

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:112  
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010  
PENDING PATENT APPLICATIONS  
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a number of applications seeking patent are lying pending for approval;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the drugs which have been granted patent during the last five years; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to dispose of the pending applications at the earliest?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 112 for reply on 2nd August, 2010.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. As on 30th June, 2010, 78,972 patent applications in respect of which request for examination has been filed under section 11 B of the Patents Act, 1970, are pending with the Indian Patent Office. The details are as follows:

S.No.	Field	Number of Requests for Examination	S.No.	Field	Number of Requests for Examination
1	Agriculture Engineering	117	12	Food	577
2	Agrochemicals	449	13	General Engineering	2935
3	Bio-chemistry	1850	14	Mechanical Engineering	14134
4	Bio-medical Engineering	1936	15	Metallurgy	1125
5	Biotechnology	3057	16	Microbiology	584
6	Chemical	11633	17	Pharmaceuticals	6322
7	Civil	868	18	Physics	3257
8	Communication	6507	19	Polymer technology	2081
9	Computer Science	5039	20	Textile	1022
10	Electrical	4740	21	Traditional Knowledge	31
11	Electronics	8192	22	Others	2516
	Total	78972			

From 2005-06 to 2009-10, 3488 product patents have been granted for drugs and pharmaceuticals by the Indian Patent Office. The details of these patents are available on the website of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM), namely, <http://www.ipindia.nic.in>.

(c): The pendency of requests for examination is mainly due to the considerable increase in the number of patent applications filed with the Patent Office after 2003-04. In order to dispose of the pending requests for examination, the Government has created 200 new posts of Examiners of Patents and Designs in the Patent Office, under the 11th Five Year Plan scheme for Modernization and Strengthening of Intellectual Property Offices, recruitment for which has been initiated along with recruitment of 57 other vacant posts.

Further, a part of the 'prior art search' work, which is an essential part of the examination of patent applications, has been outsourced to the Unit for Research & Development of Information Products (URDIP), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), so as to enable the Patent Office to speed up examination of patent applications.