GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2693
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011
DEPARTMENTS/ORGANISATIONS UNDER PURVIEW OF RTI
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.;Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to bring some departments/ organisations under the purview of the Right to Information Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of departments/ organisations;
- (c) whether an NGO, 'National Campaign for People's Right to Information' (NCPRI) has demanded for bringing Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects under the purview of RTI; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

- (a) & (b): All organization which are public authorities as per definition given in section 2(h) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, are under the purview of the Act. The security and intelligence agencies notified by the appropriate government under section 24 are exempted from the provisions of the Act except that they will still need to answer question relating to corruption and human rights violations.
- (c) & (d): The National Campaign for people's Right to Information, through a Press Statement dated 25.07.2011, called upon the Government to notify all Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects as public authorities under the Act. It is the view of the Government that if a special purpose vehicle or organization set up to implement the PPP project, qualifies to be a public authority as per Section 2(h) of the RTI Act, only then would it be covered by the provisions of the Act and not otherwise. It may further be noted that even if an organization is not a public authority, under Section 2(f) of the Act, information relating to that organization, which can be accessed by a public authority under any other law for the time being in force, may be accessed through that public authority.