

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. \*180  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023)**

**PRASAR BHARATI'S AGREEMENT WITH HINDUSTHAN SAMACHAR**

**\*180. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Prasar Bharati has entered into an agreement with Hindusthan Samachar recently as the sole source for the daily news feed;
- (b) the details of agreement, including payment thereof, from the inception of the arrangement on yearly basis; and
- (c) the reasons due to which Prasar Bharati discontinued the services of PTI and UNI along with the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA  
SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*180 FOR ANSWER ON 16.03.2023**

(a): No, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that they get news feeds from multiple sources including Hindusthan Samachar which is one of the agencies. Hindusthan Samachar was providing services to All India Radio and Doordarshan in 1970s, even before formation of Prasar Bharati. Based on requirement of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Prasar Bharati engaged the services of Hindusthan Samachar.

(b): Prasar Bharati initially signed the agreement with M/s Hindusthan Samachar on 30.01.2020 for 2 National and 4 regional languages. 6 regional services were provided on complementary basis for one year and the same was extended for further two years.

The last agreement with M/s Hindusthan Samachar News Agency was signed on 14.02.2023 which is effective from 14.02.2023 to 31.03.2025 for News Feed for being utilized in the News bulletins and other programmes for TV, Radio, Digital and other modes of dissemination.

(c): Prasar Bharati has informed that it availed the subscription to United News of India (UNI) and the Press Trust of India (PTI) services on the basis of an ad-hoc pro-rata arrangement from the year 2006 onwards. Prasar Bharati had informed UNI and PTI on 15.10.2020 that Prasar Bharati Board had decided to end the ad-hoc arrangement.

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