



FILAMENT

Newsletter of Association of Radio & Television Engineering Employees (ARTEE)
Post Box No-422, New Delhi - 110 001
For Limited Circulation among Members

Volume-41, Issue-1

Editor: Shailendra Shah

January-March 2007

Nationwide call by NFADE for action to protect our service

Dear Comrades,

As you are aware NFADE, the umbrella organisation of 22 Associations of this department have been striving hard to protect the interest of AIR&DD and its employees for the last 4 years. Various movements by NFADE compelled the Govt. and Prasar Bharati to think very seriously on this issue. After the meeting of NFADE with Hon'ble Prime Minister, government has constituted a Group of Ministers to look into all the issues related to Prasar Bharati including the financial viability. NFADE was also invited by the GoM on 25/8/2006 to present its viewpoint. NFADE has had separate meetings with most of the members of the GoM to convince them about our viewpoint. After meeting the GoM members a number of MPs and senior leaders of various political parties, NFADE has proposed amendments in PB Act to protect the employees, just in case the repeal of the Prasar Bharati act is not possible.

We have demanded that the employees and assets of AIR & Doordarshan should remain with the Govt. and Prasar Bharati could continue to have the functional freedom and administrative control over the organization.

Recently, Hon'ble Supreme court directed the Government to take a firm decision in regards to the transfer of employees of AIR & Doordarshan to Prasar Bharati under section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act. *(Remember if it is implemented we will loose the status of Govt. employee, resulting in losing of the security on salary, pension, etc and even deprived of the benefits of VI pay commission's recommendations).* In the light of the recent directive of the Apex Court, Govt. and Prasar Bharati may force us to join Prasar Bharati without making any amendment in the act as demanded by NFADE.

In this situation, NFADE started the agitation programme with gate meeting at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Guwahati on 07th March and a day long Dharna (10. AM to 5PM) on 22/3/2007 along with lunch hour gate meetings at all capital/ Major stations. Telegrams were sent from all units to Chairperson UPA, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Minister for I&B on that day. *We will organise lunch hour Dharna and Gate meeting at all stations throughout the country on 12th April 2007. Details are given in the February issue of NewsFed. Latest developments can be monitored at NFADE website www.nfade.org.*

It is our fight for existence! Let us show the strength of unity to protect our service!

***SEA-AE Exam on 22, 23 & 24 June 2007. Vacancies (approx.): Gen-85; SC-16, ST-30
Sr.Tech – EA Exam on 27/5/07. Vacancies (approx: NZ-06, WZ-04, SZ-05, NEZ-04, EZ- 02.***

ARTEE submits its proposals to VI Central Pay Commission

ARTEE submitted its detailed proposal to the VIth CPC within the prescribed date. The excerpts of the demands are available on our website. The proposal runs into 37 pages in addition to the supporting annexures, therefore we could upload only the 21 main pages of our proposals on the website. Excerpts of the proposal are also provided in this issue (inside pages). Meanwhile for the first time, Ministry of I&B has formally forwarded our proposal to the Pay Commission. Receipt of the proposal has also been acknowledged by the Under Secretary, VIth Pay Commission and has assured to accord it due consideration. Copies of the letters are reproduced in this issue.

Reply (e-mail) from Sixth Central Pay Commission

Date: Fri, 5 Jan 2007 16:19:04 +0530 (IST)
Subject: Re: Response to Questionnaire & Proposals from our Association
From: sixth.cpc@nic.in
To: "Anil Kumar" <arteeanil@yahoo.com>

Thanks for the mail. The views expressed by you have been noted and will be given due consideration by the Commission.

G.S. Panwar,
Under Secretary, Secretariat,
Sixth Central Pay Commission

> Sh. Justice B.N. Srikrishna,
> Hon'ble Chairman,
> Sixth Central Pay Commission, New Delhi.
> Sir,

> I am hereby attaching the response from the Association to the questionnaire along with our proposals on the issues related to our cadres for your kind consideration. We are looking for an oral presentation on these issues at your convenience.

> Thanking you

> Yours Sincerely

> Anilkumar S. President, Association of Radio & TV Engineering Employees (ARTEE)

> Post Box No. 422, New Delhi - 110 001. Ph: 9818759192, 23354536 (O)

PROPOSALS submitted BY ARTEE to VI Central Pay Commission (excerpts)

Pay Structure proposed by the Association for Engg. Cadres and justifications thereof

- [1]. **KHALASI/ HELPER:** Starting from bottom there are only few Khalasi left and these should be merged with Helper and placed in a normal replacement scale of Rs. 5000-8000. The V CPC and thereafter the Govt of India has already ordered for the merger of the pay scales of Khalasi and Helper. Accordingly both these cadres are placed in the same scale. This post may be re-designated as Broadcast Helper. The entry qualification for the future intakes may be 2 year ITI certificate.
- [2]. **TECHNICIAN:** 50% Technicians should be Directly recruited from open market and should be placed in normal replacement scale of Rs. 6500-10500. 50% Technicians should be filled by Helpers after giving them training in Staff Training Institute. This post may be re-designated as Broadcast Technician. The entry qualification for the future intakes may be Diploma in Engineering/ B.Sc (Physics).
- [3] **DIESEL ENGINE DRIVER:** Department has already declared DED a dying cadre. Most of the employees in this cadre are deputed against the duties of Technician. This cadre may be merged with the cadre of Technician as already agreed upon by the Management.
- [4]. **SENIOR TECHNICIAN:** Sr.Tech. cadre should be merged with Engg. Asstts. and all Engg. Asstts must be placed in a normal replacement scale of Rs. 8000-13500.
- [5] **DIESEL TECHNICIAN:** This cadre has also been declared as dying cadre and most of the staff members are being entrusted with the job of Sr. Technician. They may also be merged with EA.
- [6] **MAST TECHNICIAN:** This cadre has also been declared as dying cadre and most of the staff are being entrusted with the job of Sr. Technician. They may also be merged with EA.
- [7]. **ENGINEERING ASSISTANT:** 50% Engg. Asstts must be recruited from open market and 50% should be filled up by Technicians after giving them a departmental Training in the Staff Training Institute. And all EAs should be given normal replacement scale of Rs. 8000-13500. Engineering Assistant may be re-designated as Broadcast Engineer. The entry qualification for the

We extend our warm welcome to Sh. Baljit Singh Lalli IAS, and Sh. A. K. Jain IAS, on their appointment as Prasar Bharati's CEO & Member Finance, respectively.

future intakes may be changed as Degree in Engineering/ M Sc Physics.

[8]. SENIOR ENGINEERING ASSISTANT: Sr.EA cadre should be merged with Asstt. Engr. as presently SEAs are placed in the scale of Rs. 7450-11500 and AEs are getting scale of Rs. 7500-12000. Both of these cadres are performing interchangeable duties in various stations. So they can be merged to one cadre, AE. SEA after merging with AE may be placed in the replacement scale of Rs.10000-15200. AE may be redesignated as Broadcast Executive.

(NB: Management has already passed a proposal for merger of Sr.Tech to EA and SEA to AE. Proposal is pending since Ministry of I&B advised the DG,(AIR) to refer this issue to the Pay commission)

[9]. ASSISTANT ENGINEER/AE may be placed in the replacement scale of Rs.10000-15200 with the

designation Broadcast Executive as mentioned above.

Promotions

No cadre should be deprived of further promotions in the name of qualification.

- Promotion from AE to STS may be available on fast track as well as slow track on the basis of differential length of service. Diploma/ BSc with 6 years of service in AE cadre may be equal to Degree in Engineering/MSc with 3 years of service in AE cadre.
- Similar criteria may be applicable to ITI holder SEA/EA and Diploma/Degree holder SEA/EA for further promotion to AE.

Time Scale

Time scale after every seven years should be available to all cadres if the promotion does not take place within this time period.

Copy of Letter from Ministry, forwarding our proposals to the Sixth Central Pay Commission

No.1604/63/2006-BA(E)

Ministry of Information n& Broadcasting
BA(E) Section

dated 22.01.2007

Subject:- Forwarding of submission of Association of Radio & Television Engineering Employees (ARTEE) to VI-CPC.

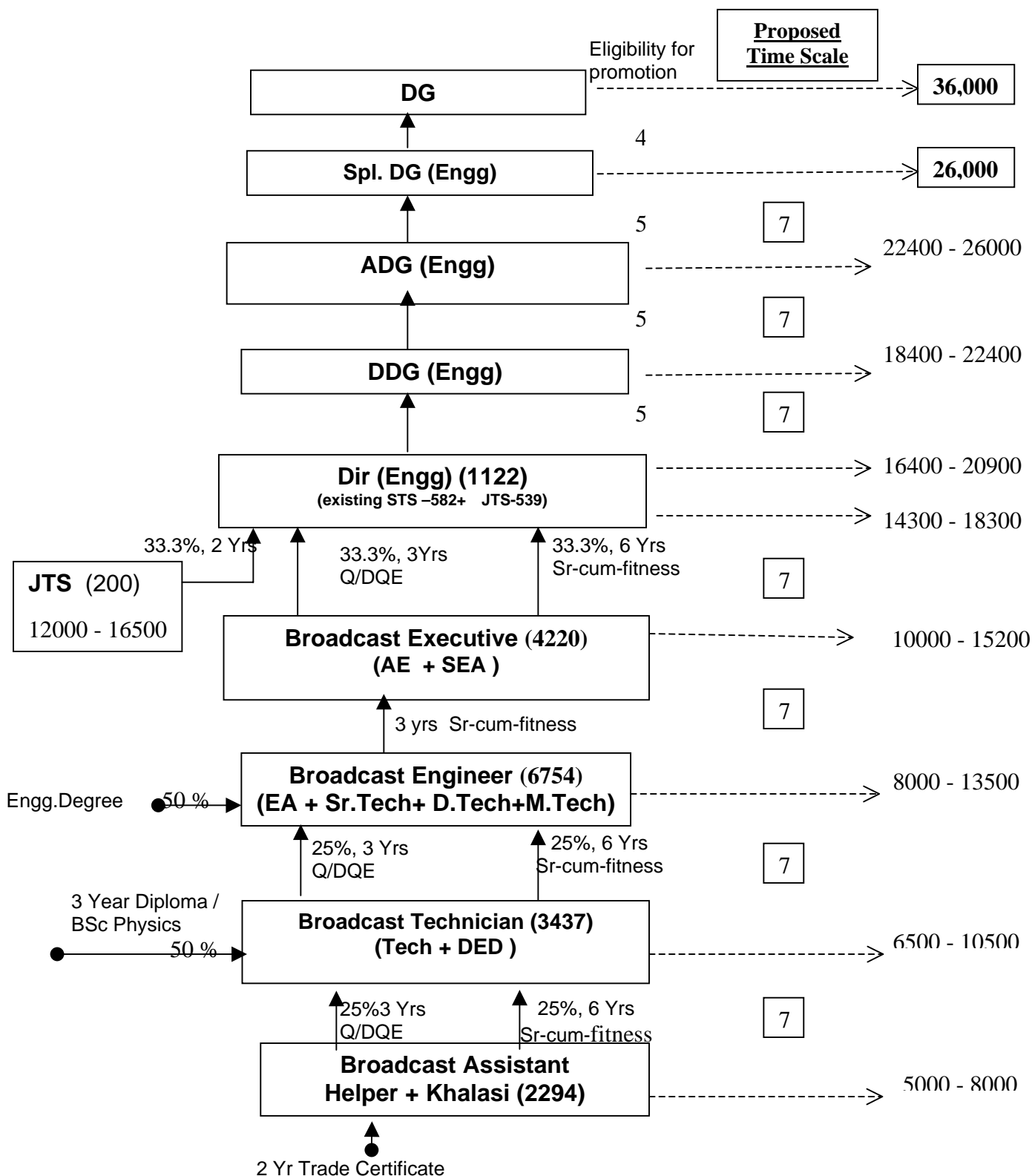
To
Member Secretary, VI-CPC,
ICADR Building, Plot No.6, Phase-II,
Vasant Kunj Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110070.
Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a Memorandum addressed to VI Pay Commission from Association of Radio & Television Engineering Employees (ARTEE) with regard to the pay scales and allowances of the Engineering employees of AIR & Doordarshan for consideration of the commission.

Yours faithfully
Sd/-
(P.K.Mittal)
Under Secretary (BA-E)
Tel.23384597.

Copy to:- 1.Shri.Umesh Chandra, General Secretary, ARTEE
2. Shri.S.P.Pant, DDA(E), DG:AIR

PROPOSED STRUCTURE



All the scales proposed as per 5th CPC. Replacement scales may be given in accordance with the proposals of 6th CPC.

...details of the proposal *to be continued in next issue*

5th East Zone Convention – Kolkata

Malay Kumar Das, VP (EZ)

At the very outset, let me congratulate all Members of ARTEE [EZ] on behalf of ARTEE EAST ZONAL COUNCIL for successful completion of historical 5th East Zone Convention of ARTEE from 19th to 21st February, 2007 at KOLKATA. The convention was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Hon'ble MP Sh. Sujan Chakraborty in the august presence of Sh. A.K. Jain (Member Finance-Prasar Bharati), Sh. R.K. Singh (CE-HQ), Sh. A. Rajagopal-CE [EZ], Dr. T.K. Das-DDG [TV], Smt. S. DASGUPTA (Dir-Marketing-DDK Kolkata). In his inaugural speech Sh. Sujan Chakraborty expressed concern over the problems being faced by the East Zone after the zonal bifurcation and assured us that he'll take up the issues related with protection of employees of AIR & DD in Parliament. Smt Dasgupta encouraged us for boldly accepting challenge with private channels, in today's competitive market. Sh. R.K. Singh was all praise for us when he pointed out the inclusion of 'needs for upgrading the knowledge base of our members' in our agenda points. Sh. A.K. Jain highlighted the financial problems that Prasar Bharati is facing while CE (EZ), Sh. Rajagopal agreed with our concern regarding the security problems at most of the LPTVs in the zone. A detailed report of the present scenario of Prasar Bharati and activities of Association was placed before the members by Sh. Anilkumar S. and Sh Umesh Chandra. We were lucky to have been blessed by the presence of sh. Jyotirmoy Sengupta, a very senior ARTEEian and our former General Secretary. Jotida went down the memory lane, recalled our past struggles and explained the path of 'sailing for justice'.

I placed the report of zonal activities before the house and explained how, with the active support of my zonal team, I've been working towards inner party democracy in the zone, visiting remote AIR and DD stations within the zone to understand the problems being faced by our staff.

During the delegate session, unit secretaries placed their reports before the house and called upon the zonal and central leaders to pay more attention towards resolving some of their long pending issues. Sh. P.K. Saha (DDK, Kolkata) and Sh. S. Ghosh (AIR Kolkata) emphasized the need for increasing the Studio hour utilization and in house programmes. Sh. S. Ghosh (AIR Kolkata). Sh. A.K.

Sen (AIR Chinsurah) pointed out the installation problems of the Mega transmitter at Chinsurah. Delegates from AIR Sambalpur discussed the EOL issue of Sh, S. Bisnoi while Sh. K. Das from AIR Siliguri desired that merger issue of Diesel Technician and Sr. Technician be solved immediately. He also highlighted the problem of acute shortage of staff being faced by his station. Sh M.A. Hai wanted changes in the ARTEE's election by-laws to give it a more contemporary look while J.Mondal (HPTV Katihar) suggested to collection of fixed monthly donation from every member and distributing some part of it to zonal, State, DDMC and units for effective working. Some of the issues on which concern was expressed by the members were; Problems of EZ after the bifurcation, the long overdue ACP and promotions, declaration of SEA cadre as all India cadre, filling up of vacant posts, strengthening of NFADE, providing training to the staff, outsourcing, transfer policy, saving the employee's interests in sixth pay commission etc. Sh. J.P. Sengupta, former VP (EZ) expressed his views about Prasar Bharati and called upon the central leaders to continue the struggle with the help of NFADE for securing the future of the employees. Approx. maximum unit Secretaries/delegates attended this convention. All Unit Secretaries / delegates submitted their unit report. The AGS [AIR] S.K. Soam, briefly discussed to the resolution had been taken of C.W.C Siliguri and Chennai. The AGS [TV], Mr. B.Ghosal Told that the SEA cadre should be declared as all India transferable cadre. The J.S. [EA/SEA], S.Goswamy pointed out the deprival at the legitimate demand of promotion. The Joint Sec.[Tech/Sr.Tech], Mr. Madhab Kanti Das, gave proposal to fill up the vacant post of EA through SR.Tech. to EA promotion for minimizing the Senior Technician surplus. The Joint Sec. [Helper], Mr.K.Halder gave proposal to implement the promotion of Helper to technician should be seniority cum fitness. Some of the delegates from different units, who expressed their views include S/Sh. Ayub Ansari (AIR Darbhanga), S.K. Mishra (State Secretary Orissa), Uday Kumar Sinha (State Secretary Bihar), B.N. Singh (Patna), C.B. Shukla (State Secretary, Jharkhand), K.K. Patra (Cuttack), A.Tarapder, D.K.Roy (Asansole), Akhil Das (Purnea), Purohit (Bolangir), A.Mondal (Alipurduar), R.K.Sen (Baliapal), Lepcha (Saharsa), Ashok Kumar (Muzaffarpur)

Sh.J. Sengupta, Ex.General Secretary and senior leader of ARTEE retired from service on 31st January 2007. We wish him a very happy retired life and we are confident that now ARTEE will be able to extract more time from him for guidance as and when required.

On the final day an interactive session was organized with delegates placing their problems directly in front of the DDMC engineering heads. With the presence of DDMC Engg. Heads like Sh..Baidhar [Sambalpur], Sh L.P.Srivastav [Jamshedpur], Sh.S.K.Burma [Motihari], Sh, D.Chawdhury [Burdwan], Sh.Mohant [Keonjhar], Sh.Mohanty [Bhubaneswar], Sh.Pradhan [Patna], Sh Rao [Dhenkanal] the session proved to be quite lively. The session was quite ably anchored by Sh. P.K Sanyal (Zonal bulletin editor). Convention committee also honoured some of our stalwarts and former leaders.

Convention committee also arranged a NFADE programme, in which Sh. R. Dasgupta

(NFADE National Adviser), Sh. Anilkumar S. (Chairman), Sh. Prokash Chakraborty (Zonal NFADE Advisor), Sh. P.P. Bhattacharje (ADEA Secretary) expressed their views on the need for being united. NFADE (EZ) also presented a cheque of Rs. 5000/- as donation for the national activities of NFADE.

Sh, Debesh Das and Sh, Kshiti Goswamy Hon'ble Ministers of WB, Sh. R.R. Prasad, CE(HQ), Sh. A. Rajagopal and the Director of Pailan Group graced the open session. The hon'ble ministers assured the house that they'll talk to the I&B Minister regarding our issues. The convention came to a close with cultural program and vote of thanks by Sh. Madhab Kanti Das (JS-Tech/Sr.Tech).

Recognition of Associations in AIR & Doordarshan: A Narrative of the Events, so far

DOP&T had notified the revised rules for the recognition of Service Associations on 5th November 1993. According to these rules, it is mandatory for the Association to collect the subscription from their members through the deduction from their monthly salaries which will be collected by the department and then will be deposited with the Central Headquarter of the Association. The recognition of service association shall be done by the 'Check-off' system in pay rolls at regular intervals. The association will get a recognition if it represents minimum 35% of the total number of a category of employees. In case there is only one Association which commands more than 35% membership, another Association with second highest membership, may be recognized even with less than

35% membership strength, provided it commands at least 15 per cent membership.

When these rules were circulated to the Associations in our department, we approached the DOP&T for clarifications, pointing out about our multi cadre membership system, LM system, formalities for avoiding time delay in collection of subscription from a large number of stations spread across the country etc., subsequently the DOP&T referred this letter to Ministry of I&B for taking up the matter with the Association, clarifying that the circular issued by their ministry is **only for Central secretariat staff**. One copy of the letter, served to this Association is reproduced below.

NO.12/1/98-CS (IV), dated 27th August 1998

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, P.G. & PENSIONS
DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL & TRAINING
3rd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhavan, Khan Market
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Recognition of Service Associations under CCS(RSA) Rules, 1993.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a letter dated 21.08.98, in original, received from the General Secretary, Association of Radio & Television Engineering Employees, on the above subject, and to say that this Department's Office Memorandum dated 4/1/94-CS (IV) dated 11.06.98 relates to Recognition of Service Associations of the Central Secretariat only. As such, this Department is not concerned with processing the request contained in the letter of the above mentioned Association. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, who are administratively concerned with the matter, may process the case and inform the Association accordingly.

Sd/-
(P. K. Sharma)
Desk officer (SR)

The Under Secretary (Vigilance)
(Shri.Vijay Sharma)
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
Copy to:
Sh. Anilkumar S. General Secretary,
Association of Radio & Television Engineering Employees
Post Box No.-422, New Delhi – 110 001.

Thereafter Ministry of I&B did not taken any step in this regard. It is important to note that the above mentioned rules also clearly stated that if a service association fails to comply with any of the conditions, the government may withdraw the recognition, after giving an opportunity to the service Association, to present its case. Here, in our department, the Ministry has never taken any initiative to start such a process.

Now all of a sudden there was a question raised by an Hon'ble MP from Guwahati asking about the status of the recognised Associations in Prasar Bharati. In the reply on 24th August 2006, Hon'ble Minister of I&B informed that not a single Association in PB is recognised under this rules even though there are several associations representing employees and negotiating with the management. It is indeed a subject of research that how come the hon'ble MP from Guwahati became so interested with the affairs of our association. It is also worth mentioning here that around the same time an RTI application was filed by a 'well wisher' in which he sought information from the O/O of CE (NZ) regarding the recognition of ARTEE and questioned the facilities & privileges extended to its office bearers. Both these incidents could be unrelated, or there could be something more!

O/O DG (AIR) submitted a formal response to the parliament question and the hon'ble MIB read it out in the parliament. All the departments, including our ministry, all officials in both Directorates, both the DGs and the CEO kept dealing with the Association as

usual. But the O/O CE (NZ) became the exemplary law keeper with a stand that it will deal with ARTEE as an 'un-recognised association. On being asked for the reason, officials from the zonal office said that, 'as per the reply given by the Hon'ble MIB in parliament ARTEE is also not recognised' (incidentally this reply was prepared by officials from DG-AIR).(letters dated 2.11.2006 & 11.12.2006).

Immediately we took up the matter with authorities including the Hon'ble MIB, CEO Prasar Bharati, DG, AIR etc. informing that, all the recognised associations have maintained the status quo as there was no initiative taken by the Ministry in this regard. Copy of the letter to the MIB reproduced below. ARTEE took strong exception to the illogical stand taken by O/O CE(NZ) and took up the matter at the higher level. The zonal office has since been directed, by the competent authority, not to jump the gun in defining the legal position. But after having a re-look at the entire incident and amicable settlement of the issue with the O/O CE (NZ), it has come to our knowledge that the damage has been done by that very 'well wisher' who has tried his hands at many forums so far to harm ARTEE. Incidentally during the episode, this gentleman ended up annoying all the Associations, because all Associations had to face the 'recognition' problem during the past couple of months. But now, everything is fine and certified. Let this 'well wisher' realize that an Association like ARTEE will not succumb to such destructive intentions.

Sh. Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi

Hon'ble Minister for Information & Broadcasting
& Parliamentary Affairs. New Delhi.

Ref No.ARTEE/P/MIB/2006/11 dated 08/11/06

Ref: 1. Answer given in Rajya Sabha on 24/8/06
2. Letter issued by DOP&T on 27/8/1998

Sub: Recognition of Association in AIR & DD

Sir,

With due regards I request your kind attention to the Answer given to the unstarred question No.2947 in the Hon'ble Rajya Sabha on 24/08/2006 on the subject referred above.

Your good self has replied to the query that "There is no Association/union recognized by the Government in All India Radio & Doordarshan". We have no reservation at all the reply.

At the same time may I recall your good self that in the meeting held with your kind self on 19th July 2006 we have clarified to a query that there are 9 recognised associations, including ARTEE, in AIR & Doordarshan, out of which 8 associations have been the part of the JCM scheme and we used to have regular meetings of Departmental, Office and Local Councils. Accordingly your good self was kind enough to decide for restarting of the these councils and directed JS (B) to take necessary action to ensure regular interactions with these Associations.

We have brought the information to your kind notice that DOP&T, vide their letter dated 27/8/1998 informed Ministry of I&B and ARTEE that the order for the process of recognition issued by them is related to the service Associations of Central Secretariat only. They further informed that Ministry of I&B may take the initiative for the process for the Associations of employees under this Ministry. Ministry of I&B has never communicated any such process to this association till date. **So it is very well clear that statues-quo prior to the new rule of 1993 still prevails in this Ministry.** Members across the country are eagerly waiting for the restoration of Recognition for the 39 years old Association. All the formalities of Election, Accounting etc are maintained as per norms.

I request your good self to kindly take necessary steps at the earliest for the corrective measurers to restore the statues-quo prior to the new rule [CCS(RSA)] 1993.

With deep regards,

(Anilkumar S), President, Ph: 9818759192

Copy for kind information to:

Sh.Silvius Condpan, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, 61-63 South Avenue, New Delhi.

Sh.S.K.Arora IAS, Secretary, Ministry of I&B, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi

Sh.Brijeshwar Singh IAS, CEO, Prasar Bharati & DG, AIR, New Delhi

Sh.N.Baijendra Kumar IAS, JS(B), Ministry of I&B, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

CEO, in a formal meeting with ARTEE on 17/11/2006 has clarified to the officials that the status quo on recognition prevails till any decision otherwise by the DOP&T or our Ministry is taken. He has directed all zonal offices and other authorities to continue to have formal meeting with us.

Meanwhile some mischievous elements (after having tried their best to sabotage the cause of employees'

unity in the past, and failing bitterly) started circulating the reply issued by the Directorate in November (to the question under the RTI Act) to the station heads at some of the stations. In the light of this misinformation, we demanded an immediate clarification on the issue and Directorate has issued the letter, which is reproduced below, to maintain status quo on recognition of all recognised Associations including ARTEE.

PRASAR BHARATI
(BROADCASTING CORPORATION OF INDIA)
DIRECTORATE GENERAL: ALL INDIA RADIO

No.B-12017/1/2006-WL

New Delhi dated 05.03. 07

Sub: **Regarding recognition of Associations of AIR:**

Reference this Directorate's letter No.B-12017/1/2006-WL/832 dated 2.11.2006 and letter No.11011/2/2006-WL dated 11.12.2006 on the above mentioned subject.

1. In this connection, it has been decided with the approval of competent authority that the issues mentioned in the above letters may be kept in abeyance and status quo may be maintained with regard to recognition of Associations of AIR.
2. Simultaneously the matter is being taken up with Ministry of I & B.

Sd/-
(R.K.DHALL)
DY.DIR.OF ADMIN.(WL)
FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL

To,
Heads of all Stations/Offices of AIR

Copy to:-

1. PS to CEO
2. PS to DG/ E-in-C and ADG(F&A)
3. PS to CE(D)/CE-I, CCW,AIR,Soochna Bhawan
4. PS to Dir.(Admin)/DDG(P)
5. All Association's President/Secretary by name.

FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL

We have demanded the Directorate to take necessary action against the officials for their irresponsible attitude in such a serious matter.

APPEAL FOR LEGAL FUND

Dear members, ARTEE has always fought for the issues related to the welfare and common interest of our members on all platforms including the legal one. Recently we have got a positive directive from the Principal CAT Delhi on pay revision of EAs recruited after 25-02-1999 When the review petition filed by the Govt also rejected by the CAT, Govt has decided to appeal in the High Court. We have fought this case also from the account of ARTEE and the expenditure in High court will be very high compare to that in CAT. We have been paying huge fees to the senior advocate fielded in technician pay revision case. We are determined to start a legal fight for extending justice to the Technicians joined after 25-02-1999. We appeal all members to kindly send your contributions for the legal fund through DD in the name of "Association of Radio & TV Engineering Employees", payable at Delhi.

Umesh Chandra, (General Secretary)

Filling up of vacant posts/ Exemption from the ban on recruitment

The 5th Central Pay Commission, in its recommendations pointed out that an average of 3% posts are vacated every year due to retirement. They proposed not to fill up these posts so that Govt can abolish 30% of posts in 10 years. When it was objected strongly in JCM, Govt decided to fill up only 1% of posts after abolishing another 2% of posts. Accordingly Ministry of Finance ordered in 1999 to fill up only 1/3rd of the vacancies and to abolish the remaining 2/3rd vacancies. They have however granted exemption for operational cadres, with some conditions.

But, unfortunately, whenever we raised a demand for filling up the vacant posts in engineering cadres, the authorities, especially the DE,HRD of that time, used to inform in official meetings that we cannot get the exemption.

It was noticed by ARTEE that the Ministry of Health has obtained the sanction from the Cabinet to fill up vacant posts of doctors in CGHS, by defining the doctors as operational cadres and thereby exempting from the ban on recruitments. Accordingly we also approached the authorities to get the same consideration for the post of Engineering cadres, who too are operational cadres. After discussion with various officials in the Ministry, we have got the information that such an exemption was granted in the year 2001, though it was not noticed by any body at that time. After following up that case file, we have taken up the matter with DG (AIR) for filling up all vacancies in the cadres of EA and Technician for the year 2002 onwards.

Ref No. ARTEE/P/DG(AIR)/2006/10 dated 16/11/06

Sh. Brijeshwar Singh IAS
Director General, All India Radio,
Akashwani Bhavan, New Delhi-110001.

Ref: 1. Letter No. ARTEE/P/ DG(AIR)/2006/09 dated 15/09/06
2. Order No.14/55/2000-SIV(A)/607 dated 18th July 2001 issued by O/o DG,AIR
3. Order No. H-11/ 16/2001-EPC dated 30 July 2001 issued by O/o CE(NZ).

Sub: Exemption of Technical posts of AIR & DD from the purview of the Screening Committee.

Sir,

I request your kind attention to the letter in reference No.1 through which we requested your good self kindly take necessary steps to ensure the clearance from the Ministry for filling of all vacant posts in Engineering cadres (Engineering Assistant and Technician) as these posts are operational cadres and are to be exempted from the purview of the screening committee. We have provided, the copy of the order from DOP&T and copy of the minutes of meeting regarding similar exemption for doctors of CGHS, along with that representation. Copy attached for your kind ready reference.

Meanwhile we came to know that the Screening committee of Ministry of I & B has again recommended for abolishing 2/3rd posts, while granting sanction for filling of the remaining posts for the years 2002 and 2003.

May I request your kind attention to the order referred as No.2 above through which your good office, after obtaining approval from the Ministry of I&B, has directed the Zonal CEs to initiate immediate recruitment action for the vacancies in subordinate engineering cadres lying vacant since less than a year. CEs were advised to frame separate proposal for the posts lying vacant for more than one year, giving detailed justifications.

Accordingly the Zonal CEs initiated the recruitments for the vacant posts in their zones. Copy of one such order from the O/o CE(NZ) is attached as reference No.3.

Meanwhile Hon'ble Minister has repeatedly stated in various meetings and occasions that all out efforts will be made for filling of all vacant posts in engineering cadres.

It may be very significant to note at this point of time, that based on this DR quota for Direct Recruit EAs was filled for all the five zones in 2002.

But, Sir, we are at pains to note that, inspite of all these supporting orders to get the exemption of these operational cadres from the abolition, the threat of abolition still continue on these posts.

We strongly demand that necessary steps should be taken immediately to ensure the clearance for filling of all vacant posts in Engineering cadres (Engineering Assistant & Technician) of AIR & Doordarshan.

With deep regards,

(Anilkumar S), President,

Copy for kind information to:

1. Sh.P.R.Dasmunsi, Hon'ble Minister for I&B and Parliamentary affairs, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
2. Sh.S.K.Arora IAS, Secretary, Ministry of I&B, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
3. Sh.A.S.Guin, Engineer-in-Chief, All India Radio, New Delhi
4. Sh.N.S.Ganesan, Engineer-in-Chief, Doordarshan, New Delhi
5. Sh.Rajat Bhargav IAS, ADG (A&F), AIR & Doordarshan, New Delhi
6. Sh.S.P.Pant, DDA(E), All India Radio, New Delhi

If it is granted, we will get the sanction for filling up the following posts that are vacant for the years 2002, 2003 & 2004.

EA = 1426; Technician = 968; Helper = 554.

If we succeeded in getting these posts this will strengthen our fight against outsourcing and automation.

New recruitments in EA/Technician Cadres:

As you are aware, no new recruitments are taking place in any cadre for the last couple of years. We have even made efforts, along with our sister Association for obtaining Recruitment Holiday for the posts of DR quota and one time promotion for departmental candidates. But the Ministry turned down the proposal, quoting DOP&T and UPSC, telling that the character of the recruitment cannot be changed even if no recruitment takes place in direct recruit quota.

Then we demanded that the department should fill up the vacant posts at the earliest. Now the screening

committee of the Ministry of I&B has granted the sanction to fill up some vacancies for the years 2002, 2003 & 2004. Directorate has started the formalities for notification of the posts after vigorous follow up by ARTEE. The approximate number of posts to be recruited for the years 2002, 03 & 04 are: EA = 281; Technician = 191 & Helper = 10.

The recruitment for some of the vacancies for the years 2005 & 2006 will also follow immediately. ARTEE is closely following up the matter, as new recruitments will minimize the threat of outsourcing in engineering cadres.

Transfer of Direct Recruits EAs (yr 2002) of EZ working in NEZ:

After the unscientific bifurcation of East Zone & North East Zone, in 2003, both the zones are facing lot of problems related to the human resources. While the East Zone faces the problem of surplus of staff, North East zone is suffering from the acute shortage of staff. As a result of this, a large number of employees are compelled to continue in North-East zone even after completing their tenure. Though it is being settled gradually for the old employees, the situation is grave for the EAs recruited in the year 2002. The management was insisting that these EAs would be considered as the employees of North East Zone as they joined after the decision of bifurcation of the

zones. ARTEE took up the matter with various authorities including CEO & DG (AIR) who have ultimately agreed for seeking option from these EAs and accordingly options were taken from them. But then the authorities have taken a stand that they will take a decision on these options only after completion of recruitment process for EAs in NEZ. After further discussing with our zonal committees of NEZ & EZ, we have demanded that those EAs of 2002 batch, who opted for EZ and completed their tenure in NEZ, should be transferred to the East Zone immediately after the notification of new recruitments for NEZ. Copy of one of the letter on this issue is reproduced below.

Director General

(Kind attention Sh. S.P. Pant, DDA (E)

Akashvani Bhawan, New Delhi.

Ref No. ARTEE/P/DG(AIR)/2006/13, dated 29/12/06

Ref: Minutes of the meeting taken by E-in-C on 09/10/2006 (Minutes dated 08/12/2006)

Sub: Transfer of EAs of 2002 batch back to EZ after completion of their tenure in NEZ.

Sir,

Kindly refer to the meeting held with the Engineer-in-Chief, AIR on 09/10/2006 in which it was brought to the notice of the chair that a number of EAs of 2002 batch, who have opted for EZ, have completed their tenure in NEZ and waiting for their transfer to EZ.

Zonal office has informed that zonal option has already been taken from these EAs and a decision is required to be taken by the Headquarters.

When we have requested E-in-C to take an early decision to bring those EAs to their opted zone, it was informed that Directorate is in the process of doing something for EAs of 2002. It was informed that the main obstacle for a decision is the acute staff shortage in NEZ.

It was also informed that Directorate is in the process of recruitment of EA and Technician as per the sanction granted by the Screening Committee of Ministry of I&B against the vacancies for the years 2002,03 & 2004. It was also agreed upon that a major portion of these posts will be given to NEZ.

When we have requested the chair to consider the transfer of 2002 batch of EAs back to EZ along with the notification for recruitment for the abovementioned posts, E-in-C was kind enough to consider it positively.

I request your good self to kindly take necessary steps for the immediate notification for the recruitment of those posts sanctioned by the screening committee and to ensure the transfer of all those EAs of 2002 batch, who are opted for EZ and completed their tenure in NEZ, are transferred to the East Zone at the earliest.

Thanking you.

Sincerely yours

(Anilkumar S.), President

Promotion to the staff of EZ for the proportionate vacancies for the time period April to September 2003:

One more omission took place along with the unscientific bifurcation of the zones. The engineering staff of East Zone had been deprived of their due share for promotions against the vacancies created in the combined zone for the period, April to September 2003, prior to the implementation of bifurcation. We have been striving hard to extend justice to the members of EZ without affecting those in NEZ, by creating super numeric posts in the promotional cadres. Though it was

agreed some time back by the authorities to send a proposal to the DOP&T through the Ministry of I&B, it did not materialise due to one or the other reason. Again in a meeting held in October 2006, E-in-C has agreed to explore the possibilities once again. Copy of one of the letter for settling the issue is reproduced here. Now the matter has been taken up with the Ministry for an early solution.

Director General
(Kind attention Sh. S.P.Pant, DDA(E))
Akashvani Bhawan, New Delhi.

Ref No. ARTEE/P/DG(AIR)/2006/12 dated-29/12/06

Ref: Minutes of the meeting taken by E-in-C on 09/10/2006 (Minutes dated 08/12/2006)

Sub: Promotion to the staff of EZ for the proportionate vacancies in the time period April to September 2003.

Sir,

Kindly refer to the meeting held with the Engineer-in-Chief, AIR on 09/10/2006 in which it was brought to the notice of the chair that the vacancies between April to September should have been filled up on the basis of the common seniority list. However, all the vacancies that occurred in this period have been allocated to the NEZ, depriving the EZ of their legitimate right of proportionate vacancies.

It was also pointed out that though the then E-in-C assured in 2004 to refer the case to DOP&T for a final decision, nothing has materialized till this time.

E-in-C was kind enough to assure that matter would be taken up with the appropriate authorities for the creation of supernumerary posts, if rules permit, for granting justice to the deprived candidates, at the earliest.

I request your good self to kindly take necessary steps to ensure justice to the aggrieved staff members who are deprived of their promotion against the vacancies for the above mention period.

Thanking you.

Sincerely yours

(Anilkumar S.) President,

Grant of SDA to the employees of EZ posted to NEZ after Bifurcation:

While the employees of All India Transfer cadres are eligible for getting Special Duty Allowance (SDA) for serving in North east Zone, the employees from the cadres of SEA & below were deprived of it with reason that their transfer liability is within the zone including the North eastern States (prior to bifurcation when it was a combined East Zone). But after the bifurcation, ARTEE demanded that the employees from the cadres of Sr.Tech, EA & SEA being transferred from East Zone to NE Zone should

also get the SDA as they are also coming from outside the zone. Though the E-in-C (AIR) has issued the order for granting SDA to these persons, the PAO has not implemented it, pending the financial clearance for the order. Now it has agreed to issue the order with the financial approval as demanded by the PAO. We are following up the matter with the Directorate for the implementation at the earliest. Copy of one of the letter is reproduced below.

Director General
(Kind attention Sh. S.P.Pant, DDA(E))
Akashvani Bhawan, New Delhi.

Ref No. ARTEE/P/DG(AIR)/2006/14, dated 29/12/06

- Ref: 1. Minutes of the meeting taken by E-in-C on 09/10/2006(Minutes dated 08/12/2006)
2. Order No.14/32/2002-SIV(A) Vol.I dated 6th September 2004
3. Letter No. ARTEE/P/ENC(AIR)/2006/07 dated 17-07-2006

Sub: Grant of SDA to the employees of EZ posted to NEZ.

Sir,

Kindly refer to the meeting held with the Engineer-in-Chief, AIR on 09/10/2006 in which it was brought to the notice of the chair that the order issued in September 2004, for granting NE package to the staff posted from EZ to NEZ, has not been implemented citing that approval was not there from the Finance wing for grant of SDA. We have clarified that the Association has already provided a copy of the order issued by the Directorate in September 2004. Further we have submitted one copy of the said order in that meeting also.

The E-in-C thereafter assured that the proper order will be issued shortly, in consultation with Finance wing. But nothing has materialized till now.

I request your good self to kindly take necessary steps to issue the proper order at the earliest.

Thanking you.

Sincerely yours

(Anilkumar S.), President,

Merger of Cadres:

After our vigorous efforts in all the meetings of RR committee as well as with CEO and other officials E-in-C, AIR has recommended the merger of Khalasi with Helper and ASE (ADE) with SE(DD) and to open the promotional channel for Diploma/ Certificate holders, a very small percentage to start with. Again we pursued the matter with CEO, Prasar Bharati in which he has assured that merger of these cadres will be taken separately with Prasar Bharati Board, as it was not recommended by the chairman of the committee.

As mentioned in the Nov-Dec 2005 issue of Filament Prasar Bharati Board approved the proposal for the merger of Sr.Tech with EA and SEA with AE, in the Board meeting held on 17th November at Mumbai.

The decision of the Board was to be approved by the

nodal Ministries before notifying it. Though we were following it up regularly, it was a time consuming process for the authorities to clear the queries, including financial implications, from time to time by the Ministry. The confusion prevailing over the Prasar Bharati also contributed to it. Meanwhile the Ministry of finance has directed all Ministries to refer all matters related with cadres and scale to the 6th Central Pay Commission. Accordingly this has been referred to the Pay commission now.

As mentioned in detail in the Nov-Dec 2005 issue of Filament, *if it is implemented it will be a historical achievement for the Engineering cadres of AIR & Doordarshan as a number of hurdles in the career prospects of our cadre members including Technician and EA will be removed.*

Opening promotional Channel for Diploma holder AEs and ITI holder SEAs:

After relentless efforts from ARTEE, legally as well as organizationally, the authorities were compelled to agree in principle to take steps towards removing the stagnation of Diploma/B.Sc holder AEs by considering the promotion on the basis of differential length of service and Selection grade. We have provided supporting documents and other relevant data for a draft proposal. The proposal faced hindrances from our officials in the Directorate itself. After a number of meetings with various officials, the proposal was approved by E-in-C and DG and then sent to Prasar Bharati Board and Ministry of I&B for approval. The principle adopted in the scheme is differential length of service for Graduate Engineers and Diploma/BSc Engineers. As per the proposal, eligibility criteria for Graduate Engineer will be three

years and that for Diploma/BSc Engineer will be six years. Though the Hon'ble Minister, in the meeting held on 19th July 2006 has agreed in principle with the proposal, the same was to be approved by Prasar Bharati Board before being processed by the Ministry. The board advised the DG (AIR) to get the approval verified by an outside expert agency. Though there were options for private agencies, DG (AIR) decided to send it to the National Productivity Council (NPC). Accordingly the proposal was referred to NPC. We have also approached NPC for a hearing before finalising their proposal.

Meanwhile this case has also been referred to the Pay commission as per the directive of the Ministry of finance.

Selection Grade for AEs:

After continuous demands by ARTEE, a proposal for Selection Grade in the pay scale Rs.8000-13500 for

the AEs having completed ten years of service in the cadre has been sent to the Ministry through Prasar

Bharati along with the financial implication as per the formula provided by the Ministry. As the financial implication in reality would be much less than what is projected, Association has calculated the financial implication on practical grounds and submitted to the authorities. ***(The financial implication calculated by the directorate as per the formula given by***

Prasar Bharati was more than Rs.3 Crores per annum but the practical calculation shows places this figure just above Rs. 42 Lakhs per annum). Though it was in the final stage of approval in the Directorate it has also been referred to the Pay Commission now.

UPDATE ON ACP

The scheme of Assured Career Progression (ACP) as envisaged in the 5th Central Pay Commission report has not been granted to our cadres in the name of Prasar Bharati scales, inspite of repeated demands from this Association. On one hand the promotions in our cadres are getting delayed while on the other hand we are being deprived of the ACP without offering time scale or any alternative from Prasar Bharati. We have been continuously taking up the matter with the authorities from time to time. But unfortunately the DOP&T repeatedly turned down our demand by advancing

reasons like:

1. ACP was offered by V pay Commission but our scales are higher than those recommended by Pay Commission and thereby no stagnation in the cadre.
 2. The scales given to Technician & EA has already crossed the scales which should have been given to the cadres as per ACP scheme.
- Cases have been filed by our members at CAT Kolkata, which are at an advance stage of being heard by the hon'ble court.

Recommendations of Disciplinary Committee:

A meeting of disciplinary committee presided by Sh. J.Sengupta (Chairman) was held in Mumbai on 19/20 Nov 2006. All members of disciplinary committee were present.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|----------|
| [1]. Sh. J.Sengupta | Chairman | | |
| [2]. Sh. Umesh Chandra | General Secretary & Secy. Disciplinary Committee | | |
| [3]. Sh. Sunil Thapliyal | VP (TV) | [4]. Sh. Prokash Chakraborty | VP (AIR) |
| [5]. Sh. R.Raman | VP (SZ) | [6]. Sh. Yogesh Kumar | VP (NZ) |
| [7]. Sh. Millind P. Joshi | VP (WZ) | [8]. Sh. Maloy Kr. Das | VP (EZ) |
| [9]. Sh. Dip Bordoloi | VP (NEZ) | | |

Chairman presented a preliminary report about anti association activities.

After detailed deliberations disciplinary committee recommended following decisions unanimously.

1. **Sh. Hari Gopal Sharma:** A charge sheet will be issued to Sh. HariGopal Sharma regarding his continued anti association activities and violation of the instructions of president. He will be asked to reply within a stipulated period and he is suspended from the post of Sec(AE) and primary membership for six months. His activities will be monitored and reviewed in next CWC.
2. **Sh. Manoj Kr. Gupta:** Shri Manoj Kumar may be allowed to take part in Association activities. He will work with General Secretary and under the discipline of the Association. Sh. Gupta will be asked to restrain himself from doing any work independently, not to meet and retrained himself writing to authority independently. His activities will be discussed at CWC meeting and further necessary action will be taken.
3. **Sh. D.P. Singh:** Similar action as Shri Manoj Kumar Gupta.
4. **Sh. B.L. Meena:** Similar action as Shri Manoj Kumar Gupta.
5. **Sh. Ram Prakash Sharma:** Since no further anti association activity is reported from Shri Sharma, he will be given one more chance to reply about inclusion of his name in the illegal declaration by Sh. B.S.Meena. His activities will be discussed at CWC meeting and further necessary action will be taken.
6. **Sh. Dabashish Chowdhury:** A charge sheet will be issued to Sh. Debashish Chodhury for his continued anti association activities and violation of the instructions of president. He will be asked to reply within a stipulated period and he is suspended from primary membership for six months. His activities will be monitored and reviewed in next CWC.
7. **Sh. R.K. Bajpai:** The letter of Sh. R.K. Bajpai to the President in response to show cause notice required consideration. He may be informed accordingly.
8. **Sh. A.K. Gupta:** Keeping in view of the letter of Sh. Gupta to President, his reply is found satisfactory. Since his expulsion was done by CWC which is a bigger body so this committee is not empowered to revert it. His case may be referred to CWC for consideration and he may be informed accordingly.

(UMESH CHANDRA)

General Secy. & Secy. Disciplinary Committee

Minutes of Central Council Meeting in Mumbai 21.11.2006

Agenda Point No. [1]. : President's Address: In the beginning President addressed the house and briefed about current scenario of department, various on going activities and Association's efforts towards different issues. He expressed Association's resolve for carrying on the campaign till the issues are settled in our favor. He also appealed to the house to remain determined and united. He also informed the house about the status of new recruitment.

Agenda Point No. [2]. GOM Progress and Status – Current Scenario: GOM Progress is informed and reviewed in the house. President who is also the Chairman of NFADE told the house about a meeting that NFADE held with Sh. Shiv Raj Patil, Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman of GOM. NFADE also gave a power-point presentation. Sh Patil was duly informed about the status of employees and about the growing dissatisfaction amongst the employees of Akashwani and Doordarshan for their uncertain future. He informed the house that Sh. Patil was convinced and he himself realized the necessity of Public Broadcaster. President also informed the house about NFADE's efforts for political lobbying. Apart from GoM, President informed the house that the Parliamentary Standing Committee has also been taken in confidence. NFADE has also approached the Chairman (Parliament Standing committee) Sh. Nikhil Kumar and some other members of PSC. PSC has also expressed its opinion in favour of one Public Broadcaster. President also told that the battle appears to be long-drawn as some of the ministers of GoM do not appear to be positively inclined towards the need for Public Broadcaster. These ministers have their own set of presumptions, and our efforts are on to place the facts before them and convince them as well. President also asked VP's to approach the Political personalities through different sources and try to raise the issue at various forums. This message needs to be carried to all the members.

Agenda Point No. [3]. Sixth Central Pay Commission: House conveyed its feelings about growing apprehensions of members throughout the country as to whether employees of AIR & DD are being included and considered in Sixth CPC or not. General Secretary informed the House that all precautions are being taken and efforts are being made that members get the benefit of Sixth CPC. He informed the house that during a meeting with the Chairman (GoM) this issue was also highlighted and after inquiring the legal status of employees (Clarified by Secretary I & B that we are legally Central Govt. employees.) Sh. Patil assured that he would also write to VI CPC about this.

House also expressed its apprehension about disturbing and derogatory Terms of reference about

new pension scheme. House was informed to remain fully prepared for launching agitation to counter any such eventuality.

General Secretary informed the house that we've been asked to submit our submission to CPC through Min of I&B, which is being prepared to be submitted upto 31st Dec'2006. House formed a small committee under the Chairmanship of General Secretary and it was decided to take the help of Sh. B. L. Sankaran, Sh. R.Dasgupta, Sh. J.Sengupta and other senior leaders who prepared report at the time of V CPC. Suggestions were also invited from all VPs.

Agenda Point No. [4]. Organizational Matters:

Registration & Recognition of Association:

General Secretary informed the house that after undertaking the task of completing the formalities about registration of the Association which were pending for the last 13 yrs, registration was renewed on August 4' 2006 upto 2010. But the Anti Association elements continued their activities and filed a writ petition in Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad challenging the renewal of Registration. To protect the Association from virtual Collapse, immediate steps were taken and a quality lawyer was fielded to protect the Renewal. House expressed its happiness with the information that the case has been rejected at the preliminary stage itself. GS informed that even in this critical financial situation we have to spend a huge amount of money to defend the case to protect the Association.

But, even after that Sh. Xevius Condapan (MP-Rajya Sabha) from North East asked a question in Parliament about the status of recognition of Associations. The reply by Hon'ble minister of I&B, Sh. Priyaranjan Dasmunshi that 'no association is recognized but there are associations which are taking up matters of staff welfare' created peculiar circumstances within the department.

House was also informed that a petition under RTI Act is filed in O/O Chief Engineer (NZ) challenging the facilities extended to the General Secretary of the Association Sh. Umesh Chandra and other office bearers of ARTEE throughout the country while this association is not recognized. Many specific objections were raised through this petition, which an outsider has no concern. Presently North Zone office has adopted an anti welfare attitude on the basis of the writ petition. This tendency may spread in other offices also.

House expressed its shock that how an MP from North East has any concern about the recognition of our association. Clearly there are some anti association elements behind the petition who want to damage the association for their vested interests.

House condemns these elements and asked President and General Secretary to take all steps including legal if required.

Anti Association Activities : House was informed by General Secretary who is also the member secretary of Disciplinary Committee about recommendations of disciplinary committee.

Central Council has accepted the recommendations of Disciplinary committee and asked General Secretary to inform the concerned office bearers accordingly.

Financial Status and alternate ways to raise funds

House informed that Sh. Ram Shanker has not returned Fixed deposit certificate despite regular reminders.

Sh. Sunil Thapliyal (Officiating Treasurer) reported to the house that Financial Conditions are very pathetic. We don't have money to meet our day-to-day expenditures and to fight cases in court. He informed the house that we are running in deficit due to various court cases and for expenses on welfare activities. He suggested that the present deficit budget need to be balanced.

All VP's were instructed to raise funds through donations in legal fund. It was also decided to raise funds through Rs. 100/- emergency coupons.

Sh. Maloy Kr. Das (VP-EZ) informed the house that EZ is planning to hold its 5th convention in Kolkata in the month of February 2007. He also requested to grant Rs. 25000/- as loan to meet out preliminary expenses and promised to return atleast Rs. 50000/-. House sanction Rs. 25000/- as loan from LM money and asked VP (EZ) to fulfill his promise.

Sh. Sunil Thapliyal also reported that in their observations while renewing the Registration Asstt. Registrar of Society instructed to get the Accounts audited by a Chartered Accountant since transactions of the Association are above Rs. 50000/- per year. So now onwards all the bills sent should be well supported by documents to avoid the difficulty in auditing. There is also a need for this Association to acquire PAN no. from Income Tax Department.

Agenda Point No. [5]. Merger of Cadres by Prasar Bharati: House was informed that finance wing of Min I&B rejected this proposal initially, but with Association's continuous pressure the proposal is again being sent to Ministry. In the light of Sixth CPC all cadre based proposals are being kept pending on the pretext that Sixth CPC is in possession. House resolved to continue its effort for the same.

Agenda Point No. [6]. Selection Grade for AEs : House was informed that a proposal is passed by DG (AIR) and due to be discuss in PB board meeting. In the light of Sixth CPC all cadre based proposals are

being kept pending on the pretext that Sixth CPC is in possession. House resolved to continue its effort for the same.

Agenda Point No. [7]. Seniority of DR-02 EAs of East Zone: President informed that it is linked with the new recruitment drive for EAs and we are assured that at the time of recruiting New EA it will be solved.

Agenda Point No. [8]. Status of Promotions in all cadres: Status of promotions in all cadres is being discussed and reviewed. President informed the house about our efforts to bring transparency. We made all efforts and succeeded in publishing results of SEA to AEs result on the Internet. He also assured the house to continue such efforts.

Agenda Point No. [9]. Court Cases Update:

[1]. New EA Scale: House was informed that the case being backed by ARTEE has been in favour of the new EAs with favorable comments. Our department sent the proposal to Finance Ministry for seeking its opinion*.

- *As per latest information received finance Ministry has instructed Prasar Bharati to file an appeal in High Court. Due to acute financial shortage ARTEE needs money to defend the case. All new EAs are requested to send Rs. 500/- or more in Legal fund so that we can take the services of some good lawyer in High Court.*

[2]. Case file by Sh. S.K. Nim (Unit Secy. DDK Delhi): A case against extension for CWC in previous term was filed in June 2005 against previous body of ARTEE. Case has lost its merit as a new body has taken over after the elections. House was informed that the case might be listed for a hearing in March'07. House desired that the case be taken back to save the expenditure of ARTEE. It was resolved that such a feeling would be conveyed to Sh. Nim.

[3]. Case to be filed for Newly Recruited Tech.: Central Office is being approached with a demand for filing a case for granting scale of Rs. 4500/- to newly recruited Technicians on the lines of New EAs. Demand is being considered and a format to collect data of newly recruited technicians, who are willing to file a case in their name, would be published in FILAMENT. But again Association has no money to file and contest the case. Sh. Maloy Kr. Das (VP-EZ) desired that if allowed he can file a case in Kolkata. House agreed and asked him to go ahead.

Agenda[10]. Constitutional Amendments in view of recent experience: It was unanimously felt that although though ARTEE's constitution is an exhaustive one, but there are not enough provisions for handling situations like the one's occurring in recent past. There were some other issues, which required a comprehensive constitutional provision. The house

therefore felt the need for an amendment/ revision of our constitution. With the approval of the house it was decided to form a committee to review the constitution and to suggest requisite amendments. The committee includes;

Sh. Prokash Chakraborty	VP(AIR)	Chairman
Sh. Umesh Chandra		member Secretary
Sh. J.Sengupta		member
Sh. Kashinath Mukherjee		member

Committee will submit its recommendations within Six Months.

A[11]. Voter List for new Election : As it is known a committee under the chairmanship of Sh. Sudhir Nayyar consisting Sh. Prakash Thapliyal, EA, AIR, BH, New Delhi, Sh. Sanjay Saxena, SEA EDP Cell, DG AIR and Sh. Surender Kumar (AE), P & D Unit, AIR with General Secretary as Member Secretary was constituted and functioning. GS informed the house that the committee is functioning and verifications up to 8000 members is already done. House approved the efforts and asked to go ahead.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

(UMESH CHANDRA), General Secy.

TOUR REPORT

[Milind.P. Joshi, Vice.President (WZ)]

Immediately after the Central Council meeting, the President, General Secretary and all the seven Vice Presidents addressed a General meeting of the members from various stations of Mumbai at the conference hall of DDK Mumbai. It was a golden opportunity for the members of Mumbai to have a direct interaction with the Central Council. All our members were satisfied to know about efforts of ARTEE and the developments taking place at Delhi.

Thereafter the West Zone team along with the President & VP (AIR) visited the following places and meetings were held at:

- **Pune:** Staff members from DDK Pune, AIR Pune, AIR & LPT Satara attended the meeting.
- **Kolhapur:** members from AIR/HPT Ratnagiri, AIR/LPT Sangli, LPTs:- Karad, Patan, Rajapur, Devrokh, Kankavli, Ichalkaranji attended the meeting.
- **Solapur:** members from IR Solpur & LPTs:- Barshi, Akkalkot, Osmanabad, Umerga, Akluj.
- **Parbhani:** members from HPTV Ambajogai, LPTs Dharmabad, Hingoli, Jalna, Nanded, AIR & LPT Beed.
- **Akola:** AIR/LPT Akola, Rissod, Washim, Daryapur, Aheri, Amrawati, Chandur Rly, Karanja, Dhule.
- **Nagpur:** AIR/DDK/SPT Nagpur, LPTs Pulgaon, Hinganghat, Arvi, Bhandara.
- **Raipur:** AIR/DDK/DMC Raipur, LPTs Konta, Baliadila, AIR & DDK Jagdalpur.
- **Jabalpur:** AIR/DDK Jabalpur, LPTs Katni, Narsingpur, Seoni, AIR & LPT Rewa
- **Bhopal:** AIR/DDK Bhopal, Sagar
- **Indore:** AIR/DDK Indore

- **Ahmedabad:** AIR/DDK Ahmedabad, LPTs Raper Meshana, Limadi, AIR/DDK/DMC Rajkot

Shri Anilkumar, Prokash Chakraborty, Milind Joshi, N. L. Deshmukh, V. D. Rewatkar, Y.S. Tahasildar first visited Pune. There After Shri Anilkumar, Prokash Chakraborty, Milind Joshi, N. L. Deshmukh, V. D. Rewatkar, proceeded for the Marathon Tour to Kolhapur, Solapur, Parbhani, Akola & Nagpur. Team of Shri Anilkumar, Prokash Chakraborty, Milind Joshi & A. K. Jain proceeded to Raipur. Shri V. K. Sharma State Secretary & State Committee extended a warm welcome to the first ever President of ARTEE visiting the State. Now it was the turn of M.P State. Shri V.C Saxena welcomed the Zonal Team & President. Meetings at Jabalpur, Bhopal & Indore were very much fruitful & comprehensive. Further the Zonal Team & President visited Ahmedabad. Sh. Vijay Gajjar, State Secretary and State Committee welcomed the Team. Meetings were held at AIR & DDK Ahmedabad.

The ARTEE meeting was followed by NFADE meeting at all places. President, who is the Chairman of NFADE also, addressed NFADE meeting and briefed all the issues and problems related to Prasar Bharati in the meetings. Staff / representatives of different cadres and different Associations including the Head of Offices attended the meetings. President & VP (AIR) from Central Office and VP (WZ) and the other Zonal office bearers addressed the ARTEE meetings. All meetings were followed by interactive session. All the members had active participation in the proceedings.

All members were charged and assured full support in all respect.

REPORT OF STATE SECRETARY - GUJARAT

(Vijay Gajjar)

In continuation to the tour of Sh. Anilkumar S. (Chairman - NFADE & President – ARTEE) Sh. Milind Joshi (VP-WZ, ARTEE) and Sh. A. K. Jain (AGS-TV, ARTEE) to West Zone, they visited AIR & DDK- Ahmedabad.

A meeting of NFADE under the chairmanship of Sh. Anilkumar was held at Akashwani Campus on 2nd December, 2006. The aim of the meeting was to make the staff members aware about the latest developments in Delhi regarding Prasar Bharati and

the activities of Federation. Staff / representatives of different cadres and different Associations from AIR, DDK, LPT and DMC of Gujarat including Sh. Rajesh Jain (SE-AIR – Ahmedabad) attended the meeting. In his speech Chairman briefly described the present critical condition of employees in Prasar Bharati and the struggle/achievements of NFADE. In the present scenario of Globalization – privatization, most deadly weapons used against the government employees are, non-employment, downsizing and outsourcing. The present condition of employees in Prasar Bharati is not safe and the future of Prasar Bharati itself is in dark. Staff members were called upon to be ready for any type of agitation at any time. After realising the seriousness, all the staff members unanimously agreed and assured him to give full support to the leaders of H.Q. and shown their faith in NFADE.

After the meeting of NFADE a meeting was held with Sh. A.K.Gupta (Sg.E. DDK, Ahmedabad). He also assured full cooperation not only to local units but to all units of Federation in Gujarat.

A meeting of ARTEE was also held at DDK, Ahmedabad. Sh. Anilkumar described the activities of ARTEE and its role in federation activities. Sh. Milind Joshi listened to the problems of members and gave satisfactory responses. AGS-TV Sh. A.K .Jain explained the merits of SEA being an All India Cadre.

Prasar Bharati Court case update:

The ongoing case in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on Prasar Bharati, in which NFADE is also a party, the Hon'ble Supreme court directed the Ministry of I &B on 21st November 2006 to file an affidavit within two weeks time to inform the progress on the implementation of Section 11 (transferring employees from Govt to Prasar Bharati). Hon'ble Court has de-linked the NFADE case from the basic case.

Accordingly Ministry and Prasar Bharati have decided to inform the Court that they are ready to take employees at any time to Corporation. Then NFADE had hectic meetings with CEO Prasar Bharati, Secretary I &B and Minister of I&B. Ultimately Govt have filed an affidavit on 12th December seeking more time.

In the verdict on 02nd February 2007, Hon'ble Supreme Court has pronounced that Prasar Bharati has full power to transfer employees from one place

In continuation, I was asked to convey the message to all over Gujarat. So a tour to South Gujarat was planed with Sh. Rahul Pandya (Unit Secretary, AIR & LPT-Daman). On 12th we visited AIR and LPT-Daman, LPT-Dharampur, LPT-Valsad and on 13th visited DMC, AIR, HPTV – Surat. A meeting with local committee of federation at AIR–Surat was held. We also met Sh. D.S. Patel, DMC & HPTV Engineering Head, regarding the local problems as well as regarding the federation. All staff members were informed about the developments and a recorded speech of Sh. Anilkumar delivered at AIR Ahmedabad meeting was circulated. All staff members were appealed to raise the legal fund for NFADE and to strengthen the unity. All staff members were charged. Staff assured full co-operation to NFADE-HQ.

Very next week Sh. Deepak Mehrotra (Vice Chairman NFADE & President ADEA) visited Gujarat. A series of meetings of NFADE were held in AIR-Rajkot on 18th Dec., DDK & AIR-Ahmedabad on 21st Dec, 2006. Staff members of different associations attended the meeting. Sh, Mehrotra gave details of the legal aspects of the cases and the details of meetings held by NFADE with PM, GOM and others. He also described the seriousness of the issue and importance of unity.

to other. The basic case was filed to challenge the authority of Prasar Bharati in transferring the employees).

The Hon'ble Court observed that the question as to whether the Central Government should pass an order in terms of subsection (1) of Section 11 of the Act or not is pending consideration before its highest authority for a long time. No decision has been taken for more than nine long years. Despite observations made by the Court, the Central Government has failed and/or neglected to take a decision one way or the other.

The Court directed the DOP&T (Government of India) on 02/02/2007 to take a firm decision in respect of the transfer of employees of AIR & Doordarshan to Prasar Bharati under section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act within a time period of six months. NFADE is in full gear to make use of the opportunity

Nominations/ Appointments

Sh. Govinda Deka	SEA, LPTV Bongaigaon	Assistant Secretary (Organising), North East Zone
Sh. Probin Ch.Bhuyan	SEA, O/o CE NEZ, Guwahati	Assistant Secretary (Publicity), North East Zone
Sh.Dipok Kumar Sharma	SEA,LPTV Diphu	Organising Secretary, Assam
Sh. Jugal Jyoti Likhok	Sr.Technician,DDK Guwahati	Publicity Secretary, Assam
Sh. H.Diengdoh	EA, AIR Shillong	Organising Secretary, Meghalaya
Sh.Antoni War	EA, DDK Shillong	Publicity Secretary, Meghalaya
Sh.L.Sarat Chandra Singh		Organising Secretary,Manipur
Sh Vereingam Vasumow	EA, LPTV Ukhrul	Publicity Secretary,Manipur

Attention Unit Secretaries and members!

Association has decided to update the data of members and we are also considering issuing photo identity cards to our members. All members are requested to send their details in the format given below through their respective unit secretaries at the earliest. Vice Presidents and State Secretaries are requested to monitor the process to ensure that the details of all members from every unit in their zone and states are reaching the headquarter at the earliest.

Association of Radio & Television Engineering Employees (ARTEE)

(Form for Updating members details)

LM No: _____

Name: _____

Father's Name: _____

Designation: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Date of Joining Service: _____

Place of Joining Service: _____

Cadre of Joining Service: Helper Technician Engg. Asstt.

Qualification: _____

Present Place of Posting: _____

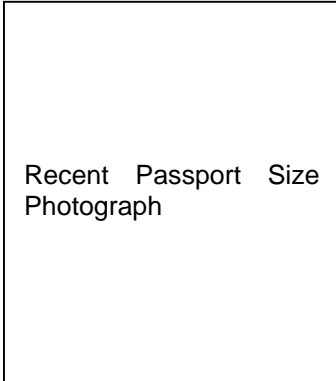
Permanent Home Address _____

Contact No: _____

Mobile No: _____

E-mail address, if any: _____

Blood Group: _____



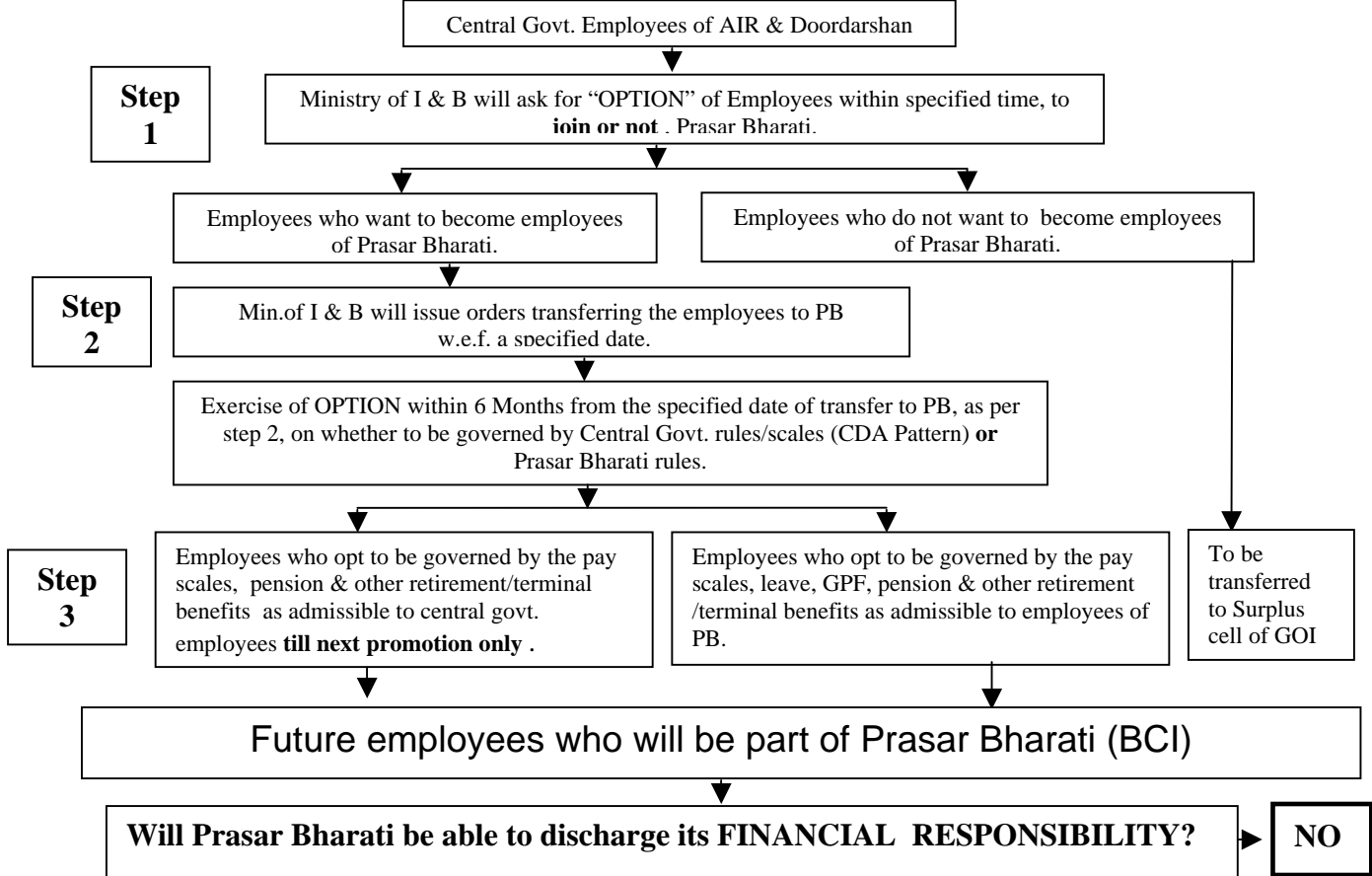
Signature
Name:

Name & Signature
of Unit Secretary (ARTEE)

Obituary

With deep sorrow we inform the sad news of the untimely demise of **Sh. Chittabrato Majumdar**, Hon'ble Member Parliament, General Secretary CITU & Member Polit Bureau, CPI(M). He was always a supporting force in our movements to protect the interest of the employees of this organisation may it be the Day long Dharna held in 30th November 2004 or organizing the meeting with Hon'ble Prime Minister on 12 August 2005. We salute the works of Comrade Majumdar.

**Scheme of
Transfer of AIR & Doordarshan Employees to Prasar Bharati (Section 11 of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990)**



Why ? → Balance Sheet of Prasar Bharati - in Rs.(Crores)

Year	Income	Expenditure	Loss	Grant-in-aid	Loan
2000-01	531.50	1587.77	1056.27	851	204
2001-02	537.03	1629.27	1092.24	863	229
2002-03	577.76	1768.19	1190.43	890	300
2003-04	570.61	1670.24	1099.63	910	189
2004-05	515.36	1554.24	1038.88	822	217

Liabilities of PrasarBharati under Non-plan 2005-06 = Rs.709.23 Crore
Additional Liabilities (interest on Government Loan & spectrum charges and space segment charge-along with arrears)= Rs. 987.50 crore (as on March 2005).
Concessions on a/c of sales tax, vat octroi, entry tax etc. will be stopped resulting in huge tax liabilities.

Most important: Section 11 will not protect our Pay/ Allowances/ Pension.

What is our Future ?

Hon'ble GoM in its Meeting held on 31 August 2006 discussed about issuing Public Share Rs. 4800 Crores of PB to cover its losses. If it implemented it will be first step to Privatize Prasar Bharati.

So NFADE DEMANDS –

**REPEAL PRASAR BHARATI ACT
or**

AMEND SEC-11 TO KEEP EMPLOYEES & ASSETS IN GOI UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OF PB.

Nominations/ Appointments

Sh Deepak S	Technician, HPT, AIR Malad, Mumbai	Assistant Secretary (Organising), West Zone
Sh. A.D.Mantri	SEA, DDK Mumbai	Assistant Secretary (Publicity), West Zone
Sh.Deepak Choudhary	SEA,AIR, Patna	Organising Secretary, Bihar
Sh. B.K.Roy	Technician,DDK Patna	Publicity Secretary, Bihar
Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta	SEA, HPT, AIR Kingsway Camp	Organising Secretary, Delhi
Sh. Mritunjaya Kumar	EA, DDK Delhi	Publicity Secretary, Delhi
Sh.Vijay H.Sonawane	Technician, AIR Pune	Organising Secretary, Maharashtra
Sh Ashok A Kale	Sr.Technician, LPTV Washim	Publicity Secretary, Maharashtra
Sh. S.K.Debta	Technician, AIR Sambalpur	Organising Secretary, Orissa
Sh.B.P.Nandal	SEA, DDK Bhubaneshwar	Publicity Secretary, Orissa
Sh. S.S.Raut	AE, LPTV Akola	Co-ordinator, DMC Akola, Maharashtra
Sh. M.R.Kadiyal	Technician, LPTV Kolhapur	Co-ordinator, DMC Kolhapur, Maharashtra
Sh.G.N.Choudhary	Technician, LPTV Bhusawal	Co-ordinator, DMC Bhusawal, Maharashtra
Sh.P.K.Sahu	Technician, LPTV Chhattarpur	Co-ordinator, DMC Sagar, Madhya Pradesh

New Office Bearers

UNIT	UNIT SECRETARY	ASSTT. UNIT SEC.	TREASURER
TVRC Nagercoil (TN)	Smt.Aruna Devi K	Sh.Anuvardeen P	Sh.Jayakumar A
TVRC Saraikele (Jharkhand)	Sh.Bagun Kudada	Sh.Marshall Puri	Sh.Papoo Kumar
AIR Mangalore (Karnataka)	Sh.Sudheesh K Nair	Sh.Umesh	Sh.Raveendra
DDK&AIR Santiniketan (WB)	Sh.Amarnath Das	Sh.Chandan Roy Choudhury Sh.Murari Mohan Sarkar	Smt. Bithi Dey
TVRC Goalpara (Assam)	Sh.Sanjib Dutta	-	-
AIR Puri (Orissa)	Sh.T.Nahak	Sh.A.K.Verma	Sh.M.R.Tripathy
TVRC Dhanbad (Jharkhand)	Sh.B.B.Singh	Sh.L.B.Chowdhury	Sh.T.K.Roy Chowdhury
AIR Ziro (Arunachal Pradesh)	Sh.B.K.Sutradhar	-	-
DDK Gorakhpur (UP)	Sh.Shailesh Saran Shukla	Sh.Ravi Shankar Srivastav	Sh.Anup Kumar Sinha

LIFE MEMBERS

LM No	Name	Design	Station	LM No	Name	Design	Station
8269	Sh.Anoop Ram	Helper	DDK Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	8284	Sh.N.Santhosh Kumar	EA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)
8270	Sh.N.K.Singh	Helper	DDK Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	8285	Sh.Alphons Pinto	SEA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)
8271	Sh.B.D.Ram	Helper	DDK Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	8286	Sh.N.Jayaram	Sr.Tech	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)
8272	Sh.R.M.Mahato	Helper	DDK Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	8287	Sh.S.V.Rgothaman	Tech	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)
8273	Sh.Dilip Kumar	Helper	DDK Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	8288	Sh.M.S.Mani	Helper	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)
8274	Sh.M.K.Raut	Helper	DDK Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	8289	Sh.S.Punitha Ramani	AE	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)
8275	Smt.I.Sujatha	SEA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8290	Sh.P.J.Ravi Kumar	AE	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)
8276	Smt.J.Marry Fabiola	SEA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8291	Sh.R.Gajendra	EA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)
8277	Smt.D.Rama Devi	SEA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8292	Sh.C. Sadanandam	EA	LPTV Jagtial (Andhra Pr..)
8278	Smt.Udaya Kantha Rao	SEA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8293	Sh.S.K.Srivastava	AE	LPTV Rasra (UP)
8279	Sh.H.S.Suresh Kumar	EA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8294	Sh.Shiv Shankar Ram	SEA	LPTV Rasra (UP)
8280	Sh.N.Manjunatha	EA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8295	Sh.Akhilesh Singh	Tech	LPTV Rasra (UP)
8281	Ms.K.Vijayalakshmi	EA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8296	Sh.Kanhaiya Ram	Tech	LPTV Rasra (UP)
8282	Ms.Sheela Jose	SEA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8297	Sh.Digambar H. Pandey	Sr.Tech	DDK Nagpur (MS)
8283	Ms.Indira C	EA	DDK Bangalore (Karnataka)	8298	Sh.Ki.Suryaprakash Rao	EA	LPTV Srikakulam (Andhra Pr.)

List of LM upto No.8540 will be published in subsequent issues.

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