

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4180
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012
EVALUATION OF RTI ACT
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

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

- (a) whether Government has any plans to conduct a detailed evaluation of the Right to Information (RTI) Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has engaged external consultancy service to make such independent review of the Act;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the evaluation of the Act has since been completed;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the Government has received the report; and
- (h) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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): No, Madam.

(c) & (d): A study has been conducted in 2008-2009 through an independent organization, to assess the key issues and constraints in implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

(e) to (g): The report on the implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2005 points out that there is inadequate planning by the public authorities in regard to supply of information; awareness about the Act in rural areas is much less than in urban areas; awareness amongst women is much less than men; the gap in implementation of the Act is because of lack of clear accountability in respect of various functions, etc. In this regard, the study recommended measures for improving awareness on right to information; improving convenience in filing information requests; improving efficiency of the Information Commissions, enhancing accountability and clarity of various stakeholders, etc.

(h): The Government has taken initiatives to build the capacity of the demand and supply side through trainings, an on-line certificate course, and publication of guides on the Right to Information Act. Awareness Generation has been undertaken through print, electronic and outdoor media. The Government has also issued a number of clarificatory orders.