GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:44 ANSWERED ON:09.07.2014 CORRUPTION CASES Jadhav Shri Prataprao Ganpatrao;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of cases of corruption/irregularities in public offices in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of cases reported during each of the last three years and current year and the action taken against the corrupt officials;

(c) whether the Government has taken a slew of measures including introduction of a number of Bills for effectively tackling corruption during the last three years and if so, the details thereof indicating the number of Bills, out of them passed and pending before the Parliament; and

(d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure zero tolerance towards corruption in public offices ?

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) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 44 FOR 09.07.2014

(a) and (b) : Investigation and registration of cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act are being done by the CBI at the Central level and by respective State Police, State Anti-Corruption Bureaus, etc. at the level of the State Governments. Other irregularities in public offices are subject to scrutiny by various agencies such as internal and external audits, etc. No data in this regard is maintained centrally. So far as corruption cases registered by CBI are concerned, according to information provided by CBI, CBI has registered total of 2220 cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 during the last three years, i.e., 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 (upto 31.05.2014). The year-wise break-up of number of cases registered under PC Act during the above said period with present status of these cases is attached as Annexure.

(c) : The Government has introduced a number of Bills in the Parliament in the last three years for effectively tackling corruption. The details of the Bills introduced, passed, lapsed and pending are given below:-

S.No. Name of the Bill Status of the Bill 1. The Lokpal & Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 The Bill, which was passed by Lok Sabha on 27th December, 2011, has been finally passed by both Houses of Parliament in December, 2013. It received the assent of the President on 1st January, 2014 and has become the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 (Act No.1 of 2014). 2. The Whistle-blowers Protection Bill, 2011 The Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha on (originally introduced as the Public Interest 27th December, 2011, has been finally Disclosure and Protection to Persons making passed by the Rajya Sabha on 21st the Disclosures Bill, 2010) February, 2014. It has received the assent of the President on 9th May, 2014 and has become the Whistle Blowers Protection Act, 2011 (No. 17 of 2014). 3. The Prevention of Bribery of Foreign The Bill has lapsed upon the dissolution Public Officials and Officials of Public of the 15th Lok Sabha. International Organizations Bill, 2011

4. The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) The Bill, which was introduced in Rajya Bill, 2013 Sabha on 19.08.2013, was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination and report. The Standing Committee has submitted its 69th Report on the said Bill to the Parliament on 6th February, 2014. The recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee are under consideration of the Government, with a view to moving necessary official amendments in the Bill.

Apart from these four Bills, in order to empower the citizens and to improve accountability and transparency in governance, Government had introduced the Right of Citizens for Time-bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their Grievances Bill, 2011 in the Lok Sabha. Further, in order to create a statutory framework for public procurement which will provide greater accountability, transparency and enforceability of the regulatory framework relating to public procurement, Government had introduced the Public Procurement Bill, 2012 in the Lok Sabha. Both these Bills have lapsed upon the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha.

(d) The other steps taken by the Government to effectively combat corruption include:-

(i) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;

(ii) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organizations to adopt Integrity Pact in major Government procurement activities; State Governments have also been advised to adopt Integrity Pact in major procurements;

(iii) Introduction of e-Governance and simplification of procedures and systems;

(iv) Issue of Citizen Charters;

(v) Ratification of United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2011;

(vi) Placing of details of immovable property returns of all Members of the All India Services and other Group 'A' officers of the Central Government in the public domain; and

(vii) Setting up of additional Special Courts exclusively for trial of CBI cases in different states.