

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1083
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012
NEWS READERS IN NSD
Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

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

- (a) whether almost all the National and regional languages units of the News Services Divisions (NSD) of All India Radio are manned by casual newsreader-cum-translators;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to appoint newsreader-cum-translator on permanent basis?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) In order to ensure uninterrupted news broadcast, national and regional language units of News Services Division (NSD) of All India Radio have to resort to engagement of News Reader -cum-Translators (NRT) on casual assignment basis, as only 41 out of the sanctioned strength of 118 NRTs are in position.

(c) With the amendment of Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, the long standing issues pertaining to the status of employees have been resolved. The amendment inter-alia provides that all employees recruited after 05.10.2007 shall be Prasar Bharati employees. Pursuant to this, the Ministry of I&B and Prasar Bharati have taken steps for the constitution of Prasar Bharati Recruitment Board (PBRB) and Recruitment Regulations for undertaking recruitments. Recruitments can be taken up once the PBRB is set up and the Recruitment Regulations are notified.