

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2451
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010
REPORT ON CORRUPTION
Vivekanand Dr. G.

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

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent report of the Transparency International which has ranked India as less honest than 86 other nationalities including Chinese and Vietnamese;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether corruption has retarded development and the country has lost its competitiveness in the global market;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that there is an abysmal record of penalizing senior officials and industrialists for corruption cases; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) : Yes Sir.

(b) : Transparency International has been publishing an annual Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) ranking the countries of the world according to "the degree to which corruption is perceived to exist among public officials and politicians". In CPI 2010, India has been ranked 87 amongst 178 countries.

(c) & (d) : Corruption is a menace that has a wide range of corrosive effect on society. It undermines democracy and the rule of law, leads to violations of human rights, distorts markets, and erodes the quality of life. Corruption hurts the poor disproportionately by diverting funds intended for development, restricts a Government's ability to provide basic services, and feeds inequality and injustice.

(e) : No, Sir. The cases of officers are evaluated on the basis of evidence collected during the investigations irrespective of status of the accused.

(f) : Corruption thrives where transparency is lacking, procedures are complicated, discretion of a high order is permitted and where there is a demand supply gap. Government is tackling these situations by encouraging greater transparency, introducing simplified procedures, reducing scope for discretion. The Government is fully alive and committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption". Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include:-

(i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004 and introduction of the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection to Persons Making the Disclosure Bill, 2010 in the Lok Sabha on 26th August, 2010.

(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. More than 50 organizations have adopted the Integrity Pact. 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.

