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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1472 (TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024)

WHISTLE BLOWERS PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015

1472. SHRI MATHESWARAN V S:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to re-introduce Whistle Blowers Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2015 and if so, the time by when it is likely to be reintroduced; and
- (b) the details of the number of complaints or any allegation of corruption received against Group A officials of Union Government by Central Vigilance Commission since 01.01.2019 to till date along with the status of those complaints?

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): The Whistle Blowers Protection Act, 2014 (No.17 of 2014) has been notified on 12th May 2014. In terms of provision of sub-section (3) of section 1 of the Act, the provisions of the Act shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint. No such notification has been made by the Government for the reason that the Act requires amendments aimed at safeguarding against disclosures affecting sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the State, etc., before it is brought into force. To make these amendments to the Act, the Government introduced the Whistle Blowers Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2015 in the Lok Sabha on 11th May 2015 which was passed by the Lok Sabha on 13th May 2015 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha. The Bill has since lapsed upon the dissolution of the Sixteenth Lok Sabha. The Whistle Blowers Protection (Amendment) Bill is not part of the approved Government legislative business of the current session of the Parliament.
- (b): Central Vigilance Commission, under the provisions contained in Section 8(1) (c) & (d) read with Section 8(2) (a) & (b) of Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 receives complaints from various sources. On scrutiny of such complaints, appropriate action is taken in accordance with the Commission's Complaint Handling Policy. The number of such complaints received in the Commission during the period 01.01.2019 to 31.10.2024 (year-wise) and action taken thereon, is indicated in the table given in Annexure-1.

In addition, the Commission also receives and acts on complaints from Whistle Blowers, as under the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers Resolution (PIDPIR), the Commission is the 'Designated Agency' to receive complaints from Whistle Blowers. The year-wise details of such complaints received under Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers Resolution (PIDPIR) and action taken thereon, is given in Annexure-2.

The complaints received in the Commission include complaints against all levels of officers / officials belonging to Central Government ministries / departments/ organizations. In addition, the Commission also receives complaints against officials / organizations belonging to State Governments, private organizations and their employees, etc. Since no separate data is being maintained in respect of complaints received against Group A officers of Union Government, the figures in the table indicate the position in respect of all complaints received in the Commission during 01.01.2019 to 31.10.2024.

The number of complaints received and disposed of by the Commission during the period 01.01.2019 to 31.10.2024 are as under:-

Complaints Received and action taken	No. of complaints								
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (till 31.10.2024)			
Number of complaints pending (Brought Forward from previous year)	3070	836	1723	1077	698	1889			
Number of complaints received during the year	32579	26199	24680	21723	27900	24689			
Total number of complaints	35649	27035	26403	22800	28598	26578			
Total number of complaints disposed of	34813	25312	25326	22102	26709	25069			
(a) Anonymous/Pseudonymous (Filed)	6975	6595	7638	2085	2214	1249			
(b) Vague/Unverifiable (Filed)	7425	3886	2875	4168	8361	9213			
(c) Officials not under CVC Jurisdiction/Grievances (Forwarded for necessary action)	20078	14752	14650	15695	15907	14366			
(d) Sent for inquiry/investigation to CVO/CBI	335	79	163	154	227	241			
Number of complaints pending (Carried Forward to next year)	836	1723	1077	698	1889				

The number of complaints received and disposed of by the Commission under Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers Resolution during the period i.e, 01.01.2019 to 31.10.2024 is as under (Commission is designated agency to receive and act on complaints lodged by whistle blowers):-

Complaints Received and action taken		No. of Complaints							
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (till 31.10.2024)			
Number of complaints pending (Brought Forward from previous year)	29	75	35	5	20	63			
No. of complaints received during the year		480	1022	1902	2010	1948			
Total number of complaints		555	1057	1907	2030	2011			
Total number of complaints disposed		520	1052	1887	1967	2011			
(a) No. of complaints filed	434	207	429	1339	1359	1192			
(b) Non-vigilance (Forwarded for necessary action to Departments/ Organizations)	242	252	446	291	360	601			
(c) Sent for inquiry/investigation by CVO/CBI	148	61	177	257	248	218			
Number of complaints pending (Carried Forward to next year)		35	5	20	63				
