

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3752  
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2003  
PART-TIME CORRESPONDENTS  
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

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

- (a) whether Prasar Bharati have decided to appoint part-time correspondents in all the districts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith likely expenditure on the same vis-À-vis fee being paid to PTI and UNI for obtaining their services; and
- (c) the reasons which compelled the Prasar Bharati to do away with the services of PTI and UNI?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) : Prasar Bharati has informed that it propose to engage 278 more part-time correspondents, raising their strength to 524. This will entail additional annual expenditure by approx. Rs. 89 lakhs. PTI and UNI are being paid annual fee at the rate of Rs.710.16 lakhs and Rs. 576.78 lakhs respectively.

(c) : The services of PTI and UNI are not being done away with.