

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the last 3 years several steps have been taken by the Government to ensure greater transparency. 90 facilitation centers have been set up by Ministries, departments and organizations of the Central Government to provide information and assistance to the public regarding the schemes and procedures of the organization concerned. Also 71 Central Government organizations have issued citizens charters' reflecting the commitment of the concerned ministries, departments or agencies to provide specific services within the timeframe specified. Some ministries and departments have also developed their own websites for promotion of E-governance. The Freedom of Information Bill 2000 has also been introduced in Parliament for ensuring greater transparency and openness in the functioning of Government and public bodies.

Abolition of CAT and SATs

1750. SHRIPRASANTACHATTERJEE:

SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to abolish or to empower itself to abolish the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) and to empower respective State Governments to abolish the State Administrative Tribunals (SATs) by amending the relevant Act;

(b) whether provision for the set of Administrative Tribunals was made following prolonged strike by Government employees for quick justice against arbitrary victimization on subjective grounds; and

(c) if so, the reasons for abolishing the CAT and SATs depriving the Government employees of the only means to secure quicker and speedier justice in matters of grievances against the administration affecting their services and pension matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Under the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 the power to set

up the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) or an Administrative Tribunal for a State (SAT) rests with the Central Government. There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government to abolish the CAT. However, a proposal to amend Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 *inter-alia* to provide for a general enabling provision to abolish the CAT as and when need for the same is felt and to consider requests of State Governments for abolition of State Administrative Tribunals has been under consideration.

(b) Staff Side of National Council (JCM) were duly consulted while taking a decision regarding establishment of Central Administrative Tribunal for Central Government employees.

(c) Question does not arise because, as the things stand at present, no decision to abolish either the CAT or any SAT has been taken.

Anti-Corruption drive by CBI

1751. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI had undertaken national-wide anti-corruption drive recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the drive; and

(d) the further steps taken or likely to be taken by Government to curb corruption in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) As per information provided by the CBI, raids were conducted by the CBI on 8th November, 2002 against Government Officials, serving and retired employees of Public Sector Undertakings and Banks, Private Firms and private individuals. As a result of the raids, 25 cases have been registered by the CBI under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, Passport Act and under various sections of Indian Penal Code (IPC). Among the aforesaid 25 cases, some cases have been registered against Government officials for misusing their official position.