

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 3437
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2018)

BOARD MEMBERS IN PRASAR BHARATI

3437. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to bring any change in the existing Prasar Bharati Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to appoint Government nominees as Members of the Prasar Bharati Board;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to give financial autonomy to Prasar Bharati; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Based upon the recommendations of Group of Ministers (GOM), draft Prasar Bharati Amendment (BCI) Bill, 2013 to amend the Prasar Bharati (BCI) Act, 1990, was circulated for inter-Ministerial consultation. Subsequently, it was felt that there was a need to further assess and analyse the proposal. Accordingly, the said proposal was withdrawn. There is no further proposal for amendment of the Act.

(c): Section 3(5)(h) of Prasar Bharati (BCI) Act, 1990, provides that 'the Board shall consist of – one representative of the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, to be nominated by that Ministry'. Accordingly, one representative has already been nominated by the Ministry on the Prasar Bharati Board.

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

(e): Does not arise in view of part (d) above.
