

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:530  
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009  
REVIEW OF RTI ACT  
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether any review has been made to assess the working of the Right to Information Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereto;
- (c) whether the general public face undue hardships in getting the information within stipulated time; and
- (d) if so, the mechanism proposed to be developed by the Government in this regard?

**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 SCIENCE; 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):- A study has been conducted through an independent organization to assess the key issues and constraints in implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The study points out that there is inadequate planning by the public authorities in regard to supply of information; awareness about the Act in rural areas is much less than in urban areas; awareness amongst women is much less than men; the gap in implementation of the Act is because of lack of clear accountability in respect of various functionaries, etc. In this regard, the study recommended measures for improving awareness on right to information; improving convenience in filing information requests; improving efficiency of the Information Commissions, enhancing accountability and clarity of various stakeholders, etc.

(c) & (d):- The Act provides for imposition of penalty on the public information officer in case of delay in supply of information in time. It ensures timely supply of information. The Government has issued various guidelines for different stakeholders which have enabled the information seekers to get information as per provisions of the Act.