GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:317 ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011 DELAY DENIAL OF INFORMATION Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

- (a) the date and year on which the Right to Information came into effect;
- (b) the total orders passed by 87 Commissioners and joint benches of 27 States as on date alongwith number of cases pending;
- (c) whether there is report of considerable delay in providing information to the RTI applicants;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the penalties imposed in cases of delay and the total amount collected as a result thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken and action taken to penalise errant officials who wrongfully denied information to RTI applicant?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

- (a): The Right to Information Act, 2005 received the assent of the President on 15th June, 2005 and was notified on 21st June, 2005. While some provisions of the Act came into force at once, others came into force on the one hundred and twentieth day of its enactment.
- (b): The information is not centrally maintained. The Central Information Commission, however, disposed of 65,439 appeals & complaints since inception and upto 31.01.2011. 15,746 appeals & complaints were pending in the Commission as on that date.
- (c): Yes, there have been reports of some delay in supply of information to the applicants.
- (d): The Central Information Commission has imposed penalty of Rs. 103 lakh in 157 cases of which Rs. 47 lakh have been recovered.
- (e): There is an in-built mechanism in the Right to Information Act, 2005 itself to penalize the Public Information Officers who wrongfully deny information to the RTI applicants.