

25.11.2010

Parties are present as per the attendance sheet.

The matter has been discussed in detail. The Federation representatives emphasised that the Prasar Bharati Act (P.B.Act) should be repealed. The Federation also requested till such time the amendment in the P.B.Act may be stopped unless and until the comprehensive amendment discussed with the Federation. The Federation representatives also stated that we are law abiding citizens and during this span of Commonwealth Games since this was a national event, there was a strike call but they have withdrew their strike in the national interest. Further within this 48 hours of strike because of the Bihar Elections to be announced on 24.11.2010, they have exempted the whole of Bihar for any disruption for which they have also been appreciated by Director General, Door Darshan in writing. The Federation requested for revival of the Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary which was existed in 2007-08 to look into the comprehensive amendment in the P.B.Act. The Federation also made a concern that all those issues which have been addressed to the group of Ministers are been incorporated in. The management agreed to submit the minutes of the meeting.

The representative present from Ministry of I&B informed that the issues of Federation have been discussed in detail in a meeting held in the Ministry on 22.11.2010 and the same has been explained in detail to the representatives of the Federation. As regard to the amendment of Section 11 of the P.B.Act, Prasar Bharati amendment bill has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 31.8.2010. The Bill has been referred to the standing Committee for its examination. The Standing Committee has held two meetings with the Ministers and one meeting with the Representatives of the Association including Federation. The group of Ministers of Prasar Bharati have considered various agenda items regarding Prasar Bharati which also include the amendment of P.B.Act. The Ministry is taking follow up action on this and all the issues have also been properly addressed. The Ministry also clarified that the committee constituted in 2008 was for looking into the amendment of

Cabinet and a Bill has also been introduced into the Rajya Sabha for making amendment in the Section 11 of the Act.

After prolonged and threadbare discussions with the Federation, the representatives of the Federation are advised since the matter is pending in conciliation and any agitation/Strike during the pendency of conciliation will be in violation of the provision of Section 23 of the I.D. Act, 1947. They are advised to call off their agitation/strike with immediate effect also their proposed strike for 72 hours w.e.f. 13.12.2010 and indefinite strike thereafter if their demands are not accepted. The Federation is finally advised to give their specific issues which they wanted the clarification from the Ministry within 3 days. The same will be referred to the Ministry for their specific comments/decision. The Federation also requested that if any positive assurances are given they will call of their proposed strike to be commenced from 13.12.2010. They are advised to attend the peaceful conciliation so that the issues can be resolved amicably. The management is also advised that since the matter is already in conciliation they shall strictly follow the provisions of section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and shall not take any action against any workman with the express permission in writing of the Authority before whom the proceeding is pending.

The case is adjourned and next date is fixed for 3.12.2010 at 1130a.m.

[B.B.BHATNAGAR]

REGIONAL LABOUR COMMISSIONER [C]

NEW DELHI.