

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1918
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2012
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VIP REFERENCE
Rama Devi Smt. ,Singh Shri Ratan

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

- (a) whether VIP references including from Members of Parliament are not being acknowledged by various officials of the Ministers/Ministries Subordinate offices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the existing guidelines in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action against the erring officials;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the number of such letters received pertaining to corruption during the last one year and the current year;
- (f) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (g) the result/outcome thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office.
(SHRIV. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (g): Paragraph Nos. 63 and 66 of Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure (CSMOP) deal with the subject of giving prompt responses and replies to the letters received from VIPs and Members of Parliament. Paragraph No.63 (1) of CSMOP states that 'Communications received from Members of Parliament should be attended to promptly' and Paragraph No.66 (1) of the CSMOP states that 'Each communication received inter-alia from a Member of Parliament, will be acknowledged within 15 days, followed by a reply within the next 15 days of acknowledgment sent'.

The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions does not centrally maintain (a) any data/information with regard to the VIP references received by all Ministries/Departments from Members of Parliament and the action taken against erring officials by concerned Ministries/ Departments; (b) the data/information with regard to letters received from VIPs/MPs pertaining to corruption by the Ministries/Departments and on the action taken by concerned Ministries/Department on such references.

The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances has been writing from time to time to Ministries/Departments to sensitize them on the need for following the procedure contained in the CSMOP, especially with regard to acknowledging and giving prompt replies to the letters received from the Members of Parliament. In particular, Union Ministers have been requested to set up a mechanism in their respective Ministries to periodically monitor progress in disposal of references received from the Members of Parliament.

In addition, the Department of Personnel & Training (DoP&T) in the Ministry had also issued an Office Memorandum No.11013/4/2011-Estt.(A) dated 01.12.2011 requesting all the Ministries/Departments at the centre and Chief Secretaries of all the States/UTs to follow the instructions contained in CSMOP on VIP references, both in letter and spirit. Any violation of these instructions, which is established after due inquiry, will render the Government servant concerned liable for appropriate punishment as per rule.

It is pertinent to mention that Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training had again written a D.O. letter No. 11013/4/2011-Estt.A dated 09.10.2012 to all the Chief Secretaries of States/UTs requesting them that in order to effectively implement the instructions contained in the DOP&T's O.M. dated 01.12.2011, they should periodically reiterate the instructions and review implementation of the same in the Conference of District Magistrates/Collectors and Superintendent of their States/UTs.