

Prasar Bharati Chairman, CEO irked



• [Anuradha Raman](#)

The appointment of Veena Jain as Director-General of Doordarshan News, without seeking the approval of the Prasar Bharati Board, has become a contentious issue with the Chairman of the Prasar Bharati Corporation, Surya Prakash, and Chief Executive Officer Jawhar Sircar taking up the matter.

While Mr. Sircar has, as media reports suggested, shot off a letter to the Chairman complaining about the Ministry's increasing encroachment on an autonomous body, Mr. Prakash met the Minister to persuade the Ministry to change its order.

What had irked Mr. Prakash was that the order was not marked to the Prasar Bharati Board, which, officials in the corporation say, has violated the spirit of the Prasar Bharati Act. The Act states that appointment of the members of the corporation, including directors-general of All India Radio and DD, will be done by the corporation after consulting the recruitment Board.

Since taking over last Friday, Ms. Jain, it is learnt from DD newsroom sources, had not chaired the prime-time edit meetings. It is also learnt that following Mr. Prakash's intervention, the Ministry has been directed to issue a fresh order soon. This time, the Board will be informed of it.

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