

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4022
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010
EVALUATION OF FUNCTIONING OF SICS
Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

- (a) the details of evaluation carried out by the Public Cause Research Foundation of the functioning of the State Information Commissioners (SICs) implementing the RTI Act;
- (b) the parameters used for the evaluation of the SICs and the findings of the Evaluation Report, State-wise; and
- (c) the details and the names of the jury members who carried out the evaluation 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 PRIME'S MINISTER 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): Public Cause Research Foundation (PCRF), a New Delhi based Trust, has published a Report titled 'State of Information Commissions in India – A Performance Evaluation, 2009' wherein it has reported evaluation of working of Central and State Information Commissions and Information Commissioners on the basis of analysis of a sample of the orders passed by Information Commissioners in the year 2008.

(b) & (c): The methodology and findings of the study have been questioned by several Information Commissioners as well as some civil society organizations. Government also does not approve of evaluation of the working of the Information Commissions and the Information Commissioners who perform a quasi-judicial function, using the methodology adopted by PCRF. As such, government does not endorse evaluation and findings of the report in any way. Report containing detailed evaluation and ranking etc. as well as the Jury Members who finalized the RTI awards is available on the website of PCRF.