

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2937
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011
ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL
Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of details of the Armed Forces Tribunals (AFTs) established in various parts of the country;
- (b) whether both Servicemen and Ex-servicemen are experiencing difficulties in accessing these tribunals as they are regionally constituted as compared to the Central Administrative Tribunals and the various High Courts which are located in the State Capitals and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases disposed off by the AFTs since their inception, Tribunal-wise;
- (d) whether the constitution of these tribunals has brought down the number of Officers and Jawans who are accessing the High Courts through their writ jurisdictions to adjudicate their grievances and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether his Ministry is satisfied with the functioning of the tribunals and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2937 FOR ANSWER ON 14.3.2011

Armed Forces Tribunal has been established with its Principal Bench at Delhi and Regional Benches at seven locations, namely, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Guwahati, Kolkata, Chennai and Kochi. It has also been decided to set up another Bench at Mumbai. The provision for Circuit Benches in the scheme of AFT is expected to take care of any problems relating to accessibility of the Tribunals to the Servicemen and Ex-servicemen.

The number of cases disposed of by various benches of the Tribunal, Bench-wise are as under:

Bench Location No. of Cases disposed
since inception

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|------|
| Principal Bench | Delhi | 1525 |
| Regional Bench | Chennai | 401 |
| Regional Bench | Jaipur | 397 |
| Regional Bench | Lucknow | 945 |
| Regional Bench | Chandigarh | 1897 |
| Regional Bench | Kolkata | 124 |
| Regional Bench | Kochi | 276 |
| Regional Bench | Guwahati | 044 |

Constitution of the Tribunals has brought down the number of Officers and Jawans approaching High Courts through Writ Jurisdiction. Government is satisfied with the functioning of the AFTs.