GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5945 ANSWERED ON:29.04.2015 HARASSMENT OF HONEST OFFICERS Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that honest officers are being victimized for their acts as public servants and if so, the details of such cases noticed during the last one year;
- (b) whether it is a fact that some secretaries have got themselves transferred while three heads of institutions resigned and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the campaign against corruption has paralysed the Government functioning and resulted in slow decision making;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the honest officers from harassment and boost their morale?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office. (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) & (b): No such instance has come to the notice of this Department during last one year.
- (c) & (d): No, Sir. The fight against corruption is an ongoing process and it is the endeavor of the Government to strengthen the anti-corruption mechanism. The Central Government is fully alive and committed to implement its policy of `Zero Tolerance against Corruption` and has already taken several measures to combat corruption and improve the functioning of Government. These include:-
- # Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;
- # Enactment of Lokpal & Lokayuktas Act, 2013,
- # Enactment of Whistle Blowers Protection, Act, 2011.
- (e): The Government of India (Department of Personnel & Training) issued a Resolution No.89 dated 21.4.2004, commonly known as the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers (PIDPI) Resolution, authorizing the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) as the Designated Agency to receive written complaints or disclosure on any allegation of corruption or of mis-use of office by any employee of the Central Government or of any corporation established by or under any Central Act, Government companies, societies or local authorities owned or controlled by the Central Government.

The CVC is mandated not only to maintain the secrecy of the complainant's identity but also to provide protection to the complainant against any physical threat, harassment or victimization.

The Government had vide Notification dated 14.08.2013 also authorized the Chief Vigilance Officers (CVOs) of the Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government as the Designated Authority to receive such complaints.

The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has issued a guidelines on 22.10.2014, which provide that no cognizance of complaints made against the candidates selected for Board level appointment in Central Public Sector Enterprises(CPSEs) received six months prior to the date of interview held by Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) is to be taken. Similarly, in cases of extension of tenure, the Guidelines issued on 30.10.2014 provide that no cognizance is to be taken of any complaint received six months prior to the terminal date of the approved tenure of Board level appointees.

After the suspension of few officers in various states and subsequently as a follow up to the demands of various quarters including the service associations of the three All India Services to protect honest and upright AlS Officers from unwarranted suspension, the Central Government is in the process of amending the All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1969.