Bhakta) (Sanjay Kumar) (V.N.Jha) (Anilkumar S) Secretary General Vice Chairman Vice Chairman Chairman