

10.12.2010

Parties are present as per the attendance sheet kept on record.

The matter has been discussed in detail.

The representative of the Ministry of I&B has apprised that the Secretary, Ministry of I&B had a detailed meeting with the members of the Federation and all the issues have been discussed in detail. The point wise issues taken up in the meeting as apprised are as follow:

- i) The employees did not press for repeal of the P.B.Act. They demanded that comprehensive amendment of the P.B.Act be made. With regard to comprehensive amendments to Prasar Bharati Act, the Secretary informed that it is as per the fresh mandate given by the Group of Ministers. The Ministry is in process of formulating a proposal. The views of all the stakeholders including the Federation (NFADE) will be given due consideration by the Ministry while formulating the proposal for comprehensive amendment. The proposal will then be taken to Group of Ministers.
- ii) As regard to the amendment of Section 11 of the P.B. Act, the Secretary informed that it is in compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and decision of the Group of Ministers regarding the status of employees. He also informed that the status of employees recruited upto 5.10.2007 is very clear i.e. they will be Central Govt. employees on deemed deputation to Prasar Bharati till retirement. The employees recruited thereafter shall be Prasar Bharati employees.
- iii) The employees expressed apprehension that the Prasar Bharati will not be able to meet the Non-Plan expenditure if only 50% operational expenditure is given as grants-in-aid. The Secretary informed that if there are inaccuracies in the figures submitted to Group of Ministers, and then Prasar Bharati will be asked to rework the figures and asked to come up with fresh projections. The Ministry will take up the matter with Group of Ministers for its consideration.

- iv) Regarding the demand of Federation for retaining assets of Prasar Bharati with Govt. the Secretary informed that as per the provisions of the P.B. Act, the assets stand transferred to Prasar Bharati w.e.f. from the date of coming into force of the Act, subject to such terms and conditions as may be prescribed. However, the assets have still not been transferred to Prasar Bharati. He further informed that as per the existing delegation of powers to Prasar Bharati, the Prasar Bharati cannot sell, mortgage or dispose of the assets without prior approval of the Govt. of India.
- v) The Secretary also assured the NFADE that he will meet the Association more frequently in future and discuss all the issues of the concern to them. He appealed to the Federation that they should call off their agitation in national interest.

The Federation stated as follows:

They stated that inspite of going for the separate amendment under Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, the Govt. should include the comprehensive amendment also so that the amendment can be done in totality. The federation also pressed upon that the assets and employees shall remain with the Govt. as regard to their functional and operational liabilities. They stated that they have considered reducing their demand of repeal of Prasar Bharati to Comprehensive amendment in the Prasar Bharati Act including Section 11 but now they emphasised that if the Govt. ensures that the Asset and employee can be retained with the Govt. by making minimum necessary amendments, that will fulfil their demand.

They also demanded the revival of committee constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of I&B, including the five members of NFADE to finalise the comprehensive amendments in the entire Act keeping in view the demand of the Federation.

The matter has been discussed with the parties at length. The Ministry has clarified the issues raised by them has already been clarified by the Secretary in the meeting. In view of the above since the Prasar Bharat, AIR and DD are the important constituents of communication. The Federation is requested not to go for any agitation as proposed during the pendency of the conciliation.

After prolonged and threadbare discussions with the parties the representatives of the Federation are advised that the Ministry of I&B is open for discussions and the Secretary has already held a detailed meeting with them. The Secretary, Ministry of I&B also agreed that the views of all the stakeholders including the NFADE will be given due consideration while formulating the proposal for comprehensive amendment before the proposal is taken to the GOM. In the light of the discussions I advised to the Federation that the issues raised by them cannot be solved in a day as it requires a reasonable period to take a shape. The Federation representatives should not forget that they are also a part and parcel of the Organisation and they are advised not to take any such steps which deteriorate and affect the image of the Organisation, as well as, sending wrong signal to the public against the Organisation. They are also advised that during the pendency of the conciliation any agitation is uncalled for.

The case is adjourned and next date is fixed on 18.2.2011 at 1130a.m.

[B.B.BHATNAGAR]

REGIONAL LABOUR COMMISSIONER[C]

NEW DELHI.