

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2759
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT
Kaswan Shri Rahul

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to find out the effectiveness of Right to Information Act, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereto;
- (c) whether several complaints have been received regarding turning down of requests relating to Right to Information application; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise during the last three years and the action taken by the Government to address the said complaints?

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): A study was conducted during the year 2008-2009 through an independent organization to assess the key issues and constraints in implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The study pointed out that there was inadequate planning by the public authorities in regard to supply of information; awareness about the Act in rural areas was much less than in urban areas; awareness amongst women is much less than men; the gap in implementation of the Act is because of lack of clear accountability in respect of various functionaries etc. In this regard, the study recommended measures for improving awareness on right to information; improving convenience in filing information requests; improving efficiency of the Information Commissions, enhancing accountability and clarity of various stakeholders, etc.

(c): There are a number of cases where an applicant has filed first appeal with the First Appellate Authority in the concerned Public Authority 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.

(d): The number of second appeals/complaints registered by the Central Information Commission during three years is as under:

2010-11 2011-12 2012-13
28875 33922 28801

State-wise data is not centrally maintained.