

Vacancies of Information Commissioners

†997. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of the vacancies of Information Commissioners in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh lying vacant;
- (b) the time by when these vacancies would be filled up; and
- (c) the details of the educational and other qualifications for the post of the Information Commissioner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) The Right to Information Act, 2005 mandates that the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission, as the case may be, shall consist of the Chief Information Commissioner and such number of Information Commissioners not exceeding ten, as may be deemed necessary. At present the Central Information Commission consists of eight Information Commissioners besides a Chief Information Commissioner. The Act casts statutory obligation on the States to constitute State Information Commissions. Information regarding vacancies of Information Commissioners in State Information Commissions is not centrally maintained.

(b) Posts of Information Commissioners in the Central Information Commission are filled as and when the need arises.

(c) The Right to Information Act, 2005 lays down that the Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners shall be persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance.

Whistleblowers killed in country

998. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of whistle blowers killed during the last three years across the country;
- (b) whether Government has paid any compensation package to aggrieved family members;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (d) The identity of whistle blowers is confidential as per Department of Personnel and Training's Resolution dated 21st April, 2004. The data relating to whistle blower killed is not maintained Centrally. However, the Government has introduced a Bill for protection of whistle blowers which has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 27th December, 2011 as the "Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2011" and is presently in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill provides for adequate safeguards against victimization of the person making disclosure on any allegation of corruption or willful misuse of power or willful misuse of discretion against any public servant. It is also provided that if the Competent Authority is of the opinion that either the complainant or public servant or the witnesses etc. need protection, the Competent Authority shall issue appropriate directions to the concerned Government authorities (including police) which shall take necessary steps, through its agencies, to protect such complainant or public servant or persons concerned.

Upgradation of work at Chennai airports

999. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the status of the upgradation work at Chennai's Anna Domestic and Kamraj International airports;

(b) by when will the ongoing work at the Chennai airports, be completed; and

(c) what would be the capacity of the upgraded airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Work is nearing completion and pre-commissioning activities and trials are in progress.

(b) Work for Kamraj Domestic Airport Expected to be completed by April, 2012. Work of Anna International Airport expected to be completed by April 2012.

(c) Total annual handling passengers capacity of the upgraded Chennai airport is 23 million passengers as per details given below :

Annual handling capacity of the Kamraj Domestic Airport after expansion - 16 million passengers.

Annual handling capacity of the Anna International Airport after expansion - 7 million passengers.

Rule for All India services

1000. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has notified a rule making the retirement of All India services compulsory if they fail to clear a review after fifteen years of service;