GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4224
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012
CORRUPTION IN NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE OF UGC
Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Nimmala Shri Kristappa

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is rampant corruption in the Northern Regional Centre of University Grants Commission (UGC) and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some retired officers have been appointed as consultants at important positions in UGC and PSUs under his Ministry;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, region-wise including NRC; and

(d) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(Dr. Shashi Tharoor)

(a) : No, Sir. No rampant corruption has been reported in the Northern Regional Centre of the University Grants Commission (UGC). However, the UGC has recently suspended one Dr. Manju Singh, who was working as a Joint Secretary in the UGC, and initiated disciplinary action against her based on a report filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). No cases of corruption have been either reported or initiated by the Vigilance wing of this Ministry against any top level functionary of the UGC. The UGC is a statutory body set up under an Act of Parliament and it has full powers to take disciplinary action against its employees.

(b) to (d) : Consultants are appointed by the UGC keeping in view the exigencies of work after approval of the Competent Authority. The EdCIL (India) Ltd., a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry, has reported that 19 retired officers have been engaged by it as Consultants for various ongoing projects. These consultants have been engaged to render their expert advice for the implementation of Government Projects such as the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, the National Literacy Mission Authority, etc.