

### Information of petty items under RTI

1258. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any bar in the RTI Act, 2005 to seek information concerning purchase of petty items by Government departments and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether an Information Commissioner, CIC held that seeking the information on purchase of petty items as an abuse of the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005 more so when CPWD has ordered vigilance investigation for purchase of petty items on more than MRP (Maximum Retail Price); and

(c) whether there is any proposal to replace such Information Commissioner(s) for deciding appeals on whims and fancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A Central Information Commissioner in a case, where the RTI applicant had sought the details of purchase of all general items by a Ministry including its departments, attached offices, autonomous bodies public sector undertakings, joint ventures etc. during a period of more than two years, has held that such a request is an abuse of the RTI Act.

(c) No, Sir.

### Bribes by American companies to get contracts

1259. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that American company has given bribes to get contracts in India;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) the results of this enquiry; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Indian Ambassador in USA has informed the Government that several references regarding illegal payments to the officials in India have been made in the US report on the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) and Anti-corruption Enforcement for the second half of 2008 and early part of 2009.

(b) to (d) The following companies are alleged to have made improper payments to some Indian officials :

(i) M/s Richard Morlok and Mario Covino (Control companies Inc.)

(ii) M/s Pioneer Friction Ltd.;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.