

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3083
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2012
NOTARY PUBLIC
Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the applications for appointment as Notary Public in respective States are being disposed off after a long gap;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the extent to which the appointment of `Notaiy Public would benefit the common man and reduce the heavy backlog of pending cases in various courts?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a)to (c) No, Madam. Under Rule 6 of the Notaries Rules, the applications for appointment of Notaries are scrutinized. The objections, if any, are ascertained in respect of each applicant from the respective State Bar Council, Bar Association or other authority in the area where the applicant proposes to practice. The State Bar Council is requested to confirm if the said advocate applicant is still borne on the roll of advocates maintained by them and no conduct proceeding is pending against him. Each applicant is requested to submit an affidavit attested by a 1st Class Magistrate.

Under Rule 7, the Competent Authority, after holding such enquiry as deemed fit, makes a report to the appropriate Government recommending each applicant's name whose applications are found complete in all respect for allowing them to appear before the Interview Board. Interview Boards are constituted under Rule 7A for each State. The Interviews for respective States are held once a year. The Central Government has started the process of Interviews for better transparency in the appointment of Notaries after amending the Notaries Rules w.e.f. March, 2009. Interviews for the candidates from ihe States of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat have already been held this year at Lucknow and Ahmedabad respectively.

(d) Notaries are accessible to common man at District, Taluka, Tehsil and sub-tehsil level for authenticity of documents brought to him by general public. However, Notaries are not involved in reducing the backlog of pending cases in courts.