GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OFPERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO19.11.2009

ANSWERED ON

COMPLAINTS REGARDING CORRUPTION.

72 Shri T.K. Rangarajan

Will the Minister of COALCOALEXTERNAL AFFAIRSPERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether complaints have been received by the PMO regarding alleged corruption involving officials in various Ministries and US companies;
- (b) if so, the names of the US companies alleged to have indulged in bribing these officials;
- (c) the details of the Ministries these officials belong to;
- (d) whether Government has since initiated any enquiry into these charges;
- (e) if so, the details thereto; and
- (f) the details of the findings, if any?

ANSWER

Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

(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): 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.;
- (iii)M/s York International Corporation;
- (iv) M/s DE -Nocil Crop protection Ltd;
- (v) M/s Pride International Inc.
- (c): From the said US report, it infers that the officials belong to the Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Defence, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Department of Revenue and Government of Maharashtra.
- (d) to (f): In view of the report of improper payment to a key official in Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage, Faridabad by DE- Nocil, a subsidiary of Dow Chemicals, an inquiry was ordered by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation into the matter and a case was registered by CBI in 2007. The Ministry of Defence have constituted a Board of Officers for investigating the allegations pertaining to Indian Navy. The Ministry of Railways have suspended Business dealings with M/s Pioneer Friction Ltd., Kolkata and M/s Webtec, USA.

In September, 2009, the CVC has asked the CBI to look into each of these instances of corruption and furnish a report. The Commission also held a meeting with the concerned Departments for expeditious action.