

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:447

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011

AGREEMENT BETWEEN PRASAR BHARATI AND PTI

Mishra Shri Mahabal

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the renewal of agreement between Prasar Bharati and United News of India (UNI) and also with Press Trust of India (PTI) as well as the revision of rates is lying pending for many years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Prasar Bharati to expedite the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. JATUA)

(a) to (c): Prasar Bharati, News Services Division, AIR has informed that there is no agreement with PTI and UNI since 01.04.2006. Negotiations have been going on with these agencies regarding subscription charges but the agreement could not be finalized. A Committee for finalization of agreement with the PTI/UNI was constituted by CEO in March 2011, which has submitted its report to Prasar Bharati. The matter was placed before Prasar Bharati Board in its 103rd meeting held on 7th June, 2011. The Board while giving its in-principle approval to the recommendations of the Committee also desired that DG:AIR and DG: Doordarshan should make an assessment of the charges before a final decision is taken by the Prasar Bharati Board. The assessment report from DG:Doordarshan and DG:AIR will be placed before Prasar Bharati Board for approval.