

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:422

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Suman Shri Ramji Lal

**Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend 'The Freedom of Information Act' before it is notified so as to make it more effective, strong and more people friendly;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) whether representations have been received in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(e) the details of States which have passed 'Right to Information Act', while recognizing the right to information as part of the fundamental rights?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS.(SHRI SURESH PACHOURI)

(a) to (d): 'The Freedom of Information Bill, 2002', as passed by the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 3rd December, 2002 and 16th December, 2002 respectively, received the assent of the President on 6th January, 2003, following which 'The Freedom of Information Act, 2002' was notified in the Gazette of India on 7th January, 2003.

Government has received a number of representations/ suggestions for amending the provisions of the Act. These suggestions, along with a proposal to finalise the date from which the Act shall come into force, are being examined and, if necessary, a Bill to amend the Act shall be brought before the Parliament.

(e): According to available information, the states of Tamil Nadu, Goa, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Delhi, Maharashtra, Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir have enacted their own 'Right to Information Act'.