

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:352
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010
AMENDMENTS IN RTI ACT
Shekhar Shri Neeraj

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, in view of certain deficiencies in the working of the Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any progress has been made in regard to the amendments to the Right to Information Act, 2005;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the likely time by which the amendments are likely to be effected?

Answer

Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs .(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) to (e) :Based on the experience of working of the Right to Information Act over past five years and some recommendations/proposals received in this regard, the Government proposes to strengthen the Right to Information regime by suitably amending the law. While it is not possible to indicate the changes that will be finally incorporated, as these are yet to be discussed with the stakeholders, the proposal includes, inter-alia, provision for constitution of benches in the Information Commissions, enlarging the scope of suo-motu disclosures, empowering Information Commissions to make regulations, discouraging vexatious and frivolous applications and safeguarding the sensitivity of the office of the Chief Justice of India. No time frame has been fixed for amending the law.