GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3441 ANSWERED ON:16.03.2011 DEMONSTRATION AGAINST CORRUPTION Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Sharma Dr. Arvind Kumar;Singh Smt. Meena

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of demonstrations launched in about 60 cities in the country against corruption and black money and for restructuring of anti-corruption law;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTRY AFFARIRS; MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a): Yes Madam. The Central Government has come to know from the media that few rallies/demonstrations have been held at various places against corruption.

(b) & (c): The Central Government is fully alive and committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption". A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been set up to look into all measures, legal or administrative. Two bills have been introduced in Parliament relating to judicial accountability and protection of whistle blowers. Besides the legislation, necessary revamping of administrative practices and procedures are on fast-track. Several steps have been taken by the Government in the recent past to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include:-

(i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(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; 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) Signing of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption;

(vii) Introduction of e-Governance and simplification of procedures and systems;

(viii) Issue of Citizen Charters.