

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:638
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009
HEARING OF COMPLAINTS APPEALS
Patasani Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has urged the Central Information Commission (CIC) to hear all appeals and complaints by its full Commission, as reported in the media;
- (b) if so, the legal standing in this regard and guidelines laid down therefor;
- (c) the number of cases pending before CIC during the last three years and the current year alongwith details of cases cleared during the same period; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken for early clearance of the pending cases?

Answer

MINISTRY OF THE STATE (Independent Charge) IN THE MINISTRY OF Science and Technology; MINISTRY OF THE STATE (Independent Charge) IN THE MINISTRY OF Earth Sciences; MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE Prime Minister's Office; MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions;and MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF Parliamentary Affairs. (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a):- The Government has advised the Commission that decisions on complaints and appeals should be taken by the Central Information Commission as defined in section 2(b) of the RTI Act, 2005 and not by benches of the Commission.

(b):- The Right to Information Act, 2005 does not contain any provision for the constitution of benches.

(c):- The number of cases disposed of by and number of cases pending before the CIC during last four years are given below :-

Year	No of cases disposed of	No. of cases pending as on 1st April of the succeeding year
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2005-06		682
2006-07	4074	3247
2007-08	7722	6820
2008-09	13322	8924

(d):- The Government has strengthened the Central Information Commission by appointing more Information Commissioners. The Commission has taken steps to increase the use of information technology for quick disposal of cases.