

**Financial assistance to Prasar Bharati**

1467. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has been providing financial assistance to Prasar Bharati;
- (b) if so, the details of such assistance during the last five years;
- (c) whether Government plans to give more autonomy to Prasar Bharati; and
- (d) whether Government plans to turn Prasar Bharati into a self-sustaining organization and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) Government has been providing financial assistance to Prasar Bharati. The details of such assistance given to Prasar Bharati including for Commonwealth Youth Games 2008 and for Commonwealth Games 2010 during the past five years are given hereunder:

(Rs. in crore)			
Year	Non-Plan	Plan	Total
2007-08	974.14	329.87	1304.01
2008-09	1137.12	320.13	1457.25
2009-10	1247.21	328.35	1575.56
2010-11	1412.35	581.80	1994.15
2011-12	1462.35	461.33	1923.68

(c) Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) has been established as an autonomous corporation under Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990, with a view to confer autonomy on Akashwani and Doordarshan, the erstwhile Departments of Government of India.

(d) The Government has taken the following major initiatives in the recent past:

The Group of Ministers (GOM) on Prasar Bharati have undertaken a

comprehensive review of Prasar Bharati and have made several recommendations including amendments to the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990. In pursuance of the recommendations of GOM, the Government has also approved a package for financial restructuring of Prasar Bharati.

The Government has also constituted an Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Shri Sam Pitroda to undertake a review of Prasar Bharati with specific terms of reference. These terms of reference are given in the Statement.

***Statement***

*Terms of reference of Prasar Bharti*

The terms of reference of the Committee constituted to undertake a review of Prasar Bharati are as follows:

1. To suggest measures to sustain, strengthen and amplify Prasar Bharati's role as a Public Broadcaster with special reference to its relationship with Government in the emerging context.
2. To review the status of implementation of the recommendations made by various committees that have undertaken study of Prasar Bharati, namely, the Sengupta committee, the Bakshi Committee and the Narayanamurthy committee and suggest a road map ahead for enhancing the reach and potential of Prasar Bharati.
3. To suggest measures to digitize the archival material in the possession of Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR) including material from Independence Movement era, and develop enabling infrastructure, in the form of data digitalization systems, data centers and networks etc.
4. To suggest ways of using the new media to deliver digital content-both in broadcast mode (DTH) and in a demand-based mode (Free on social media like You-Tube, and on payment through IPTV).
5. To suggest a strategy for creating a network of domestic and overseas business partners for ensuring wider reach to a worldwide audience including creating an exclusive overseas service.
6. Any other statutory issue that the Committee may like to consider.