

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2193

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2014

PRASAR BHARTI .

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Patil Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Shanavas Shri M. I.;Tripathi Shri Sharad;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government bears fifty per cent of annual budget of Prasar Bharti (PB) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government intends to disinvest its equities in PB Corporation, if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is an urgent need for making professional institutions like Doordarshan and All India Radio self-reliant and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto along with steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate new road map for improving the functioning of the PB; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the other measures taken by the Government to grant full financial and administrative autonomy including recruitment of staff?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.))

(a) As per the approval granted by the Cabinet on 14.09.2012 regarding Financial Restructuring of Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) during the period 2012-13 to 2016-17, Government Non-Plan support is to be made available to Prasar Bharati for meeting 100% expenses towards salary and salary related expenses. Further, Plan Capital support is provided by the Government to Prasar Bharati in the form of Grants-in-aid. For the financial year 2013-14, the Government grant was approximately 58% of the total Annual Budget of Prasar Bharati.

(b) Prasar Bharati is a statutory body and not an entity registered under the Indian Companies Act. At present there is no proposal for disinvestment.

(c) A Group of Ministers (GoM) was constituted, initially in 2006, under the chairmanship of then Hon'ble Home Minister to examine issues pertaining to the functioning of Prasar Bharati. As per the GoM recommendations approved by the Cabinet in 2012, during the period 2012-13 to 2016-17, Government Non-Plan support may be made available to Prasar Bharati for meeting 100% expenses towards salary and salary related expenses on Government servants on deemed deputation to Prasar Bharati. Further, Plan Capital support by the Government to Prasar Bharati is to be in the form of grants-in-aid only and not in the form of loan. Prasar Bharati has undertaken several initiatives to be self-reliant.

(d)&(e) As per the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990, the general superintendence, direction and management of Prasar Bharati is vested in the Prasar Bharati Board which exercises all powers and does all acts and things on behalf of the Corporation, as enshrined in the Act. As per the Act, Prasar Bharati has full functional autonomy to run Doordarshan and All India Radio. Under Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, all officers and employees borne on the cadres of Akashwani and Doordarshan, recruited till 05.10.2007 are on deemed deputation to Prasar Bharati till their retirement. Under sub-section 4 of Section 11 of the said Act, Prasar Bharati has disciplinary and supervisory powers and full control in respect of officers and employees on deemed deputation to the Corporation that includes the power to transfer, suspend, initiate disciplinary proceedings and impose all penalties except that of compulsory retirement, removal or dismissal from service. Under Section 10 of the Act, the Prasar Bharati Board functions as the Recruitment Board for the purposes of appointment to the posts carrying scales of pay which are not less than that of a Joint Secretary to the Central Government in Doordarshan and All India Radio. As regards financial powers, Prasar Bharati has powers to sanction expenditure of less than Rs. 300 Crore for purchases and for execution of contracts including agreements or contracts for technical collaboration or consultancy services.