

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2002
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2015
Pending Patent Applications
Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan

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

- (a) whether a number of patent applications are lying pending with the Government for approval on account of shortage of professionals for the purpose;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to clear the pending applications along with the target, if any, fixed in this regard ?

Answer

???????? ??? ?????? ????????????? (????????? ??????)(????????? ?????? ??????)
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): Yes.

(b): Pendency of patent applications is measured in terms of pending Requests of Examination which are awaiting disposal at different stages of processing in Patent Offices. The details of Requests for Examinations pending in the Indian Patent Offices, location-wise, are as under:-

<pre>

Location No. of Requests for Examinations
Delhi 83291
Chennai 74390
Kolkata 40558
Mumbai 28100
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(c): Measures taken by the Government to clear the pending applications are as under:

(i) The Government has approved additional 252 posts of Examiners and 76 posts of Controllers (supervisory officers) in the 12th Plan under the Plan Scheme for 'Modernisation and Strengthening of Intellectual Property Offices'. With this, the total sanctioned strength of Examiners and Controllers has become 589 and 170 respectively. The process of recruitment to 459 vacant posts of Examiners has already been initiated and advertisement issued in this regard.

(ii) Besides, as a short-time measure, 263 posts of Contract Examiners of Patents have also been sanctioned.

(iii) In order to facilitate the examination work and optimise the speed and quality of examination, number of measures viz., computerised work-flow, automation and IT enablement in the functioning of Patent Office have been initiated. Prior Art Search facility has been strengthened by subscribing to the global patent databases. A common search engine for rapid Prior Art Search has also been initiated. These modern facilities have contributed in expediting the examination work of the Patent Examiners.
