

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3230.  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026.**

**PENDENCY AND PROCESSING TIME OF TRADEMARK AND PATENT  
APPLICATIONS**

**3230. DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise number of trademark and patent applications received during the last five years, along with year-wise details of applications approved, pending and rejected;
- (b) the average time taken, in days or months, for examination and approval of trademark and patent applications under the normal procedure and the present average pendency period;
- (c) whether patent examinations often exceed the stipulated timeframe, with applicants waiting over a year, while applications on payment of higher fees, are cleared within months; and
- (d) the reasons for such disparity and the measures taken to ensure timely examination for reducing pendency?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)**

- (a) to (d):** 1. In recent years, the Government has undertaken several targeted measures to strengthen the patent and trademark ecosystem in the country, particularly for startups, MSMEs and educational institutions. Major initiatives include:
- i. 80% fee reduction across the patent lifecycle for Startups, MSMEs and Educational Institutions and 50% fee reduction in Trade Marks filings for Startups and MSMEs.
  - ii. Introduction of Expedited Examination under Rule 24C of the Patents Rules, 2003 (as amended) for eligible categories such as Startups, MSMEs, female applicants, Government departments/institutions/PSUs and applicants selecting India as the International Searching Authority (ISA). This was incorporated to enable faster grant and commercialization of inventions. This requires payment of higher fees (four times the normal fee) to ensure that only applicants with genuine urgency opt for this route, and this is aligned with global best practices followed by major patent offices.

- iii. Launch of the National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM) in December 2021 under the aegis of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM). More than 9,500 programmes have been conducted across all States and Union Territories, creating awareness among over 25 lakh students and faculty members.
- iv. Implementation of the Start-ups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP) Scheme (2016), providing pro bono facilitation for filing and processing of IP applications. The scheme has been expanded to include innovators, creators and educational institutions, along with support through Technology and Innovation Support Centres (TISC) and facilitation of international patent filings through RO/IN and WIPO mechanisms.
- v. As a result, there has been a significant increase in filings of patent and trade marks applications during the last five years as shown below:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Patent</b>	<b>Trademark</b>
2021-22	66,440	4,47,805
2022-23	82,811	4,66,580
2023-24	92,168	4,76,089
2024-25	1,10,375	5,52,190
2025-26 (till 15 March 2026)	1,33,388	6,31,658

2. The State-wise and year-wise details for patent and trade mark (filed, granted/registered, pending and rejected) have further been provided at Annexure- A, and Annexure-B respectively.
3. Further, under the patent system filing a Request for Examination (RFE) is mandatory which can be filed within 31 months from the date of application. Also examination is taken up post publication of the application which happens after 18 months of date of filing, unless early publication is requested by the applicant. The applications are examined either under expedited or normal route to assess the registrability/grant criteria. Both patent and trademark applications also pass through mandatory public opposition, which adds an additional layer of checks to ensure quality. The process involves both technical scrutiny and quasi-judicial proceedings in case of third party opposition which involves amendments and hearings, thereby leading to an extended timeline for completion of the process.
4. In view of the above and with increasing volume of applications received in recent years, average time taken in examination and approval of patent and trademark applications in 2025 is as under:

<b>IP Type</b>	<b>Mode of examination</b>	<b>Average time taken (in months)</b>
Patent	Expedited route	15.8
	Normal route	44.3
Trade Mark	Expedited route	7.2
	Normal route	28.4

5. To further streamline and reduce the average time, a series of administrative and process reforms have been undertaken to ensure timeliness and systematic reduction of pendency, which include:
- i. **Manpower Augmentation:** The sanctioned strength of Patent Examiners and Controllers has been increased from 936 in 2021 to 1,433 as on 31.01.2026. The working strength has correspondingly increased by 51%, from 848 to 1,286, enabling enhanced examination capacity in line with the rising number of filings. In Trade Mark, overall sanctioned strength has been increased by 74% from 286 in 2021 to 467 as on 31.01.2026.
  - ii. **End-to-End Digitisation:** All procedures in the Patent and Trademark office have been fully digitised through an integrated online system, eliminating paper-based processes. This facilitates efficient handling of applications, timely filing of responses, and conduct of hearings through video conferencing, thereby improving overall disposal rates. In Trade Mark, AI/ML based search module has been introduced to assist examiners in examination process, improving accuracy, consistency, and speed of examination.
  - iii. **Capacity Building and Skill Enhancement:** Regular induction and refresher training programmes are conducted for Examiners and Controllers in both technical and legal domains. Training sessions are also organised with judicial academies and legal experts. Further, an LL.M. programme at NLU Delhi has been introduced to strengthen the quality and consistency of examination;
  - iv. **Process Optimisation and Monitoring:** Continuous monitoring of examination timelines and pendency levels is undertaken through internal dashboards and periodic reviews, enabling better allocation of workload and prioritisation of cases;
  - v. **Simplification of Procedures:** Steps have been taken to streamline procedures, including facilitating early publication, encouraging timely filing of Requests for Examination, and improving responsiveness through digital interfaces, thereby reducing procedural delays; and
  - vi. **Stakeholder Facilitation Measures:** Initiatives such as SIPP, TISC support, and user-friendly online systems assist applicants in filing complete and quality applications, reducing deficiencies and expediting examination.

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## ANNEXURE-A

## ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3230 FOR ANSWER ON 20.03.2026.

## State wise Patent Application data of last 05 years

STATE	Filing					Grant					Refusal					Pending				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Andaman & Nicobar	1	4	4	6	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	858	1286	1988	3241	4465	86	142	104	32	6	29	11	22	3	0	38	83	380	167	84
Arunachal Pradesh	30	8	8	10	24	1	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	3
Assam	125	214	201	244	342	51	58	32	36	8	5	6	7	0	1	24	26	20	28	24
Bihar	68	136	236	280	402	27	54	89	95	24	4	5	5	3	1	4	19	24	39	67
Chandigarh	337	475	490	428	432	103	55	23	11	2	12	5	8	0	0	131	107	78	32	13
Chattisgarh	119	250	292	582	485	29	28	45	20	12	4	13	4	2	0	3	25	19	23	56
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu	4	2	2	3	6	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Daman & Diu	4	—	—	—	2	0	—	—	—	0	0	—	—	—	0	0	—	—	—	0
Delhi	1557	1962	1944	2479	3072	430	263	144	128	46	43	25	21	7	2	328	310	133	203	190
Goa	44	47	54	58	162	13	14	15	7	1	3	2	2	2	0	6	6	10	3	7
Gujarat	961	1204	2470	2521	3629	373	393	469	126	24	43	26	32	14	1	85	160	302	268	162
Haryana	858	1067	959	1448	2241	201	115	85	51	9	27	16	5	8	1	114	99	62	74	62
Himachal Pradesh	203	349	267	300	408	34	18	25	23	6	5	2	6	1	1	14	9	22	27	35
Jammu & Kashmir	86	81	117	197	230	26	13	18	22	3	7	0	5	3	0	12	14	17	31	30
Jharkhand	219	345	329	635	977	142	71	30	41	21	6	3	1	2	3	15	56	40	44	57
Karnataka	3084	4426	5561	7341	10838	674	545	486	243	71	69	55	59	18	2	253	427	468	429	341
Kerala	423	482	630	741	1159	95	102	119	120	25	11	10	14	4	0	30	42	63	80	83
Ladakh	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	0	0	—	—	—	0	0	—	—	—	1	0	—
Madhya Pradesh	436	624	728	790	1346	82	68	58	49	19	14	14	11	3	0	32	37	52	56	73
Maharashtra	4284	5343	6898	7608	10552	1489	1077	807	438	92	160	131	121	40	7	443	749	1070	658	612
Manipur	13	15	9	24	23	3	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	0	3	2
Meghalaya	20	31	20	25	27	8	2	3	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	3	3	1	3	3
Mizoram	8	12	9	7	13	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	2
Nagaland	8	6	10	71	48	5	0	4	40	2	0	0	0	12	0	1	1	1	11	16
Orissa	409	411	501	762	1776	49	49	39	31	10	8	0	2	3	0	28	26	67	21	41

Pondicherry	69	63	122	148	257	35	25	18	19	0	3	1	3	0	1	6	8	15	14	15
Punjab	1643	2780	4261	5825	6541	205	133	52	42	8	39	23	25	4	0	183	201	94	68	53
Rajasthan	435	867	1762	1798	2496	78	92	70	44	14	12	9	8	4	0	50	55	193	102	70
Sikkim	10	4	4	11	11	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Tamil Nadu	4525	7533	8897	13280	21104	1029	992	493	226	43	152	199	67	23	3	312	689	816	942	1022
Telangana	1657	2311	2686	3889	6828	262	230	190	206	61	46	39	13	14	2	80	119	153	225	223
Tripura	10	30	20	19	46	3	3	4	2	3	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	4
Uttar Pradesh	2751	3909	6457	6093	7610	520	421	312	218	39	124	86	44	22	1	236	204	361	368	223
Uttarakhand	391	1584	1218	1250	2028	147	225	108	27	5	22	44	7	0	0	40	158	145	113	53
West Bengal	470	727	816	1260	1566	146	133	93	60	12	27	15	11	9	1	60	104	90	82	66

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## ANNEXURE-B

## ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3230 FOR ANSWER ON 20.03.2026.

## State wise Trademark Application data of last 05 years

PARTICULAR	FILED					PENDING (AS ON 14/03/2026)					APPROVED (REGISTERED)					REJECTED (ABANDONED, REFUSED, REMOVED, WITHDRAWN, CANCELLED)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	25	39	31	52	22	2	11	15	55	60	21	10	21	31	4	10	5	4	0	1
ANDHRA PRADESH	5064	5567	5496	6846	6951	552	1457	2559	6834	8639	2636	2706	2764	3622	1207	1589	1237	561	107	15
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	10	16	18	29	29	2	18	18	99	82	10	7	10	9	7	10	13	2	3	0
ASSAM	1821	2437	2514	2979	2528	169	587	1122	2953	3418	929	945	1320	1354	431	595	565	263	49	4
BIHAR	5750	6421	6499	7166	8365	643	1687	2874	6790	8691	2708	2613	3554	3327	1087	2095	1518	817	116	11
CHANDIGARH	2620	2976	2721	2928	3413	283	564	977	2712	3506	1635	1142	1643	2547	599	619	598	293	60	2
CHATTISGARH	2752	2879	3005	3997	4160	310	644	1302	3860	4573	1353	1162	1634	2364	633	732	560	303	72	7
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	153	102	176	86	51	16	31	102	85	178	72	69	73	80	20	46	21	11	1	0
DAMAN & DIU	65	112	133	111	114	7	21	56	107	119	66	39	80	68	24	19	14	12	1	0
DELHI	60543	59720	57291	61336	66537	5758	13150	23712	62586	76245	38984	29019	35401	57672	13864	14354	11182	5696	1066	172
DISTRICT NOT SPECIFIED	17066	18689	21012	24710	26200	310	370	602	503	141	8294	10677	10974	16228	4044	128	79	39	7	1
GOA	900	1111	1108	1184	1374	87	222	473	1321	1581	398	429	650	960	251	184	198	113	12	2
GUJARAT	44640	46248	51168	59982	68196	4126	7640	17368	54391	70921	30528	26535	33321	32382	10624	9509	7438	4235	622	46
HARYANA	26013	25524	27281	30537	35623	2351	5378	11078	29896	38854	14127	11241	14097	24929	6100	6176	5008	2877	503	75
HIMACHAL PRADESH	2249	1904	1861	1967	2157	280	475	800	1859	2306	934	798	916	1725	371	693	419	240	25	1
JAMMU AND KASHMIR	1862	1739	1824	2171	2385	134	401	779	2129	2492	998	636	891	1691	351	591	402	210	31	1
JHARKHAND	2126	2296	2416	2500	3241	212	616	1021	2339	3387	1053	1044	1281	1280	425	685	501	292	47	5
KARNATAKA	23035	25554	25928	31673	33407	2383	5139	10069	30379	38627	12887	13160	14407	18789	5559	5510	4203	2178	362	54
KERALA	15443	16462	16496	20741	25094	1354	3172	6340	19461	25937	8844	9324	9339	11976	3609	3368	2425	1236	196	19
LADAKH	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	8	3	3	9	2	0	0	0	0	0
LAKSHADWEEP	5	6	14	14	14	1	3	3	11	15	7	3	2	11	3	0	3	0	0	0
MADHYA PRADESH	11694	13313	13819	16087	17897	1314	2801	5670	15123	18678	6050	5433	7447	10489	2721	3096	2617	1439	225	25
MAHARASHTRA	79698	82403	80916	93589	101066	7482	16166	30628	89715	107942	44802	39597	51133	69770	18891	16730	12233	6169	1056	251
MANIPUR	95	87	68	93	71	9	29	45	116	126	19	42	47	43	15	39	18	7	1	0
MEGHALAYA	56	67	87	95	222	5	19	27	130	250	34	38	49	63	8	13	8	10	0	0
MIZORAM	17	24	17	43	46	3	3	8	46	51	21	11	18	8	2	8	4	1	0	0
NAGALAND	50	55	113	70	88	3	15	32	66	91	17	20	29	63	22	18	13	12	2	0

ORISSA	2613	2751	2524	3187	3618	220	663	1096	3034	3979	1497	1387	1645	1526	522	817	583	253	39	2
PONDICHERRY	323	325	430	519	593	37	51	134	529	652	209	197	192	302	97	73	69	45	12	1
PUNJAB	13900	15088	14474	16658	16073	1281	2607	5408	15841	19366	9168	6511	8329	13936	3406	3007	2942	1613	256	22
RAJASTHAN	20433	21285	21426	24045	26943	1977	4178	8416	22151	27687	12123	10636	14249	12483	4066	5425	4057	2073	257	12
SIKKIM	42	68	43	58	21	4	11	26	67	92	29	21	36	28	7	17	20	1	0	0
TAMIL NADU	23310	24692	26139	30951	31731	2238	4768	9584	30009	35125	13978	14808	14522	19303	5882	4780	3691	2128	337	52
TELANGANA	16200	17175	18669	22426	26028	1567	3519	7246	20467	27805	8690	8789	9425	13505	3905	3778	2830	1515	601	44
TRIPURA	129	154	146	175	244	7	48	61	177	297	79	69	79	98	33	51	36	15	2	0
UTTAR PRADESH	35593	37349	38169	46900	51858	3329	8424	16009	44017	54769	18748	14479	19237	33829	8090	10008	7807	4053	715	79
UTTARAKHAND	3613	3662	3615	4321	4547	325	811	1576	4233	5033	1972	1498	1901	3325	816	1064	849	362	83	3
WEST BENGAL	14179	15577	15532	18488	20005	1686	3698	6592	17742	21718	9019	8385	9372	9027	3331	3717	2985	1366	282	31

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