Title: Need for early settlement of the demands of Akashvani and Doordarshan Administrative staff.

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN (NAGERCOIL): Nearly 1500 staff of Akashvani and Doordarshan administration called for a mass dharna and rally at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 17, 18 May, 2006 demanding removal of wage discrimination in Prasar Bharati.

They went on a month long agitation in August, 2005 and were given assurance of settling the problems in a short while. But now, the matter is likely to be referred to group of Ministers. When the officers, Engineering and Programme staff, are enjoying the benefits for the last eight years, it is unwarranted to refer the issue to the Group of Ministers.

So, I urge upon the Union Government and Information and Broadcasting Ministry to intervene and settle the issue amicably.