

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2799
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
ERADICATION OF CORRUPTION
Ranjan (Pappu Yadav) Shri Rajesh;Ranjan Smt. Ranjeet

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

- (a) whether the PMO has suggested any thrust areas to be taken up for eradication of corruption; and
(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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) and (b): Prime Minister's Office, vide a communication dated 24.06.2014, informed the Department of Personnel & Training and the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances that the following are part of immediate thrust areas of the Government:-

- (i) Passing of Citizen' Grievances Bill;
- (ii) Amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act.
- (iii) Setting up of the Lokpal

The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill is presently pending in the Rajya Sabha. The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Law and Justice has submitted its report on the Bill, wherein it has recommended a number of amendments in the Bill. No final decision has been taken on these recommendations. The Right of Citizens for Time Bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their Grievances Bill, 2011 (Citizens' Grievances Bill) has lapsed with the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha.

As regards the setting up of Lokpal, the position is as follows:-

The Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (4) of Section 1 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 (1 of 2014), appointed the 16th day of January, 2014, as the date on which the provisions of the said Act shall come into force.

In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (5) of section 4 of the Act, the Central Government notified the Search Committee (Constitution, Terms and Conditions of appointment of members and the manner of selection of Panel of Names for appointment of Chairperson and Members of Lokpal) Rules, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as Search Committee Rules).

A writ petition has been filed by Common Cause, a Registered Society, before the Hon'ble Supreme Court wherein, inter alia, challenge has been made to the validity of the Search Committee Rules. During the course of hearing of the case by the Supreme Court on 5th May, 2014, the Court has been informed that the Government will re-examine the issue and make formal amendments in the Rules and only thereafter proceed further in the matter. Accordingly, Government has examined the matter and it has been found that a number of provisions in the said Rules may require to be amended. Government has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Attorney General for India to address the relevant issues related to the amendments to the Search Committee (Constitution, Terms and Conditions of appointment of members and the manner of selection of panel of names for appointment of Chairperson and Members of Lokpal) Rules, 2014. The matter can be processed further only after the amendments are carried out in the Rules as per the undertaking given before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.