

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4558
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2014
CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES IN AIR DD
Saraswati Shri Sumedhanand;Simha Shri Prathap

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

- (a) whether a large number of employees in All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD) are working on contract basis since long time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise including presenters/announcers;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to regularise the services of such employees;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said employees are likely to be regularised; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan (DD) has engaged the following type of contractuels:

- i. Special Assignees - 18
- ii. Contractual Engagees - 63
- iii. Ex-BECIL Engagees - 166
- iv. Retired Engagees - 211

Moreover, 306 contractuels are engaged in DD News Headquarters and 41 contractuels are working in the Regional News Units of Doordarshan Kendras.

Prasar Bharati has further informed that All India Radio (AIR) has engaged 125 retired officials, on short term contract basis. Moreover, AIR Headquarters has engaged 116 Data Entry Operators and 38 casual workers through outsourcing agency.

Casual presenters/ announcers are being booked by AIR stations as talent on assignment basis. The number of such casual announcers varies from station to station as per their requirement. Since this is an ongoing process, there is no fixed number of casual presenters/ announcers.

(c) to (e): Prasar Bharati has informed that it is not feasible to regularize services of these contractuels due to the following reasons:

(i) Recruitment has to be done as per the Recruitment Rules. The contractuels of Prasar Bharati have not been engaged by following the Recruitment Rules concerned as most of them do not fulfill the prescribed educational and other qualifications. In view of this, their regularisation would be in violation of the Supreme Court judgment in the case of State of Karnataka Vs. Uma Devi.

(ii) As some of the casuals/contractuels are booked for a maximum of 6 days in a month, their numbers in panels far exceed the number of posts for any particular job.