

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:906
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014
NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been set up for settlement of disputes related to environmental or natural resources;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a large number of such cases are lying pending with NGT for years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such pendency; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government for speedy disposal of the pending cases and the time frame fixed for the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a): As per preamble, object and reasons of the NGT Act, 2010, National Green Tribunal has been established for the effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(b) Under Section 14 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010:

(i) the Tribunal shall have the jurisdiction over all civil cases where a substantial question relating to environment (including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment), is involved and such question arises out of the implementation of enactment specified in Schedule I.

(ii) The Tribunal shall hear the disputes arising from the questions referred to in sub section (I) and settle such disputes and pass order thereon.

(iii) No application for adjudication of disputes under the section shall be entertained by the Tribunal unless it is made within a period of six months from the date on which the cause of action for such disputes first arose:

"Provided that the Tribunal may, if it is satisfied that the applicant was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the application within the said period, allow it to be filed within a further period not exceeding sixty days.

(c)&(d): National Green Tribunal was established on 18.10.2010 and Court commenced from 4.7.2011. In the year 2011, 168 cases were transferred from National Environment Appellate Authority (NEAA) to National Green Tribunal. Thereafter, in subsequent years, as detailed below, much institution and disposal of cases took place and at present 2063 cases are pending in all Benches of NGT i.e. Principal Bench at New Delhi, Southern Zone Bench at Chennai, Central Zone Bench at Bhopal and Western Zone Bench at Pune. Mostly the old cases are those which have been transferred from NEAA and all the High Courts of India. The details in tabular form are as under:-

Year	Institution (in all Benches)	Disposal (In all Benches)	Pending in all Benches
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2011	168	163	5
(Cases are transferred from NEAA)			
2012	548	438	110

2013 3116 1585 1646
2014
Till 909 492 2063
31.3.2014

(e) As per provision of Rule 18 of National Green Tribunal (Practice and Procedure) Rules, 2011, cases are heard and decided finally, as far as possible, within six months from the date of their filing.