GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:390
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
PURVIEW OF RTI ACT
Mishra Shri Govind Prasad;Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) the various types of institutions, particularly in the education sector, which have been kept out of the purview of the Right to Information Act, 2005:
- (b) whether the Government proposes to review the matter;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Madrasas have been kept out of the purview of the RTI Act; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

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) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 390 BY SHRI GOVIND PRASAD MISHRA AND SHRI GANESH SINGH FOR 21.12.2011 REGARDING 'PURVIEW OF RTI ACT'.

All Public Authorities are under the purview of the Right to Information Act, 2005. Public Authorities have been defined in section 2(h) of the Act and they include any authority or body or institution of self-Government established or constituted (a) by or under the Constitution; (b) by any other law made by Parliament; (c) by any other law made by State Legislature; and (d) by notification issued or order made by the appropriate Government. In addition, Public Authorities also include (i) bodies owned, controlled or substantially financed and (ii) Non-Government Organization substantially financed, directly or indirectly by funds provided by the appropriate Government. Therefore, any Educational Institution including Madrasa, which is a body or authority or institution or a Non-Government Organization covered by the above definition of public authority, is under the purview of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

Appropriate Governments have been authorized under Section 24 of the Act to exempt security and intelligence organizations from the provisions of the Act. However, even these organizations are required to provide information pertaining to allegations of corruption and human rights violations. As on date, 25 Security and Intelligence organizations have been exempted by the Central Government under the said provision.

In view of the above, Government has not notified any body or authority or institution (including educational institutions and Madrasas) as specifically included or excluded from the purview of the Act excepting security and intelligence organizations as detailed above.