

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2724

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15TH DECEMBER, 2015/AGRAHAYANA 24, 1937 (SAKA)

BPR & D SPONSORED PROJECTS

2724. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether research projects under plan and Non-plan, Training programme in prisons, Government of India fellowships to students and Doctoral work have been sponsored by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) and if so, the details thereof along with the criteria adopted to award project to individuals, agencies, marketing companies, institutes, universities and NGOs;

(b) whether irregularities including financial improprieties have been reported in such projects and if so the details thereof indicating the number of cases wherein more than one project have been sanctioned to same individuals/NGOs/Universities without completion of earlier project and setting of accounts along with the names of such institutions;

(c) whether proposals have been accepted before issue of advertisement and after the expiry of the submission date and if so, the list of all such proposals have financial implications;

(d) whether the Ministry has received any communication from BPR&D to initiate action against the defaulters and if so, the details thereof and the number of corrupt officers including Presidents medal awardees identified and the action taken against them; and

(e) whether the Government is aware of pending audit paras against BPR&D for financial irregularities and non-settlement of Government funds released as advances and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a): Yes, Madam. Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D), the subordinate organization of Ministry of Home Affairs, sponsors Research projects, training programmes for prisons and fellowships for doctoral work under both Plan and Non-plan schemes.

There are prescribed guidelines to be taken into consideration to award projects to individuals/institutions/NGOs. As per the prescribed guidelines, as far as possible, the research projects should be entrusted only to authorized and established institutions. In exceptional case the projects may be fanned out to individuals only after obtaining the approval of the Standing Committee on Police Research. As it is difficult to convene the meetings of the Standing Committee on Police Research for every project, as per the guidelines the concurrence of at least three Members who are experts in the field is obtained through circulation, among other conditions.

(b) & (c) : During an internal review of research project, a case of use of forgery and fraudulent method to obtain research projects on "Status of Correctional Programme including Prison Industries on Reformation and Rehabilitation of Prisoners" was detected. An amount of ₹ 13,71,154/- released to the concerned person has since been recovered. A CAG audit has been conducted recently from 17.09.2015 to 09.10.2015, report is awaited and response will be initiated after the receipt of final Audit report.

(d): BPR&D has intimated this Ministry that after review they have issued Show Cause notices to seven officers including two Presidents medal awardees who have been found responsible for negligence and dereliction of duties.

(e) This Ministry has already communicated to BPR&D to furnish their compliance/replies/Action Taken Reports in respect of all the outstanding paras to the Office of the CAG, Internal Audit Wing.
