

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
(DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL & TRAINING)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1045**  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2023)

**INFORMATION COMMISSIONS OF INDIA**

**1045. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the piling number of cases in Information Commissions of India and if so, the details thereof along with the details of the defunct Commissions, Commissions without Information Commissioners and the number of posts lying vacant of Information Commissioner;
- (b) the details of the number of cases registered, number of cases heard/ordered and pending cases during the last five years, State-wise especially in Maharashtra; and
- (c) the steps initiated by the Government in this regard for the proper and timely decision on the matters registered under the Commissions?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES  
AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

(a) & (b): Filling up of vacancies of Information Commissioners in State Information Commissions is the subject matter of respective State Governments as per Section 15 of the RTI Act, 2005.

Further, in terms of Section 12(3) of the RTI Act, 2005, the Central Information Commission shall consist of the Chief Information Commissioner and such number of Information Commissioners, not exceeding ten, as may be deemed necessary. At present, four Information Commissioners apart from the Chief Information Commissioner are in position in the CIC.

The details of the number of cases registered, disposed and pending in respect of Central Information Commission during the last five years are given below:

Year	Registered (Appeal/Complaint)	Disposed	Pending as on 1 <sup>st</sup> April
2018-19	22,736	17,188	29,655
2019-20	22,243	16,720	35,178
2020-21	19,183	17,016	38,116
2021-22	19,604	28,793	29,213
2022-23	19,014	29,210	19,233

(c): The Government has taken a series of steps which include capacity building through training and issue of guidelines for Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authorities, so as to enable them to supply information/dispose of first appeal effectively, resulting in less number of appeals to the Information Commission. The Government, apart from a number of clarificatory orders, has also issued OM No. 1/18/2007-IR dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2007, 1/6/2011-IR dated 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 and 1/6/2011-IR dated 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 impressing upon the public authorities to disclose maximum information proactively so that citizens need not resort to filing of RTI applications to access information available with the public authorities. The Central Information Commission has been granted autonomy in recruitment of staff. Further, Chief Information Commissioner and four Information Commissioners have been appointed in the Central Information Commission in January 2019.

As far as second appeals are concerned, the Central Information Commission has taken several initiatives to improve the effectiveness of RTI Act viz. e-court and video conferencing for the early and effective hearing of second appeals/complaints.

The Commission has also completed digitization of records besides electronic receipts of cases and registration, one click information window & mobile app for the benefit of the RTI applicants.

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