

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.03.2011
ANSWERED ON
FINANCIAL RESTRUCTURING OF PRASAR BHARATI .

1151

SHRI N.K. SINGH

Will the Minister of COALINFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government has the intention to financially restructure the Prasar Bharati;
- (b) if so, the action being taken in this direction;
- (c) whether the financial health of Prasar Bharati has deteriorated during the last five years; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a)to(b) Yes Sir. A GoM was constituted on 10.2.2010 to examine various issues pertaining to the functioning of Parsar Bharati under the chairmanship of Home Minister. The GoM has held two meetings on 16.4.2010 and 17.06.2010 wherein various issues pertaining to capital and financial restructuring, manpower and demand of employee organizations of Prasar Bharati were taken up. The GoM has made several recommendations on financial and capital restructuring of Prasar Bharati in these two meetings, which would help in better financial health of the organization. GOM recommendations inter-alia include the following:-

50% of the annual operating expenses of Prasar Bharati should be borne by Prasar Bharati from its Internal Extra Budgetary Resources while remaining 50% from Government grants.

The level of support by the Government may be maintained for the next 5 years i.e. 2010-2011 to 2014-2015 and will be reviewed thereafter.

Space segment and Spectrum charges to be included in the total operational expenses.

Accumulated arrears of Space Segment and Spectrum charges upto 31.3.2010 to be waived.

Section 22 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 may be restored in its original form. The recommendation may be submitted to the Ministry of Finance for its consideration.

Plan capital funding by Government to Prasar Bharati may be in the form of grant-in-aid and not in the form of loan.

Loan-in-perpetuity and capital loan to be converted in to grants

Interest on loan-in-perpetuity, capital loan and penal interest to be waived.

Property and Assets to be transferred on book value to Prasar Bharati. Normal accounting principles will be followed to determine their future value.

Follow up action on these recommendations is underway.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

