

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1080  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2001  
FUNCTIONING OF SETTLEMENT COMMISSION  
MOHAN PONNUSWAMY;NIKHILANANDA SAR

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether out of 1729 applications filed before the Settlement Commission during 1994-95 to 1998-1999, only 624 were disposed-off and 1105 applications were pending as on 31st March, 1999;
- (b) if so, the actual latest figures of applications;
- (c) whether no time limit is prescribed for disposal-off cases by the Commission with the result that the final settlement of cases is much delayed defeating its very objective:
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken to correct the situation on both the counts ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) 2306 applications were filed before the Settlement Commission during the period 1994-95 to 1998-99. Prior to this period the pendency was 2369 applications. During the period 2782 applications were disposed. 1893 applications were pending for disposal as on 31-3-1999.
- (b) As on 1.4.2001, there were 1608 cases pending for final disposal.
- (c)&(d) The reason for delay include delayed reports from the field formations of the Income-tax Department and request by the applicant for adjournment of cases fixed for hearing.
- (e) The Commission has taken following steps for settlement of cases:
  - (i) holding meetings with the concerned Chief Commissioner of Income-tax to expedite the Reports.
  - ii) Camping by Benches of the Commission at different stations; and
  - iii) Reallocating the work among the four Benches of the Commission to increase disposal.