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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3967 (TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.12.2015)

TIME TAKEN TO FURNISH RTI INFORMATION

3967. SHRI B. SRIRAMULU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the average time taken to furnish information under the Right to Information (RTI) Act to applicants by the RTI Cells in the Ministries/Departments;
- (b) whether there are large number of complaints regarding non-furnishing of information to RTI applicants in given time during the last two years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for prompt reply and strict compliance of stipulated time-frame by all Ministries/ Departments?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister Office. (DR.JITENDRA SINGH)

(a): No such data is maintained. However, it is mandatory for all Public Authorities to supply information within the stipulated time period as provided in the Right to Information Act, 2005.

(b) & (c): As per data base managed by National Informatics Centre(NIC), the figure for complaints in the Central Information Commission during the last two years and the current year are -

| Year | Number of complaints |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 2013-14 | 4641 |
| 2014-15 | 4866 |
| 2015-16 (upto 17.12.2015) | 2123 |

(d): The Right to Information Act, 2005 has an inbuilt mechanism to ensure that the applications under the Act are disposed of in time. Section 20 of the RTI Act, inter-alia, provides for imposition of penalty of Rs.250/- each day for not furnishing information within the time specified under sub-section (1) of Section 7, subject to the condition that the total amount of such penalty shall not exceed Rs.25,000/- and/or disciplinary action against a Public Information Officer for malafidely not furnishing information in time.