

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 540
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019)

LEAKAGE OF QUESTION PAPERS

540. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government regarding frequent leakages of question papers in Government recruitment exams;
- (b) the existing mechanism with the Government to prevent leakages of question papers;
- (c) the reasons for the frequent delays in exams for recruitment in Staff Selection Commission and whether the Government has taken any action to resolve the matter of cancellation and delays in exams; and
- (d) 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) & (b): There have been no reports of frequent leakages of question papers of the exams for recruitment of Central Govt. jobs by the concerned recruitment agencies. However, some of the steps taken by the major recruitment agencies for the Central Government viz. Union Public Service Commission(UPSC), Railway Recruitment Boards(RRBs) and Staff Selection Commission(SSC) to safeguard the examination processes are enumerated below :-

- i) UPSC has started deploying low powered Jammers at the examination venues to prevent adoption of unfair means during the examinations by using mobiles phones, bluetooth and other communicating devices.
- ii) Since, 2015, Computer Based Test (CBT) has been introduced in all Railway examinations. The internet domain, on which online CBTs are conducted, has the approval of Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In). After written examination, link of question paper and corresponding responses made by candidates with answer key is provided to their registered emails.
- iii) Staff Selection Commission(SSC) migrated from erstwhile Optical Mark Recognition(OMR(-) based examination to computer based examinations from June, 2016, and has taken comprehensive measures which, inter-alia, include audit of examination venues, conduct of mock-tests, deployment of its representatives as Inspecting Officers at the examination venues, physical frisking of candidates with the help of hand-held metal detectors, comprehensive CCTV coverage of the examination venues, biometric registration of candidates etc.

iv) Thorough checking & frisking of candidates with the help of Hand-Held Metal Detectors, registering of their bio-metric attendance, taking and matching of their photographs, etc., are carried out at the examination centres.

(c) & (d): Frequent delays have not been experienced in the conduct of examinations of the Staff Selection Commission(SSC). In fact, SSC has conducted 28 examinations for approx. 3.14 crore registered candidates in the Computer Based Mode between June, 2016 to July, 2018. In addition, the SSC has also conducted 18 examinations in the pen and paper mode for approx. 9.36 lakh registered candidates during the said period. All these examinations were conducted in consonance with the Annual Calendar of Examinations.

However, in 2018, there have been some delays in conduct of a few examinations on account of an agitation alleging malpractices in one examination and the resultant litigations.
