GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4824 ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010 S.N. VOHRA COMMITTEE REPORT ON CORRUPTION Lal Shri Kirodi

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

- (a) the details of cases of corruption as reported in the S.N. Vohra Committee report;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to combat corruption;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to make provision in the laws to attach the property of corrupt officers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the CBI has been asked to launch an intensive drive against corruption;
- (f) if so, the action taken in this regard; and
- (g) the list of corrupt officers released by the CVC and the action taken against them?

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): The Central Government is not aware of any report of S.N. Vohra Committee. The Government is however aware of the N N Vohra Committee report submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs in 1993.
- (b): 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.
- (c) & (d): The Government has not proposed any legislation for the seizure of illegal properties and assets of Government officials convicted in corruption cases. A provision for attachment and confiscation of the property and money procured by means of the schedules offence by the accused persons is already available in the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 1944.
- (e) & (f): The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address at the XVII Biennial Conference of CBI and State Anti-Corruption Bureaux on August, 26, 2009 stressed on the need to combat corruption and urged upon the CBI for quick investigation and expeditious trials.

(g): The Central Vigilance Commission has not released any list of corrupt officers. However, a list of officers against whom penalty has been advised by the Commission and against whom the department has imposed major penalty during the month is available on the Commission's website. In addition to this details of cases where the Commission has advised prosecution and details of cases pending for sanction of prosecution under PC Act, 1988 over 4 months with Organizations/ Departments, are also available on the Commission's website which are updated on a regular basis.