

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:40

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012

PENDING CASES IN CIC

Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) the number of cases pending with the Central Information Commission (CIC) as on 28 February 2012 and the period of pendency;
- (b) whether the CIC is losing its relevance due to the large scale pending cases as reported in the media;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the shortage of commissioners in CIC is one of the reasons for the large scale pendency;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the other factors which have contributed to the high pendency; and
- (f) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the clearance of the pending cases?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 40 BY SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE AND SHRI SANJAY BHOI FOR 14.03.2012 REGARDING 'PENDING CASES IN CIC'.

The Central Information Commission has reported that 26,574 appeals/complaints are pending with them as on 1st February, 2012. The increase in pendency is due to manifold increase in number of RTI applications made to Central Public Authorities from 2006 -07 to 2009-10 and consequent increase in number of appeals/complaints filed with the Commission as also retirement of three Central Information Commissioners since September, 2010. The pendency has also increased due to considerable higher number of appeals/complaints being filed to the Central Information Commission despite the fact that disposal of appeals / complaints by an Information Commissioner has increased as given below:

Year	Receipt	Disposal	Pendency as on 1st April	Percentage (disposal/receipt)	Average annual disposal by individual IC/CIC
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2007-08	11621	7722	6820 (2008)	68.57%	1544
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2008-09	15426	13322	8924 (2009)	86.36%	1665
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2009-10	22800	19482	12242 (2010)	85.44%	2165
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2010-11	28875	24071	17046 (2011)	83.36%	2675
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The Central Government has taken several steps like issue of guidelines for the Central Public Information Officers and First Appellate

Authorities enabling them to supply information/dispose of first appeal effectively resulting into less number of appeals to the Commission, sanction of additional posts for the Commission etc. The Commission on its part launched special drive to clear the pendency of appeals/complaints. Further, three more Information Commissioners have been appointed with effect from 1st March, 2012. It has also been decided in consultation with Chief Information Commissioner that Central Information Commission should be granted autonomy in recruitment of staff.