

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1476

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 10th FEBRUARY, 2023

Appointment of Central Notary/Notary Public

1476. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:

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

- (a) the criteria adopted for selection of Central Notary/Notary Public for the State Governments along with the powers delegated to them and tenure of the services fixed as per the Notary Act;
- (b) the number of applications received from various States and advocates in connection with the appointment of Notaries during the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Maharashtra;
- (c) the number of appointments made and pending along with their present status during the above period, State-wise and the reasons for pendency; and
- (d) whether the procedure for appointment of Notary Public in the country has been disrupted due to COVID-19 and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a):Rule 3 of the Notary Rules 1956 provides for eligibility criteria for appointment as Notary Public that in case of General Category, 10 years of experience as Legal Practitioner is required and in case of SC/ST/OBC/Women Category, 7 years of experience as Legal Practitioner is required.

With regard to delegation of power to Notary Public it is stated that Section 3 of Notary Act, 1952 deals with the power to appoint Notaries- The Central Government, for the whole or any part of India, and State Government, for the whole or any part of the State, may appoint as notaries any legal practitioners or other persons who possess such qualifications as may be prescribed.

Tenure of the service fixed as per Notary Rules, 1956 is mentioned in Rule 8 (4), according to this sub-rule- Where the application is allowed, the appropriate Government shall appoint the applicant as a Notary and direct his name to be entered in the Register of Notaries maintained by that Government under section 4 of the Act and issue to him a certificate on payment of prescribed fees authorizing him to practise in the area to which the application relates or in such part thereof as the appropriate Government may specify in the certificate, as a Notary for a period of 5 year from the date on which the certificate is issued to him.

(b) to (d): the number of applications received from the various states during last three years and the current year and number of appointment made and pending is placed at **Annexure-I.**

Yes Sir, the procedure for appointment of Notary Public in the country has been disturbed due to COVID-19, position is mentioned as under:-

2020- No interview Boards were constituted for conducting of interview for any of State/UT in this year.

2021- Interviews were conducted for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

2022- Interviews were conducted for the Union Territory of Puducherry in the month of July, 2022, wherein 128 candidates/ applicants were appointed as Notaries by the Central Government

To promote the vision of Hon'ble PM of digital India and taking into consideration the Covid-19 situation and to facilitate the citizens, the Department of Legal Affairs first time conducted Online interviews for the State of Himachal Pradesh, wherein out of 685 applicants 367 were appointed as Notaries by the Central Government. Thereafter online interviews were also conducted for the state of Gujarat, wherein out of 9198 applicants 1236 were appointed as Notaries by the Central Government.

Current Year (2023)- For the State of Karnataka Document Verifications were held for over 5526 candidates and the process of online interviews is scheduled for the month of February, 2023. The process of inviting applications for the appointment of notaries is already done through online mode.

Annexure-I

S. No.	State Name	Number of Applications Received During Last Three Years and in Current Year				Number of Appointment of Notaries During Last 3 Years
		2020	2021	2022	2023	
1	Andaman & Nicobar	0	4	0		
2	Andhra Pradesh	284	3578	18		
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	15	16		
4	Assam	2	406	2		
5	Bihar	16	238	630		
6	Chandigarh	10	76	4		
7	Chhattisgarh	595	2682	1		
8	Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And DIU	3	6	0		
9	Delhi	102	989	40		
10	Gao	1	306	2		
11	Gujarat	5483	3016	20		1236
12	Haryana	291	1218	128		
13	Himachal Pradesh	25	656	4		367
14	Jammu And Kashmir	176	0	4		91
15	Jharkhand	29	552	9		
16	Karnataka	399	4788	61		
17	Kerala	85	2048	18		
18	Ladakh	0	9	0		
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	1		
20	Madhya Pradesh	183	3219	34		
21	Maharashtra	1205	15686	22		
22	Manipur	0	0	1		
23	Meghalaya	0	4	7		
24	Mizoram	0	1	0		
25	Nagaland	1	0	5		
26	Odisha	25	456	14		
27	Puducherry	2	221	1		128
28	Punjab	201	1466	39		
29	Rajasthan	526	4756	64		
30	Tamilnadu	197	10035	37		
31	Telangana	43	1969	13		
32	Tripura	3	30	0		
33	Uttar Pradesh	236	3599	40		
34	Uttarakhand	7	138	5		
35	West Bengal	47	1105	8		
TOTAL		10177	63272	1248	NIL	1822