

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1551

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011

SCAMS AND CORRUPTION

Bali Ram Dr. ;Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B. ;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has issued directions to the State Governments for taking steps to tackle corruption;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received letters from Industrialists, Intellectuals, Institutes, Judges, etc. in which it has been alleged that lack of decision making in the Government has led to a series of scams and corruption;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the maximum punishment which can be handed to a person found guilty in a corruption case?

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) : The prevention of corruption, being a facet of the general criminal law, falls in the Concurrent List of Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 enacted by the Parliament is applicable to public servants of both Union as well as State Governments. Additionally, the Central Government has suggested to the State Governments a number of measures, such as establishment of Lok Ayuktas in the States, adoption of Integrity Pact by State Public Sector Enterprises, etc.

One of the most important initiatives of the Central Government in this regard is the enactment of the Right to Information Act, 2005 which is implemented by the Central as well as State Governments.

(c) & (d) : It has been reported in the media that a group of prominent personalities, including industrialists, have addressed an open letter to the leaders of the nation expressing concern over perceived "governance deficit" in every sphere of national activity covering government, business and national institutions and asking the government to deal with issues like corruption urgently. They have pointed out the need for setting up of the institution of Lokayuktas in every States and early introduction of the Lokpal Bill at the national level, for dealing with corruption and corrupt individuals.

The Government is fully committed to its policy of "zero tolerance" towards corruption and has taken a number of steps which also includes the introduction of the Lolpal Bill in the Parliament.

(e) : The maximum punishment prescribed for various offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 is as follows :

Offence	Maximum Punishment
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Under sections 7,8,9,10,11 & 12 Imprisonment for five years and also liable to fine.

Under section 13 & 14 Imprisonment for seven years and also liable to fine.

Under section 15 Imprisonment for three years and with fine.