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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5385 (TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2018)

ATTACK ON RTI ACTIVISTS

5385. SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO:

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

- (a) whether the Government is collecting statistics about cases of attack on Whistleblowers and RTI activists across the country;
- (b) if so, the yearly details of attacks in each State and Union territory, from 2015 onwards:
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to prevent such attacks and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Union Government is issuing an advisory to offer better protection to the above categories of persons and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of cases in which FIRs have been registered, charge sheets filed, trials or convictions/acquittals from 2015 onwards?

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) to (e): There were some media reports that some persons have been assaulted, missing and killed allegedly due to their role as RTI activists.

Maintenance of law and order and providing safety and security for all citizens is primarily the subject matter of State Government concerned.

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.

Government of India had 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.
