

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2176
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009
IMPACT OF CORRUPTION
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Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether corruption in Indian public life has affected the economic growth and wastes precious national resources;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the second Administrative Reform Commission has made any recommendations on the issue of corruption;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to check the rampant corruption in public life?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (Independent Charge) IN THE MINISTRY OF Science and Technology; MINISTER OF THE STATE (Independent Charge) IN THE MINISTRY OF Earth Sciences; MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF Prime Minister's Office; MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; and MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF Parliamentary Affairs. (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) & (b): It is a general perception that corruption distorts the rule of law and weakens institutions of governance. It also hurts economic growth and wastes national resources.

(c) & (d): The second Administrative Reforms Commission has made certain recommendations on the issue of `Corruption` in its 4th Report titled `Ethics in Governance`. This report focuses on preventive measures for reducing corruption and strengthening vigilance mechanism. In addition to the above, the Commission has made several recommendations to take up initiatives like

- (i) social audit of schemes
- (ii) empowerment of citizens
- (iii) public grievance redressal mechanism
- (iv) ombudsman at local level
- (v) pro-active disclosure of information to ensure transparency
- (vi) district complaints authority etc. which will help indirectly in curbing corruption.

(e) : Government is fully committed to implement its policy of `Zero Tolerance against Corruption` and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include

- (i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;
- (ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;
- (iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;
- (iv) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;
- (v) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organizations to adopt Integrity Pact in major Government procurement activities; similar instructions have been issued by the Central Government on 16th June 2009 advising the State Governments to adopt Integrity Pact in major procurements;
- (vi) India is amongst the countries who have signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
- (vii) Introduction of e-Governance and simplification of procedures and systems;
- (viii) Issue of Citizen Charters.