THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Supreme Court passed an order dated 08.05.2013 in Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 120 of 2012, and WP (Civil) 463 of 2012 to know whether the Central Government intended to put in place appropriate law for the independence of the CBI and its functional autonomy and insulate it from extraneous influence(s) of any kind so that CBI is viewed as a non-partisan investigating agency. The Court directed the filing of the affidavit by July 3, 2013.

The Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) which considered the matter at length. Based on its recommendations and with the approval of the Cabinet, Government filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court on 03.07.2013.

Online application of RTI

534. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Right to Information (RTI) applications can be filed by Indian citizens online, if so, the details of the procedure thereof; and
- (b) whether RTI applications can be filed online by Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), if so, the details of the procedure thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Government of India has started a RTI online web portal whereby Right to Information (RTI) applications can be filed online by Indian citizens, including those who are living abroad. The detailed procedure in filing of on-line RTI applications is as under:

An Indian citizen can file RTI application online through RTI online web-portal, having url www.rtionline.gov.in. The prescribed fee for RTI application can also be paid online through a payment gateway of State Bank of India by way of internet banking of State Bank of India and its associate banks and by using debit/credit cards of Master/Visa. This facility at present is available only for 37 Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

Selection of Junior Translators and Hindi Pradhyapak

535. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3045 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20 December, 2012 and state:

- (a) whether selection process in case of Junior Translators (CSOLS) and Hindi Pradhyapak (CHTI) had been made jeopardized and the eligibility criteria decided by the Chairman, Staff Selection Commission and the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs (DOL) in their meeting held on 19 July, 2011 for the said posts had also been mismanaged by the Public Authorities concerned of SSC; and
- (b) the action required to be proposed as per prescribed Law to remove all the loose ends and to ascertain the rightful claims of the meritorious candidates who had appeared for the aforesaid posts in the Examination of the Year-2011?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Sir. The recruitment process for the Junior Translator (CSOLS)/Junior Hindi Translators (in Subordinate Offices) and Hindi Pradhyapak (Central Hindi Training Institute) etc., Examination, 2011 conducted by the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) has been completed and the result was published on 27th March, 2012. As informed by the SSC that the Commission decided not to exercise its discretion to relax the eligibility criteria as provided in the Notice of the Examination.

(b) All the meritorious candidates who found place in the merit list and who possessed the requisite Essential Qualifications were selected and nominated. In view of above, no further action is called for in the matter.

Shops taken on rent by Kendriya Bhandar

536. SHRI A. A. JINNAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether shops in Market of Vasant Vihar Central Government Housing Complex, have been taken on rent by the management of Kendriya Bhandar for shifting its branch already functioning in two type-III flats in the area;
- (b) if so, the number of shops taken on rent in Vasant Vihar and since when the shops have been taken over along with the monthly rent of each shop being paid by Kendriya Bhandar;
- (c) the total amount paid as rent as on 31 December, 2012 along with the official responsible for such loss; and
- (d) in what manner Government proposes to recover the loss and by when the loss is likely to be recovered?