

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2944

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011

PATENT PROPOSALS

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

- (a) whether a large number of applications filed for granting patent are lying pending with the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the number of patent examiners and set up more branch offices;
- (d) whether the ministry also maintains the data regarding patented pharmaceutical products to be marketed in India at present; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b): 83,686 Patent applications for examination are pending as on 8th March, 2011. This pendency is due to substantial increase in filing requests for examination and shortage of examiners of Patent and Designs.

(c): 200 posts of Patent Examiners were created under the XI Five Year Plan. As part of the recruitment process, and examination to recruit 257 patent examiners (which includes the new posts created) was conducted on 2nd January, 2011. There is no proposal to establish more branches of patent offices.

(d): No, Madam.

(e): Does not arise. However, a list of Product Patents in Pharmaceuticals granted by the Indian Patent Office between 2005-06 to 2009-10 has been placed in the IPO website www.ipindia.nic.in.