

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 252
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018

Vacancies in NGT

*252. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the posts of Chairperson, Judicial Members and Expert Members in National Green Tribunal (NGT) have been lying vacant for a long time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Supreme Court of India has recently ordered filling up of these vacancies in NGT with immediate effect and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has assured the Apex Court that said vacancies will be filled up by March, 2018;
- (e) if so, details thereof and steps taken by Government in this regard and if not, reasons therefor; and
- (f) by when these vacancies would be filled?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 252 regarding 'Vacancies in NGT' by Shri D. Kupendra Reddy due for reply on 19.03.2018.

(a) & (b): The post of Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT) fell vacant with effect from 20.12.2017 due to superannuation of the Chairperson, Mr. Justice Swatanter Kumar on 19.12.2017. The posts of 5 Judicial Members and 7 Expert Members had fallen vacant during 2016 to 2017, on account of superannuation/resignation/inability of some candidates to join the Tribunal after selection.

(c) to (e): No such directions have been issued by the Supreme Court of India recently and no assurance has been given by the Government. Advertisements were issued inviting applications for filling up the vacant posts and applications have been received from prospective candidates. The selections would be made by following the due process.

(f): The matter regarding composition of the Search-cum-Selection Committees was sub-judice in the Supreme Court of India. Necessary action would be taken in accordance with the outcome in the matter.
