GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3070 ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012 TECHNOLOGY TO MINIMISE CORRUPTION Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) whether technology provides innovative ways of minimising corruption in day-to-day life; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

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): The use of modern Information and Communication Technology (ICT) can reduce corruption in the public service delivery systems by increasing transparency and accountability. Use of modern ICT can reduce direct contact between citizens and public servants who provide public services and thus reduce the scope for corruption in the delivery of public services. The use of computers in the railways and in the income-tax department are good examples of the salutary effect modern technology has had in reducing corruption in both the organizations.

Modern ICT platforms can also help in increasing participation of all sections of the society, in the process of governance, by providing them greater voice and connectivity.

Government has, therefore, been emphasizing the use of modern technology so as to bring about transparency and accountability in all government organizations. The Central Vigilance Commission has issued guidelines advising Government/Public Sector Undertakings/Organisations to adopt and follow e-tendering solution in their procurement activities. To streamline payment and have an effective view on the pendency of contractor payments, the Commission has recommended adoption of e-payment and other measures for reduction of public interface in effecting payments etc.