

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING  
SHASTRI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI**

Subject: Minutes of the meeting taken by Smt. Ambika Soni, Union Minister of I & B with the representatives of Union of Akashvani & Doodarshan (Prasar Bharati) Engineering Employees (UADEE) on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2009.

A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Smt. Ambika Soni, Union Minister of I&B with the representatives of Union of Akashvani & Doodarshan (Prasar Bharati) Engineering Employees [UADEE] on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2009. The agenda items earlier submitted by the Union formed the basis of the discussion. A list of participants is given in annexure-1.

At the outset, Union Minister of I&B welcomed the office bearers of the Union present in the meeting.

**1. Framing of Recruitment Rules & Service Conditions for Prasar Bharati employees:**

The union representatives expressed their strong resentment against inordinate delay in framing of Recruitment Rules & Service Conditions of Prasar Bharati which has tempted to a section of employees to demand for repeal of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990. The union representatives also opposed the proposed amendment of Section 11 of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 in isolation because of its serious repercussions. Instead, they demanded to implement both Section 11 and sub-section 5(i) of Section 3 (Chapter II) of the Act in toto to ensure workers' participation in Prasar Bharati Board. The union representatives argued that continuation of '**deemed deputation**' till the time of retirement through proposed amendment in its present form will jeopardize the future of around 35,000 Govt. employees of AIR & Doordarshan who are being forced to work in Prasar Bharati without any future career progression and promotional avenues.

The Union Minister, after going through the detailed arguments of UADEE representatives, expressed surprise that at no point of time the GoM was approached earlier by any Associations regarding adverse effect of continuous '**deemed deputation**' on the existing employees. The Minister assured to raise the matter in cabinet and asked Secretary and JS (B) to explore the possibility for deferment of proposed amendment of Section 11 so that all the grey areas of the amendment can be addressed to. She also advised UADEE leadership to cooperate the Govt. in fine tuning of the proposed amendments to be moved in near future for amendment of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990. She further said that the points raised by UADEE regarding framing of Recruitment Rules & Service Conditions of Prasar Bharati will be discussed thoroughly in next meeting after getting inputs from the officials of Prasar Bharati.

**(Action: Secretary/Joint Secretary (B))**

**2. Implementation of relevant recommendations of 6<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission (CPC):**

The Union representatives pointed out that few recommendations of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC are yet to be implemented for the employees of Akashvani & Doordarshan such as removal of disparity in the Grade Pay of feeder cadre of Sr. Technician & promotional cadre of Engineering Assistant, merger of EA (pre-revised pay scale Rs 6500-10500) with SEA with Grade Pay of Rs 4600, grant of Grade Pay of Rs 5400 to Assistant Engineers of AIR & Doordarshan after 4 years' regular service in Grade Pay of Rs.4800 (corresponding pre-revised pay scale of Rs 7500-12000) and grant of Modified ACP Scheme. Similarly, the anomalies in the Grade Pay of Technicians/ Engineering Assistants recruited by Prasar Bharati and the existing incumbents also need to be removed. UADEE representatives also expressed their dissatisfaction for inordinate delay in implementing the training scheme for Helpers for upgradation of their pay.

The Minister desired that the anomalies of pay as raised by the Union leadership may be looked into after thorough scrutiny of all supportive documents and official inputs from concerned authorities.

**(Action: Secretary/Joint Secretary (B))**

### **3. Convening of DPCs in time:**

It was pointed out by the representatives of UADEE that DPCs are not being held every year and as per schedule of DoP&T leading to delay in promotion of eligible officers. They said that there is severe stagnation in all cadres from Helpers to STS due to inordinate delay in holding of DPCs for promotions on one pretext or other. They argued that the need of the hour is to hold the pending DPCs to restore the sinking moral of employees.

The minister asked Joint Secretary (B) to take necessary steps to expedite the matter in consultation with DG: AIR.

**(Action: Joint Secretary (B))**

### **4. Strict compliance of Transfer Policy guidelines:**

The representatives of UADEE expressed grave concern on the manner the officers-in-charge of HRD in AIR/TV Directorates and Zonal CE offices have been transferring engineering officers and employees quite selectively with open discrimination and in gross violation of Transfer Policy and thus keeping everyone on tenterhooks. Even the procedure as recently laid down by Prasar Bharati for transferring employees by the Zonal CE offices, after taking inputs from two named unrecognized Associations, is not only discriminatory but also contrary to the well defined Transfer Policy notified by the Ministry of I & B-said UADEE leadership.

The Minister opined that there should not be any violation of Transfer Policy, since the existing transfer policy is quite distinct and emphatically envisages that the person having longer stay in the cadre shall be transferred first except in some exceptional cases. She has asked Joint Secretary (B) to enquire the matter and take necessary action accordingly.

**(Action: Joint Secretary (B))**

### **5. Breach of privilege and unfair labour practice by Prasar Bharati Management:**

The Union representatives expressed their resentment against withdrawing the name of UADEE from the mailing list of DG: AIR with malafide intention, to promote and favour few other Associations of AIR/Doordarshan. They demanded impartial enquiry by any authority to fix the responsibility for indulging in a breach of privileges of Parliament as well as for continuous violation of recognition rules for staff associations/unions, Trade Union act and JCM schemes of Central Government in AIR & Doordarshan.

The Minister expressed her displeasure over the present state of affairs in Prasar Bharati and advised the union functionaries to maintain industrial peace, so that the disputes between the union and management if any can be settled/resolved within the framework of collective bargaining in the greater interest. She further desired that the Secretary (I&B), after thorough study of left out agenda points will take another meeting with UADEE at the earliest possible opportunity.

**(Action: Secretary/Joint Secretary (B))**

Rest of the agenda points could not be discussed due to paucity of time.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

**(Zohra Chatterji)**

Joint Secretary (B) to the Govt. of India,

*Copy to:*

1. PS to MIB.
2. PS to Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of I&B.
3. PS to CEO, Prasar Bharati.
4. PS to DG: AIR/Doordarshan.
5. Shri Debashis Chowdhury, General Secretary, UADEE.

**Annexure-I**

**List of participants in the meeting of Union Minister of I&B with UADEE  
held on 21-07-2009**

**OFFICIAL SIDE**

1. Smt. Ambika Soni, Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting – In Chair.
2. Shri Raghu Menon, Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of I&B.
3. Smt. Zohra Chatterji, Joint Secretary (B) to the Govt. of India, Ministry of I&B.

**UNION SIDE**

1. Shri Bachchu Singh Meena, President
2. Shri Debashis Chowdhury, General Secretary.
3. Shri Hari Gopal Sharma, Vice President (TV).
4. Shri R.R.Shakya, Treasurer.
5. Shri O.P.Rajpurohit, Organizing Secretary.
6. Shri Ram Shanker, Executive Member.
7. Shri Aswini vijaybargiya, Executive Member.
8. Shri A.K.Sharma, Zonal President (NZ).
9. Shri U.S.Rana, Zonal Vice President (NZ).
10. Shri V.Jeyavandhan, Zonal Secretary (NZ).
11. Shri Ravi Bhusan, Joint Secretary (TV), NZ.
12. Shri Rajiv Sharma, Zonal Organizing Secretary(NZ).
13. Shri Ram Aashish Yadav, Executive Member (NZ).
14. Shri A.R.Yadav, State Secretary (Delhi).