

## Prasar Bharati probe: CVC gets documents from I&B

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DECKS have been cleared for initiating investigation into alleged financial irregularities by Prasar Bharati Corporation, with the CVC finally getting all relevant papers from the I&B Ministry last week.

CVC had asked I&B Ministry for all documents and reports of internal inquiries relating to various cases of alleged financial irregularities and violations of rules by Prasar Bharati CEO B S Lalli some months ago. After initial reluctance, apparently because some allegations spill over to the role of the ministry itself, the I&B Ministry sent all the

documents to CVC. "We have received all the papers and one of our officers is investigating into all the allegations," Chief Vigilance Commissioner Pratyush Sinha said.

A CVC probe into allegations against Prasar Bharati was directed by the Delhi HC last year. Lalli has been accused of favouring a particular company in the award of telecast rights of cricket tournaments in violation of CVC guidelines, flouting decisions of Prasar Bharati Board with which he has major differences, paying fees to lawyers far in excess of prescribed rates and failing to establish any internal audit in the organisation. Lalli has denied all charges.