

threatened/assaulted during last two years in Karnataka and the number out of them who have died; and

(b) the steps taken by Government in safeguarding the RTI activists, and the number of cases that have been registered against the attackers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONAL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) There are media reports that some people have been threatened/assaulted/killed allegedly due to their role as RTI activists. However, data about such incidents is not centrally maintained.

(b) There is no need for a separate policy to deal with such cases as the framework of existing laws such as Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code etc. is considered adequate to provide for safety and security to all citizens, including RTI activists. Further, RTI Activists and whistleblowers will also get protection under the “Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2011” passed by the Lok Sabha on 27.12.2011 and is presently in the Rajya Sabha, for consideration.

Maintenance of law and order and providing safety and security for all citizens is primarily the subject matter of State Government concerned. Government of India has drawn the attention of State Governments to the reports appearing in the media about the victimization of people, who use RTI to expose corruption and irregularities in administration. The States have been requested that if any such instance comes to their notice, it should be promptly inquired into and action taken against the offenders.

Appointment of Public Information Officers by political parties

2085. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Information Commission (CIC) has directed all the political parties to appoint Public Information Officers (PIO) to deal with the RTI related queries and also directed to comply with the directions within six weeks, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any response has been received from any political parties, and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken by Central Information Commission (CIC) to make the parties comply to prescribed stipulations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONAL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) The Central

Information Commission in its decision dated 03.06.2013 has held that the political parties namely AICC/INC, BJP, CPI(M), CPI, NCP and BSP are public authorities under Section 2(h) of the RTI Act. The CIC has further directed the presidents, general secretaries of those political parties to designate Public Information Officers and the Appellate Authorities at the headquarters in six weeks time. Further, it directed the presidents and general secretaries of those political parties to comply with the provisions of Section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act, 2005.

The Government has introduced The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013 in the Lok Sabha to amend the RTI Act so as to provide that the definition of public authority shall not include any political party registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

Action for not implementing reservation policy

†2086. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps or proposes to take any steps for preparing proper action plan for provision of disciplinary action against officers responsible for incorporating a law in ninth schedule of constitution and for not implementing reservation policy of Government for SCs/STs/OBCs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONAL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The policy of reservation for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in posts and services of the Central Government's Ministries/Departments and its Attached and Subordinate Offices, Autonomous Organisations, Statutory Bodies and Public Sector Undertakings is being effectively administered through executive instructions. Any deliberate non-compliance of reservation policy of the Government by a Government employee makes him liable for disciplinary action.

Change in selection process for appointment

2087. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to change the selection process for appointment by promotion/selection to the various cadres of All India Services, and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.