

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 3431**  
**(TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2018)**

**AUTONOMY OF PRASAR BHARATI**

**3431. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:**

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

- (a) whether Prasar Bharati, an autonomous body under the Ministry is still enjoying its autonomous status;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has directed the Prasar Bharati to appoint a serving IAS officer as Member (Personnel) on the Board of Prasar Bharati;
- (c) the number of instances where the Ministry tried to impose its authority on the Prasar Bharati and was rejected by Prasar Bharati; and
- (d) whether Government will make all efforts to maintain the autonomous nature of Prasar Bharati?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d): The Prasar Bharati (BCI) Act, 1990, in the 'Introduction' and in the 'Statement of Objects and Reasons' envisages 'to confer autonomy on Akashvani and Doordarshan'.

As per Prasar Bharati (BCI) Act, 1990, Member (Personnel) shall be a person having special knowledge or practical experience in respect of personnel management and administration. The Act does not bar officers of Indian Administrative Service (IAS) for appointment as Member (Personnel) on the Prasar Bharati Board. In the past, officer of the IAS has been appointed as Member (Personnel). Appointment of any member on the Prasar Bharati Board is made by Hon'ble President of India on the recommendation of a committee consisting of: (i) Vice-President of India, (ii) Chairman of the Press Council of India, and (iii) One nominee of the President of India.

The Ministry is compelled to advice/communicate whenever actions of Prasar Bharati have been found to be violating the laws/rules/ instructions on financial prudence of the Government.

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