



FILAMENT

Newsletter of Association of Radio & Television Engineering Employees (ARTEE)
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Editor: Pulak Ray

January-April- 2010

Group of Ministers for implementation of Prasar Bharati Act 1990!

Government of India reconstituted the Group of Ministers under the chairmanship Sh. P. Chidambaram, Hon'ble Union Minister for Home Affairs. Other members are Sh.S.Jaipal Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development, Sh.Veerappa Moly, H'ble Minister of Law, Sh. Salman Khurshid, H'ble Minister for Company Affairs, Smt.Ambika Soni , H'ble Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Sh. A. Raja , H'ble Minister for IT & Telecommunications, Sh. Prithviraj Chavan H'ble Minister of State for Personnel, Minister of State for Finance.

It is learnt that the GOM in its meeting held on 16th April 2010 discussed the issue of Financial restructure in detail in which CEO Prasar Bharati claimed that Prasar Bharati is in a position to earn at least 50% of the expenditure under non-plan head of Prasar Bharati. It is learnt that the GoM agreed to provide the remaining 50% as interest free loan. Immediately, Federation submitted a letter demanding meeting with Hon'ble MIB to clarify the financial reality in Prasar Bharati (Letter reproduced on the next page). NFADE is also approaching members of Hon'ble GoM to apprise them of the clear picture of PB.

On one side, it is good news that the Hon'ble Minister of State for I&B informed the Parliament on various questions that the demand of NFADE, to Repeal PB Act, has been included in the agenda of the GoM. But, on the other side, Hon'ble Minister of State replied in the Parliament to various questions that the Ministry is in the process of implementing the decision of GoM by amending section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act. This is another example of lack of any clear stand on the issue of Prasar Bharati.

Meanwhile Prasar Bharati Secretariat started formalities for re-notification of recruitment rules and to prepare the service conditions for the employees recruited after 05.10.2007 and for future recruitments. It is also learnt that Prasar Bharati is still making efforts for recruitment of 3600 posts on 5 year contractual system. On the other hand efforts are taking place to implement the recommendations of National Productivity Council (NPC). NPC has submitted recommendations without

carrying out any study on different types of working system in various stations of AIR & DD. The report was rejected by the directorates of both AIR & Doordarshan, immediately after its submission. The NPC report proposes to curtail 50% of the present regular employees to make Prasar Bharati a financially viable organization (in addition to the assurance from the Govt to grant salary for the employees joined upto 05.10.2007). It is contrary that the same Prasar Bharati has been demanding the Govt and GoM for the sanction to fill up the vacant posts (more than 12000) in AIR & DD and on the other hand planning to run the organization with half of the present strength. Same is the condition for Finance: PB used to maintain a reserve fund of Rs.550 Crores to face any exigencies. It is learnt that more than Rs. 400 crores has been used up to meet the day-to-day expenditure, in addition to the Grant-in-aid from the Govt and the income from AIR&DD under IEBR. The organization has suffered a lot in the maintenance of assets and equipments for the last several years due to the shortage of funds. Such an organization presenting a glory picture to GoM that they can earn revenues to the extent of 50% of the annual expenditure, which is bound to increase regularly due to increase in maintenance costs of the huge assets in accordance with the inflation in the market and other monthly expenditures like DA and other facilities to the employees. In its meeting the CEO, NFADE demanded that, Prasar Bharati must not start any process including framing of RR for Prasar Bharati, till the GoM & Govt decide on our demand of Repealing Prasar Bharati Act. NFADE warned Prasar Bharati Management of severe agitation if they go ahead with the process of recruitment for PB. Copies of letter in this regard to PB and representation to GoM are available on NFADE & ARTEE website.

It is the high time for us to expose the reality in front of the political leadership, intellectuals and masses of the country for whom we are functioning as National & Public Service Broadcaster. Take it as a challenge to approach influential people of the country to save the organization from further turmoil.

Be united irrespective of differences, if any. Be ready for any call from the Federation

Central Council, in the meeting held on 07/5/2010 at Delhi, decided to extend the term of present CWC for another six months, i.e. upto 4th February 2011 due to uncertainty about the status of employees, ongoing proceedings of the GoM and the Commonwealth Games.

Fruits of UNITY

From the Desk of General Secretary

My beloved Comrades of ARTEE,

It is indeed always a pleasure to talk to all you as, you the grass root member and the most important organ of any organization. I want to discuss the most eminent gesture of Unionism which is always like a hair in eye of management and i.e. UNITY. As you are aware that we are passing through a very crucial phase of our services. I want to take you in 2004 when we all were totally directionless and did not know which way we all were heading. Facilities one after another were being snatched. Talks of mortgaging our stations, withdrawing money from GPF contribution and Pension funds for payment of salary were in the air. A dark was heading towards us and it was sure that by now it would swallowed all of us. Million dollar questions is that PB was notified in 1997 and these developments are not of overnight. What leaderships of various Associations were doing during this period. But when it has gone to the extreme proportions it was the wisdom of some visionary leaders, off course from ARTEE which lead us through the turmoil's. The message was clear UNITE or PERISH.

The batten was handed over to us in March 2006 when previous CWC took over. Job was half done and the struggle was eminent. We started talking up problems one after another from the platform of NFADE without hampering work of ARTEE. I am aware that when you will go for a big task, the challenges posed will also be of the same magnitude. But there were some organizational challenges from corners we never expected. How someone can expect a challenge from the people who have served on the highest posts of this Association and a challenge that can destroy the very existence of this august organization. How these challenges were handled with utmost patience and steered the ship not only out of trouble but also with more strength and power is a history now. Be it any challenge ARTEE came out with flying colors. It was not only because of us, it was because of all of you who were standing behind the leadership us UNITED like a rock and the outcomes were the FRUITS OF UNITY.

The facilities which were snatched were restored one after another. The tactical and logical presentation to Hon'ble GOM resulted in accepting the fact that Prasar Bharati is not at all financially viable. The same was admitted by the Government in Hon'ble Supreme court. The Minutes signed after the historic Mass C/L of 28th Sept'2007 were the first official document in which it was decided to keep the employees of Akashwani & Doordarshan working Prasar Bharati on deemed deputation. The same was ratified by Hon'ble GOM but for employees till 5th Oct 2007. However we are not satisfied but on the basis of these minutes Govt. has also agreed to restore all the facilities. Again the fruit of the UNITY.

Another big doubt which was giving the leadership sleepless nights, the inclusion in 6th Pay Commission. When the above mentioned minutes were signed, a meeting with Prof. Ravindra Dholakia, Member CPC were arranged in Gujarat Bhawan in New Delhi on 4th Oct 2007 where with the help of these minutes the leadership succeeded in convincing him that we are still Govt. Employees hence should get the benefit of Pay commission as well. After listening the arguments and seeing the presentation Prof. Ravindra Dholakia (Hon'ble Member 6th CPC) assured that we all will be included in 6th CPC. When report was published people saw the mention about us that we will be covered by EXTANT RULE. However the report was out but the challenge to implement it was still to come. But leadership was confident that we can face any challenge if we are UNITED which can yield us many FRUITS.

But by this time it was cemented with firm belief in our consciousness that if we all are UNITED, working in tandem and our members are giving us strength. there is no challenge big for us. Rest next time.

With lots of love, red salute and good wishes,
Umesh Chandra,
General Secretary,
umsharma01@yahoo.com, 9871765714

SEA to AE departmental promotion, the tentative vacancies in 75% Competitive Exam. quota (General-31,SC-5,ST-11) and in 25% seniority cum fitness quota (General-12,SC-2,ST-22). Tentative dates for the next examination are September 3,4 and 5 2010. Notification is likely to be issued in the second week of July,2010.



National Federation

of

Akashvani and Doordarshan Employees (NFADE)

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

Website : www.nfade.org

Ref. No. :-

NFADE/ MIB/ 2010/04

Date : 21/04/2010

Chairman
Anilkumar S.
9818759192

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

Secretary General
Kulbhushan Bhatia
9968272157

Sub: Issues raised by NFADE : – request for urgent meeting

- 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: Meeting held with Hon'ble Minister on 15/3/2010
Written assurances by Ministry & CEO Prasar Bharati

Respected Madam,

As your goodself is kindly aware, we, the 38000 employees (ranging from Group D to SAG level officials) of AIR & Doordarshan, proposed to avail one day Mass Casual Leave on 17/3/2010 on part of our 6th phase of agitation.

We have deferred the agitation only after the sympathetic hearing by you and the assurances extended in writing from the Ministry as well as CEO, Prasar Bharati that the demand of NFADE to Repeal Prasar Bharati Act 1990, will be presented in front of the Hon'ble GoM.

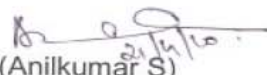
Accordingly we have submitted the main points describing the fate of AIR & DD and its employees after the implementation of PB Act 1990, especially due to the mismanagement in Prasar Bharati (Copy attached) .


But it is very unfortunate that inspite of his assurances, the demand and view points of the employees have not been presented in front of Hon'ble GoM by the CEO, Prasar Bharati, due to the reasons best known to him. On the other hand *it seems that the CEO Prasar Bharati has made deliberate efforts to mislead the Hon'ble GoM by presenting an artificial financial picture of Prasar Bharati, "claiming that the Prasar Bharati earns revenue to meet 50% of the Expenditure". We wonder if your high office is also convinced with the proposal, especially when Prasar Bharati drained out a good amount from the reserve fund to meet the expenditure.*

Under these circumstances, we request your goodself to kindly grant an urgent meeting to this Federation at your convenience so that we can bring the realities to your kind notice.

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours


(Anilkumar S)
Chairman
Ph: 9818759192


(Kulbhushan Bhatia)
Secretary General
Ph: 9968272157

NFADE Movement

Historic MARCH to PARLIAMENT:

NFADE Organized a historical MARCH to PARLIAMENT on 23rd Feb 2010, to emphasize the demand "REPEAL PRASAR BHARATI ACT". The MARCH was attended by more than 3500 employees belonging to all cadres and streams from SAG level to Gr-D. The historic March was addressed by a galaxy of leaders and H'ble Members of Parliament from various political parties and union leaders.

Apart from NFADE Leaders the March was addressed by Shri. Mohd. Amin, Gen.Secy. CITU, MP (CPM) & member Polit Beuro , Advocate. Shri. A. Sampath, MP Loksabha (CPM), Shri. M.B.Rajesh, MP Loksabha (CPM), Shri. Maheshwar Hazari, MP Loksabha JDU, Shri. K.K.N. Kutty, Secy.Gen. (Confederation. of Central Government Employees & Workers) & Shri.

Harvinder Singh, Union leader from Bank of India. All leaders pledged support of their respective organizations. H'ble Member of Parliaments informed that they have already put up questions for the budget session of Parliament. Shri Mohan Singh General Secretary Samajwadi Party who could not attend the meeting due to his preoccupation sent a message pledging support of Samajwadi Party.

NFADE leaders warned that if the Govt. will not take any decision NFADE members will take Mass Casual Leave on 17th March 2010 which will stop the transmission and jeopardize the working of National and Public B'caster. As Press and Media is stated to be fourth Pillar of democracy it will not be good for the democracy of the country.



Shri. Rabin Dasgupta, Founder Chairman & National Advisor addressing the gathering at Doordarshan Bhawan,



Leaders of NFADE Starting the March to Parliament from Mandi House - scene from Copernicus Marg.



March on move - crossing Haily Road



Active Women participation on Barakhamba Road



2 K.M. March Reaching Jantar Mantar



Com.Md.Amin GS. CITU & Honble MP addressing NFADE



Advocate Sampath Hon'ble MP addressing the Gathering



Sh.M.B.Rajesh Hon'ble MP addressing the March



Shri Maheshwar Hazari Honble MP addressing the Gathering



Com.K.K.N.Kutty G.S. Conf. of Central Govt Employees & Workers declaring support of all central Govt. Employees



Sh. Harvinder Singh , Union leader from Bank of India addressing the Gathering at Parliament Street.



More than 3500 employees of AIR and Doordarshan hearing the Leaders at Parliament Street.

Mass Casual Leave

The National Broadcaster was heading for a blackout in the light of Call for Mass Casual Leave by the 38 thousand employees represented by NFADE. Pouring of applications of Mass CL from thousands of Employees of A.I.R. Doordarshan throughout the country compelled the Prasar Bharati and Ministry of I&B to start negotiations from 15-3-2010 and finally the Call for Mass Casual leave on 17-03-2010 was deferred on written assurance from Ministry of I & B and CEO, Prasar Bharati.

Most Immediate

NO.45011/20/2010-BA(P)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

New Delhi, dated 16th March, 2010

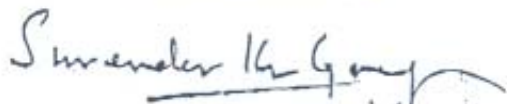
To

The Chief Executive Officer,
Prasar Bharati,
PTI Building,
New Delhi.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your D.O.letter No.CEO/PB/MAR/2010/260 dated 16th March, 2010 addressed to Secretary(I&B) and to state that a delegation of National Federation of AIR & Doordarshan Employees (NFADE) had met the Hon'ble Minister for Information & Broadcasting on March 15, 2010. Their demand was that the Prasar Bharati Act may be repealed. The Hon'ble Minister gave them a patient hearing and it was explained to them that the Prasar Bharati Act is a legislation passed by the Parliament of India and it will not be possible for anyone, at this stage. to give any such assurance. However, the Hon'ble Minister agreed that as and when a proposal with full justifications in this regard is received through proper channel in the Ministry, it would be placed before the Group of Ministers for consideration.

Yours faithfully,


(S.K.Garg) 16/3/10

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel:2338 4547



प्रसार भारती
PRASAR BHARATI



बी. एस. लाली
मुख्य कार्यकारी
B. S. Lalli
Chief Executive
Tel : 2373 7603
2335 2558
Fax : 2335 2549

द्वितीय तल, पी. टी. आई बिल्डिंग,
संसद मार्ग, नई दिल्ली- 110001
2nd Floor, PTI Building,
Sansad Marg,
New Delhi - 110001

No.CEO/PB/MAR/2010/263

March 16, 2010

Dear Shri Kumar,

Please refer to the discussions the NFADE representatives had with me and other officers of Prasar Bharati Secretariat, AIR and Doordarshan today late afternoon about the NFADE's plan for going on mass casual leave on 17.3.2010.

In continuation to my earlier appeals to you not to go ahead with the mass casual leave, particularly in the context of what was discussed in the meeting chaired by Hon'ble MIB yesterday in Shastri Bhavan, it may be recalled that NFADE was asked to formulate their demand for Repeal of Prasar Bharati Act and it was stated in the meeting by the Ministry officials that the terms of reference of the Group of Ministers were broad and this demand of NFADE would be put up to Group of Ministers for their consideration.

In case NFADE forwards their proposal to Prasar Bharati Secretariat on this demand, it will be passed on to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting by us. If necessary we will also discuss this with representatives of NFADE.

In the light of the above, I would once again urge you that NFADE should reconsider their decision and should withdraw their plan for going on mass casual leave on 17.3.2010.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

B. S. Lalli
(B S LALLI)

Shri Anil Kumar
Chairman, NFADE
Room No. 333,
Akashvani Bhavan, New Delhi

New Constitution Amendments

Bye laws: Clauses in which amendments are proposed:

Clause 3. Membership

(new) For All purposes LM and AM will placed by MEMBER and there will be only one type of membership.

3. Membership :

i) All Engineering Employees belonging to All India Radio and Doordarshan are eligible for the membership of the Association. (Old Article 3)

ii.(amended) An employee of Engineering Cadres AIR & Doordarshan paid his subscription of membership and not expelled in Anti Association Activities entitled to get all privileges and protection till his retirement.

3.iii) (a) A member shall lose membership if. [Old Article 5(a)]

(i) He/She acts against the interests of the Association directly or indirectly or **(new) He/She joins any other cadre based association/union of engineering employees and joint platforms where ARTEE is not a constituent, belonging to All India Radio and Doordarshan.**

Clause 9(v) (new) & Any newly formed state in future

Clause 22 Emergency Powers of President (amended) :

ii) The President shall have the power to extend the tenure of the Central Working Committee incase it is not possible to conduct the election in the prescribed time limit **only (deleted) due to Natural or (deleted) (new), National calamities (new) or any extraordinary situation arises within the association, in the department or in the media as a whole.** On such event the tenure can be extended by six month only by citing the reasons for extension, with the approval of the Central Council.

Clause 42. Audit of Accounts: (Old Article 82 modified)

a) Audit of Accounts of the Association:

i) Audit of accounts of the Association shall be done by an outside agency **(amended) i.e.essentially Chartered Accountant/firm** immediately after the completion of every financial year. The President will assign this to a reputed firm (deleted) . **(amended) The President in consultation with General Secretary (new) will assign this to a reputed Chartered Accountant/firm. After auditing Treasurer will handover all financial record General Secretary to send it Registrar of Society after Auditing by a Chartered Accountant Firm and get it audited from there.**

44. Legal Proceeding:

ii) The Association shall sue and be sued in the name of President **(new) but not before giving Association an opportunity to clarify its position on the issue. President** may authorize any member of the Association to initiate legal proceedings in the name of the Association or against Association.

Different Committees and their Strength				
Post	Central Executive	Central Council	CWC	Central Committee
President	1	1	1	1
VP(AIR)	1	1	1	1
VP(TV)	1	1	1	1
General Secretary	1	1	1	1
Addl. General Secretary	1	1	1	1
Treasurer	1	1	1	1
Secretaries	4	4	4	4
VP (Zones)	0	5	5	5
AGS(AIR)	0	0	5	5
AGS(TV)	0	0	5	5
JS(SEA/EA)	0	0	5	5
JS(Sr.Tech/Tech)	0	0	5	5
JS (Helper)	0	0	5	5
Asstt. Sec (Org)	0	0	0	5
Asstt. Sec (Pub)	0	0	0	5
State Sec	0	0	30	30
Org. Sec	0	0	0	30
Publicity Secretary	0	0	0	30
DMC Coordinator*	0	0	0	111
Rep from AIR/DDK	0	0	0	92
NC Member	0	0	1	1
DC Member	0	0	3	3
DG Council Member	0	0	2	2
Editor (Filament)	0	0	1	1
Web Administrator	0	0	1	1
Returning Officer	0	0	1	1
Ex. President	0	0	1	1
Ex. GS	0	0	1	1
Total	10	15	81	354
*NOTE: Number of DMC Co-ordinators will be as many as the numbers of DMCs from time to time				