

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1296

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013

AMENDMENT IN OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Yadav Shri Dharmendra;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has set up a Group of Ministers (GoM) to deliberate on the issue of amending the Official Secrets Act (OSA) in the interest of greater transparency;
- (b) if so, whether the aforesaid GoM has submitted its report to the Government;
- (c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the GoM;
- (d) whether the Ministry has opposed the changes suggested in the Official Secrets Act by the GoM;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (f): The report of the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) titled "Right to Information: Master Key to Good Governance" was considered by the Group of Ministers (GoM) wherein, it was, inter-alia, decided that the Ministry of Home Affairs will come up with a legislation for amendment in the Official Secrets Act, 1923 after due consideration. Accordingly, the matter is under consideration of the Government and being a policy matter, no time frame can be indicated to finalise the matter.