

NewsFed

Newsletter of NFADE

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF AKASHVANI AND DOORDARSHAN EMPLOYEES
Room No.333, Akashvani Bhavan, Parliament Street, New Delhi -110001.



Chairman
Anilkumar S
09818759192

www.nfade.org

To be circulated among the employees of AIR & Doordarshan

Secretary General
Kulbhushan Bhatia
09968272157

Vol-6 Issue-1

Edited by: S/s. PN Bhakta, Sanjay Kumar, V. N. Jha and Ramesh Negi

August 2010

“Save Akashvani & Doordarshan – the National Public Service Broadcaster of India”

Dear colleagues and comrades,

The tireless efforts of NFADE for the last 6 years have brought many fruits like protecting the status of Government employees & restoration of facilities such as General pool Accommodation, CGHS facility, admission of wards in Central School etc, benefits of 6th Central Pay Commission and MACP to the entire employees of AIR&DD(along/at par with other Central government employees), decision of Hon'ble GoM and thereafter by the Union cabinet to retain the employees of AIR&DD, joined upto 05/10/2007 as Central Government employees on deemed deputation in Prasar Bharati etc...etc.

You are aware that the proposed mass casual leave of 17/3/2010 was deferred on written assurance of CEO, Prasar Bharati & Ministry officials that our demand of 'Repeal Prasar Bharati Act' will be forwarded to the GoM. But, unfortunately, the Prasar Bharati & Ministry of I&B did not present our case before the GoM on 16/4/2010, with the excuse that the staff matters were not in the agenda. But when it was presented in the GoM on 17/6/2010, the GoM constituted two committees; one, to propose necessary amendments in Act and the other to propose staff matters. **On the demand of 'Repeal Prasar Bharati Act 1990', neither the GoM accepted it nor rejected it but opined that this decision is not within the purview of the GoM.** We know that when an issue is not within the purview of any authority, it will be referred to the concerned authority having the power to decide. But, in this case the issue has been left unattended. On the other hand, CEO, Prasar Bharati succeeded in misleading the GoM by claiming that Prasar Bharati has been able to earn revenues to the tune of 55% over the expenditure, for which we have already submitted a detailed letter to the members of the GoM.

It is learnt that PB & Ministry were asked to constitute Prasar Bharati Recruitment Boards at the latest by 30 September 2010 to recruit the employees for PB. The CEO Prasar Bharati and his task force are at full pace to start the recruitment, that too on the basis of recommendations of National Productivity Council (NPC) – which recommended a huge reduction in the

strength of employees. It is also learnt the plan is to recruit the employees in various cadres through 5 year contract only and they will be deployed in major stations/ Kendras especially to reduce the bargaining power of regular employees. Just remember that whatever we achieved till today is due to our unity and the resultant bargaining power, otherwise we would've also been in the list of organizations like: DESU, National Airport Authority, BSNL, MTNL, BALCO, NALCO,ITDC etc. and perhaps under duress for saving our job, salary, pensions etc.

On the one hand, most of the revenue under IEBR (advertisement and other revenues) come through various Govt departments and on the other hand the percentage share of AIR&DD in the advertising market is coming down due to the increase in number of private (commercial) channels. In fact, Prasar Bharati has even been forced to reduce the rates of commercials during the forthcoming Common Wealth Games being held in October 2010, because they're not finding any takers at the planned rates. The same CEO & Ministry officials who were exploring the possibilities of mortgaging the immovable assets with banks like ICICI, HDFC are now trying to convince the GoM and the government to transfer the huge assets worth more than Rs. 1,00,000 (one lakh) crores at a book value of a meager amount of Rs.4258 Crores only (for 1464 DD installations and 336 AIR installations). It is high time to expose the reality in front of the political leaders, intellectuals and masses of the country, in addition to make the agitation programme a grand success. And thereby to save AIR & DD,

It is worthwhile here to mention that almost all senior leaders of the major political parties are of the view that in today's context Prasar Bharati has no relevance and it is the high time for the Govt to protect the National Broadcaster in order to ensure the integrity & security of the country. So let's make all out efforts to protect AIR&DD at any cost.



National Federation

of

Akashvani and Doordarshan Employees (NFADE)

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

Website : www.nfade.org

Ref. No. :-

NFADE/ MIB/ 2010/08

Date : 09/08/2010

Chairman
Anilkumar S.
9818759192

Smt. Ambika Soni
Hon'ble Minister
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
New Delhi.

Secretary General
Kulbhushan Bhatia
9968272157

Sub: Notice of Agitation – Boycott of duties

1 ARTEE

2 PSA OF AIR&DD

3 ADTEA

4 ADEA

5 Akhil Bharatiya
Akashvani Gr.D
Karamchari Sangh

6 AIR&DD Motor Drivers
Association

7 AIR&DD Stenographers
Association

8 DD Group D Union

9 Akashvani Announcers
Association

10 DPPA

11 DPPU

12 AIR CCW Employees
Union

13 JE Association CCW, AIR

14 AEs(E) of CCW

15 Audience Research
Employees Association

16 DDNP Forum

17 ARSA

18 ADLSA

19 DCWA

20 Broadcasting Musician
Association of AIR

21 CPEA of AIR&DD

**Ref: Various representations from this Federation
Various meetings with your good self
6 phases of agitation programme by this Federation.**

Respected Madam,

We request your kind attention to various representations from this Federation and various meetings with your goodself through which we have brought it very clearly to your kind notice that there are efforts to mislead Hon'ble GoM and your office, claiming an artificial financial picture of Prasar Bharati whereas the reality is on the otherside especially when this Federation/individual Associations are struggling every month to get even the salary of the employees.

We are grateful to your goodself and Hon'ble GoM that our demand for Repeal Prasar Bharati was not turned down but pointed out only that it is not in the purview of the Hon'ble GoM.

In this context we request you to kindly take up the demand of the employees in the proper platform and to stop the activities for the implementation of Prasar Bharati, till taking a final decision by Hon'ble Parliament of India.

Meanwhile the employees all over the country are agitated on the efforts in a hurry to implement the PB Act without a serious look on the future & existence of AIR & DD, the National Broadcaster of the country.

Under these circumstances we don't have any other option but to start next phase of agitation as per the details attached.

Kulbhushan Bhatia
9/8/10
(Kulbhushan Bhatia)
Secretary General

Copy to:

1. Sh. Reghu Menon IAS, Secretary, Ministry of I&B, New Delhi
2. Smt. Mrinal Pande, Chairperson, Prasar Bharati, New Delhi
3. Sh. B. S. Lalli, CEO, Prasar Bharati, New Delhi
4. Ms. Noreen Naqvi, DG, AIR, New Delhi
5. Smt. Aruna Sharma IAS, DG, Doordarshan, New Delhi.

Anilkumar S
9/8/10
(Anilkumar S)
Chairman

Sapna
10/8/10 3:00 PM



National Federation of Akashvani and Doordarshan Employees (NFADE)

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

www.nfade.org

Final Struggle (Do or Die) to save AIR & DD

Dear Comrades & Colleagues

You are all aware that we are alive in the department as Central Government employees with all the facilities (even though restored after a long battle), including the benefit of 6th Pay Commission, due to the efforts of the employees of AIR & DD under one common platform, i.e. NFADE. We made history due to the unity we displayed since the inception of NFADE.

But now, unfortunately, CEO Prasar Bharati succeeded in convincing Hon'ble GoM that Prasar Bharati can earn 50% of total expenditure and there by got the permission from the Hon'ble GoM to go ahead with the preparation of recruitment rules and constituting the recruitment board for recruiting Prasar Bharati own employees. It is learnt that the task force constituted by the Prasar Bharati has recommended to fill up 3600 posts in various direct recruit cadres on 5 year contract basis.

The Prasar Bharati, who is not in a position to maintain even the buildings at most of the places which are on the verge of collapse at any time, not in a position to equip the transmitters & infrastructure to perform properly even in border areas, not in a position to pay even salary to the employees in time -is now claiming to run the organization on its own!

It is very clear that who ever in helm of affairs in Prasar Bharati are least bothered about the existence of Prasar Bharati, after their term in the luxury post. Now it is the large question in front of the employees that how will we survive if the organization face natural death after a short period.

We have only two option; one is to accept it as our fate and wait for the last day or go for a last battle to protect our organization, which is our bread and butter, at any cost.

NFADE in its meeting held on 13/7/2010 decided to fight for the existence of the organization and thereby the employees by strengthening our demand, i.e. -Repeal Prasar Bharati Act 1990.

Accordingly we have decided to go for the battle as per the following programme:

1. **24 Hours Boycott of duties from 9 am of 14th September 2010 to 9am of 15th September 2010.**
2. **48 Hours Boycott of duties from 9am of 23rd November 2010 to 9am of 25th November 2010.**
3. **72 Hours Boycott of duties from 9am of 13th December 2010 to 9am of 16th December 2010 which will be converted into indefinite Boycott of duties, if the need arises.**

- N.B.
1. We are avoiding any agitational programme in October 2010 in National Interest in the light of Commonwealth Games
 2. While boycotting the duties, the employees on duty will hand over the charge to the substitute if any, otherwise will switch off the equipments for the security of the same.

.....2/.....



National Federation of Akashvani and Doordarshan Employees (NFADE)

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We call upon our members to make all out efforts to have total impact of the agitation as we don't have any option other than "Do or Die". Show the strength of Unity! Ensure the protection of service of AIR & DD and its employees! We hereby pledge that we will not withdraw/defer the strike till it is agreed by the Govt that our demand will be taken in the Hon'ble Parliament for a final decision & all other process for implementation of PB will be stopped till then.

Where there is a will, there is a way! We have the will power to reach our goal!

With warm regards

Anil Kumar S
Chairman
Ph : 09818759192

Kulbhushan Bhatia
Secretary General
Ph: 09968272167

Sanjay Kumar
Vice Chairman
Ph: 09868470208

Ved Narayan Jha
Vice Chairman
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ADEA
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Ramey
AIR/DD Motor Drivers Assn
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MKS Pillai
AIR & DD Steneo Assoc.
Ph : 09818418919

Naveender Kumar
DD Group D Union
Ph: 9968309291

Mangi Mathur
Association of
DD Prog. Prod. Pers.
Ph: 09810287880

Chandrashekhar
Akashvani Annis. Asso.
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AMG Surender
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Har Mohan Singh
Akash. Rajbhasha.
Staff Assoc.
Ph : 09654045539

Rakesh Kumar
AIR & DD Library
Staff Assoc
Ph : 09891940750

Amarnath
B'casting Musicians
Assoc. of AIR
Ph. : 09312839231

Lalchand
Carp. & Painters
Assoc. Of AIR & DD
Ph : 09810570882

General Secretary
NIRMALA DEO
9899453369

Zonal/ State/Unit committees are requested to approach Governor/Chief Minister/ MP/ MLA and other leaders of the society (Political / social/ cultural/ intellectual) with the representation for Repeal Prasar Bharati Act 1990. Format of Letter to be submitted to them is enclosed in next page:



National Federation of Akashvani and Doordarshan Employees (NFADE)

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

www.nfade.org

Ref. No. :- NFADE/ PBAct1990/2010/

Date: 22/08/2010

Chairman

Anilkumar S

9818759192

Secretary General

Kulbhushan Bhatia

9968272157

To,

1 Association of Radio & TV
Engg Employees (ARTEE)

2 Programme Staff Assocn
of AIR&DD (PSA)

3 AIR & DD Technical
Employees Assocn
(ADTEA)

4 AIR & DD Engineers
Association (ADEA)

5 Akhil Bharatiya Akashvani
Gr.D Karmachari Sangh

6 AIR&DD Motor Drivers
Association

7 AIR & DD Stenographers
Assn.

8 DD Group D Union

9 Akashvani Announcers
Association

10 Association of DD
Programme Production
Personnel (ADPPP)

11 DD Programme
Professionals Union

12 AIR CCW Employees
Union

13 JE Assocn.CCW, AIR

14 AES(E) of CCW

15 Audience Research
Employees Assocn

16 DD News Professionals
Forum

17 Akashvani Rajyabha sha
Staff Association.

18 AIR & DD Library Staff
Association.

19 Doordarshan Camera men
Welfare Association.

20 Broadcasting Musicians
Association of AIR

21 Carpenters &Painters
Employees Assocn of
AIR&DD

Respected Sir/Ma'm,

As you are kindly aware, All India Radio and Doordarshan were Government organizations till 1997. They played the role of National and Public broadcaster and served as the voice of the Government and the people. Then, to give it better functional autonomy, it was decided by the Hon'ble Parliament to convert it into Prasar Bharati. This move was expected to enable the organization to function freely and fearlessly as a true Public Service Broadcaster. The irony is; even today the public broadcaster is at the crossroads, without having slightest idea about the direction it will be heading in times to come, if things are allowed to continue in the prevailing manner. In fact, years of experiments and uncertainty have dented the reputation of the organization. With the presence of demotivating factors all around, it is becoming extremely challenging for the professionals within the organization to keep the standards high.

The experiments over the last 12 years proved that Prasar Bharati is not only financially unviable but defeated its very basic concept.

AIR has a network of 336 Broadcasting Centers with 143 Medium Frequency (MW), 54 High Frequency (SW) and 161 FM Transmitters. The coverage is 91.42% of the area, serving 99.13% of the people in the largest democracy of the world. AIR covers 24 languages and 146 Dialects in Home Services. In External Services, it covers 27 Languages, 17 National and 10 Foreign Languages. In addition to this terrestrial network, AIR started Direct to Home (DTH) services with 12 channels on free to air band.

Doordarshan has a network of 60 Production Centres and 1404 Transmitters, to telecast the programmes in 24 channels. The coverage is 89% of the area, serving 94% of the people in India in addition to crores of viewers overseas through satellite network. Doordarshan started Direct to Home (DTH) services with 30 channels on free to air band. It may kindly be noted that Doordarshan is the only TV network in the world offering DTH services free of cost.

Being a media with vast reach, All India Radio & Doordarshan have been playing a pivotal role as instruments of social and economic development, besides entertaining people.

We are performing the dual role of Public Service Broadcaster as well as National Broadcaster by serving the Nation even in the border areas, remotest terrain & disturbed areas, be it in the J&K, North East or islands like Port Blair and Lakshadweep.

It is a fact that most of the countries, ranging from America to China and Angola to Zimbabwe are maintaining their National Broadcaster for protecting the interests of respective country.

Going by the global trend, All India Radio and Doordarshan, being the National & Public Service broadcasters, should be financially supported by the Government to discharge the national duties and responsibilities. Also AIR & Doordarshan, which have discharged the duties towards national integration, preservation of art and culture and socio-economic development of the nation, should not be left at the mercy of the market forces. These responsibilities cannot be compared with the aims & objectives of any other Corporation, thereby necessitating the need for a serious thought to roll back the AIR & DD to the Govt of India, by repealing the Prasar Bharati Act.

We apprehend that the country is subtly being prepared to accept the privatization of the Public Broadcaster. Starving Prasar Bharati will make it vulnerable to market forces. The role of Prasar Bharati is quite different from that of private channels. Under the prevailing circumstances, it cannot earn money and will meet its natural death in the fierce competition. Further we believe that there is a conspiracy to ultimately disinvest Prasar Bharati as a loss making PSU. The assets of the organization have been drastically undervalued with such an ulterior motive.

We would like to bring to your kind notice that the PB Act was brought in to provide autonomy to AIR & Doordarshan, particularly for News & Current Affairs. Unfortunately, the IIS officers who are primarily responsible for News and Current Affairs have been given an option to continue in Prasar Bharati as Govt servants while other employees who are not directly related to autonomy are being asked for absorption in Prasar Bharati. This is contradictory to the spirit of the Act.

This Federation has brought forth the pathetic condition of Prasar Bharati to the Govt & members of Hon'ble GOM from time to time. Some of the issues we pointed out were; that the Prasar Bharati is financially not viable to cater to the needs of the nation as the National & Public Service Broadcaster. Ministry of I&B and Prasar Bharati also reiterated it to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in an affidavit filed in the year 2005/06. ***It is a fact that for the last 15-18 months, the employees at various stations were getting their salaries after the delay of 5-6 days, that too, after repeated intervention of this Federation. The buildings at most of the stations are in dilapidated condition due to the lack of maintenance of the same for last 12 years. It will be shocking to know that the High power transmitters installed in the border areas for the interest of the Nation are radiating very low power than their rated capacity due to the lack of funds for repairs and spares/replacements, under such circumstances your goodself can imagine the sorry state of affairs prevailing at other stations/kendras. Prasar Bharati is not in a position to foot the bills for reimbursement of medical expenses, nominal amount of compensation for performing overtime duties due to the severe shortage of staff, TA/DA for trainings, transfers and tours for the interest of the organization etc...etc. But it is astonishing that the CEO who is not in a position to take care of the organization, despite the financial support (grant in aid) from the Govt, is now day-dreaming to create his own workforce by constituting the Recruitment Boards by any means!***

The agitation of the employees were postponed only after the written assurances from CEO, Prasar Bharati and Ministry of I & B that the demand of employees will be brought to the kind attention of the Hon'ble GoM. But we are surprised to learn that the CEO, Prasar Bharati, instead of presenting the real picture of Prasar Bharati and the demand of employees in the right perspective, presented a fabricated financial picture, claiming the earning to the tune of 55% out of the total expenditure. Whereas Shri. Mohan Jatua, Hon'ble Minister of State for I&B tabled the following statement in the Hon'ble Lok Sabha on 09.03.2010.

<u>Financial Year</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Gap between Expenditure& Income</u>
2008 – 09	1096.78	2518.88	(-)1422.10
2009 – 10	1119.00	3098.00	(-)1979.00

(Amount in Crore of Rupees; For the year 2009-10 figures were provisional)

It may kindly be noted that major chunk of the income comes from Government departments.

Considering the difficulties in implementation of Prasar Bharati Act 1990 for the last 21 years, Hon'ble GoM decided to constitute the committee of Secretaries/Joint Secretaries to suggest necessary amendments in the PB Act 1990. **But the experience of the employees has proved that no amendment in the Act may provide any such protection for AIR & DD or its employees to serve the country as the National & Public Service Broadcaster. "The only option available to protect AIR & DD, the pillar of the democracy is to entrust the responsibility of running AIR & DD to the Government of India, by repealing the Prasar Bharati Act 1990."**

Under these circumstances, we request your goodself to kindly use your good office, through the letters to the policy makers of the country, initiative to start national debate etc.. to save AIR & DD from further destruction.

With deep regards.

The Break up of the posts, proposed to be filled by Prasar Bharati

The Break up of the critical posts.

Programme wing

S.No	Name of the post	Vacancies	No of vacancies recommended for filling up
1.	ADS(JTS)	440	220*
2.	PEX	660	360
3.	TREX	896	806
4.	Production Asstt.	46	46
5.	Camerman- IV	220	114
	Total	2262	1546

Engineering Wing

S.No	Name of the post	Vacancies	No of vacancies recommended for filling up
1.	ASE(JTS)	408	360
2.	Engg. Asstt.	1526	1200
3.	Technician	530	316
	Total	2464	1876

Administrative Wing

S.No	Name of the post	Vacancies	No of vacancies recommended for filling up
1.	HC/Acctt./SSK	50	30

Dos and Don'ts at the Time of Agitation

While boycotting the duties, the employees on duty will hand over the charge to the substitute if any, otherwise the machine and equipment must be switched off for the security of the same

The staff members will sit in day-long dharna till completion of the time period of boycott of duties or intimation from the Federation whichever is earlier. We will ensure peaceful agitation in a disciplined manner and will not provide any chance for diverting the issue.

Management may come out with warning letters, putting the staff compulsorily on duties, issuing tour orders to various places etc. to pressurize the employees, in the name of conduct rules, as a part of their strategy. Don't get scared, as nobody can harm us till we allow them to do it. We are fighting for the protection of our organization, our bread and butter – we are fighting for a noble cause with the weapon of unity of employees. Don't get demoralised with any incidents.

Even if you are assigned with tour to a different station, you give a letter pointing out that eventhough you will obey the duties assigned from time to time you will not perform any duties during that time period when the Federation will boycott the duties.

Beware of the rumors in any manner. Members are requested to be in regular contact with any office bearer, mentioned below.

Control Room for Agitation – 011-23354536 (Telephone & fax)

[1]. Sh. Anilkumar S.	9818759192	[12].Sh. Bharat Lal	9968241607
[2]. Sh. Kulbhushan Bhatia	9968272157	[13].Sh. P.K.Singh	9810420575
[3]. Sh. Sh. P.N.Bhakta	9868915663	[14].Sh. Jagdish Prasad	9810737842
[4]. Sh. Ved Narayan Jha	9818075427	[15] Sh. Srinivas	9958830174
[5]. Sh. Sanjay kumar	9868470208	[16].Sh. Kuldeep Bhan	9818522199
[6]. Sh. N.K.Gemini	9868704521	[17]. Sh. Arvind Dhanwick	9313082419
[7]. Sh. MKS Pillai	9818418919	[18]. Dr.Santosh Kumar Nahar	9868322370
[8]. Sh. Navin Kumar	9968309291	[19]. Sh.Ratnakar Singh	9818403109
[9]. Sh. Manoj Mathur	9810287880	[20]. Sh. Y.S. Yadav	9213129414
[10].Sh. Ramey	9213611409	[21]. Sh. R.B. Sharma	9871413323
[11].Sh. Umesh Chandra	9871765714	[22]. Sh. Ram Lal Gupta	9871393920

Book Post

To,

If undelivered, please return to:

National Federation of Akashvani & Doordarshan Employees (NFADE)
Room No.333, Akashvani Bhavan, New Delhi – 110001.