

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

**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*283**  
**(TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2023)**

**PRASAR BHARATI AND HINDUSTHAN SAMACHAR DEAL**

**\*283. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:**

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

- (a) whether Prasar Bharati has signed a deal with Hindusthan Samachar for its exclusive news wire service;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the reasons for replacing Press Trust of India (PTI) with the said news agency;**
- (d) whether the Government has noted the concerns raised by several opposition leaders and journalists against the Prasar Bharati and Hindusthan Samachar deal; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?**

**ANSWER**

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

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*283 FOR ANSWER ON 21.03.2023**

**(a) to (e): Prasar Bharati has informed that Hindusthan Samachar was providing services to All India Radio and Doordarshan in the 1970s, even before formation of Prasar Bharati. Based on requirement of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Prasar Bharati engaged the services of Hindusthan Samachar.**

**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.**

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

**\*\*\*\*\***