

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4584
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
ATROCITIES ON RTI ACTIVISTS
Bali Ram Dr.

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

- (a) whether the RTI activists seeking information are being brutally killed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, States/Union Territory-wise, during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government/Chief Information Commissioner has proposed any stringent law to be enacted to safeguard the RTI activists and check such murders/severe crimes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reasons for not providing timely security to such RTI activists by the Government who have been murdered/against whom severe crime has been committed?

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): There have been reports in the media that some persons have been killed allegedly due to their role as RTI activists.
- (b): Data is not centrally maintained.
- (c): No, Madam.
- (d): Does not arise
- (e): Maintenance of law and order and providing safety and security for all citizens is primarily the subject matter of State Government concerned. Government of India has drawn the attention of State Governments to the reports appearing in the media about the victimization of people, who use RTI to expose corruption and irregularities in administration. The States have been requested that if any such instance comes to their notice, it should be promptly inquired into and action taken against the offenders.

Further, in order to provide protection to complainants regarding corruption/mal-administration by public servants etc. the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Persons Making the Disclosure Bill, 2010 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 26.08.2010. Official amendments to the said Bill, pursuant to the Parliamentary Standing Committee report were approved by the Union Cabinet on 13.12.2011. The amended Bill is being introduced in the Parliament.