

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3805
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
FUNDS TO INSTITUTE FOR POLICY RESEARCH STUDIES
Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs has refused to give approval to an NGO, 'The Institute for Policy Research Studies (IPRS)' to receive funds from Ford Foundation under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act for a project under which research assistant is provided to Members of Parliament for legislative activities;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the project of IPRS was involved in some unethical practices and also involved in lobbying for some specific interest groups;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) the details of other NGOs providing similar assistance to Members of Parliament along with the details of funds received by them from domestic and foreign donors in last six years;
- (f) whether the Government has made an enquiry about the activities of other NGOs providing similar research assistance facilities to Members of Parliament for legislative activities; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b) to (d): There is no specific adverse input against Institute for Policy Research Studies. However, the Government is of the opinion that making the MPs & MLAs direct recipients of foreign contribution would result in making Indian Parliamentary Institutions vulnerable to foreign agencies, which has the potential to compromise the integrity of the Parliament and legislative institutions, thereby providing prejudicial to 'public interest' and 'national security'.
- (e): No prior permission was given for similar assistance to MPs in the last six years.
- (f): No, Madam.
- (g): Does not arise in view of answer given in part (f) of this question.