GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:660
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009
AMENDMENT OF RTI ACT
Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether some Non-Governmental Organisations and Social activists have expressed their serious doubts about the proposed amendments:
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which proposed amendments will be incorporated in the Act?

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 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) to (d):- The Government proposes to strengthen right to information by suitably amending the laws to provide for disclosure by government in all non strategic areas. In this regard, it is proposed to review the number of organizations in the second schedule to the Right to Information Act, 2005 and make rules for more disclosure of information by public authorities. Government has received representations expressing doubts about the proposed amendments Non- Governmental Organisations and Social activists will be consulted on the proposed amendments.
- (e):- No time frame can be fixed for completion of the process.