GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING)

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1224 (TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2021)

WEAKENING OF RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

1224 SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed that India stands first on the corruption list among the Asian countries according to a report by the NGO Transparency International, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government is of the view that the corruption has increased as a result of the weakening of Right to Information Act, 2005, if so the details thereof?

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): No such Surveys were conducted by any agency at the behest of the Government of India. Moreover, in the 2020 report of Corruption Perceptions Index that was published in January, 2021 by Transparency International, India ranked better than several countries in Asia.
- (b): No Sir. Only amendments of administrative and enabling nature were made to RTI Act, 2005 vide RTI (Amendment) Act, 2019 without in any way weakening or affecting the substantive aspects of the Act related to providing information for transparency and accountability.
