

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:397
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011
TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNANCE
Joshi Dr. Murlī Manohar;Yadav Shri Dinesh Chandra

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

- (a) whether there is need to bring transparency and accountability at every level of governance in the country;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has decided to take some new measures to ensure transparency and accountability in governance; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the Statutes which are proposed to be amended/strengthened further?

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): Yes, Madam.

(b), (c) & (d): For promoting 'Competition', 'Simplifying Transactions', 'Ensuring Accessibility and Responsiveness', and 'Reducing Discretion', as laid out in the 4th Report of 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission titled 'Ethics in Governance', all Ministries / Departments of the Government of India and the State Governments / Union Territories have been requested to formulate appropriate policies in a time bound manner. The Right to Information Act is a major step of the Government towards transparency and accountability in Government. The Government is augmenting capacity building and awareness generation through a Plan Scheme. A Task Force on effective implementation of suo-motu disclosure on RTI has submitted its report for acceptance of the Government. The Lokpal Bill is now with the Standing Committee of Parliament.

A draft Bill titled 'Citizens Right to Grievance Redress Bill, 2011' has been proposed by Government and the same has been placed in the public domain for inviting comments and suggestions. Further, the Government introduced a comprehensive Bill on protection to 'whistle-blowers' namely 'the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection to Persons Making the Disclosures Bill, 2010' in the Lok Sabha on 26.08.2010. The said Bill was considered by the Department Related Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. The Standing Committee has presented its Report on 09.06.2011. The recommendations made by the Standing Committee have been examined by the Government and a draft Note for the Cabinet has been circulated for inter-Ministerial consultation.