GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6691 ANSWERED ON:08.05.2013 FURNISHING WRONG INFORMATION Meghwal Shri Bharat Ram

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

- (a) whether wrong and misleading information is often provided to the applicants under RTI and continuous correspondence has to be made to get the correct and appropriate information which has no time-limit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make a provision to take disciplinary and penal action against the officers who provide wrong and incomplete information and do not provide it on time; and
- (d) if so, the time by which action is likely to be taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

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): There are a number of cases where an applicant has filed first appeal with the First Appellate Authority in the Public Authority concerned and second appeal/complaint with the Central Information Commission/State Information Commission, as the case may be, inter-alia, due to the following reasons:
- (i) Non-receipt of information within prescribed time;
- (ii) Denial of request for information;
- (iii) If he/she believes that incomplete/misleading or false information under this Act has been given by the Public Information Officer.
- (b): The number of second appeals/complaints registered by the Central Information Commission during three years is as under:

2009-10 2010-11 2011-12 22800 28875 33922

(c) & (d): The Right to Information Act, 2005 already provides for imposition of penalty and recommendation of disciplinary action by the Central Information Commission/State Information Commission, as the case may be, against the Public Information Officer who has knowingly given incorrect, incomplete or misleading information under the RTI Act. The CIC/SICs have been imposing such penalties and also recommending disciplinary action against such Public Information Officers.