

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3280**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH MARCH, 2021/ PHALGUNA 25, 1942 (SAKA)

CONSTITUTION OF FOREIGNERS' TRIBUNALS

3280. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Foreigners' Tribunals constituted in the country and the number of such Tribunals in the pipeline;**
- (b) the number of cases pending before such Tribunals;**
- (c) the details of the number of judges appointed to such Tribunals as members and the qualifications required for the same;**
- (d) the criterion for reappointment of members on the expiry of their contract;**
- (e) the details of the compensation paid to such members; and**
- (f) whether the Government is providing financial and legal assistance to those filing appeals in such Tribunals;**
- (g) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Presently, Foreigners' Tribunals (FTs) have been constituted only in the State of Assam. Government of Assam has informed that a total of 300 Foreigners Tribunals (FTs) have been constituted in the state. Ministry of Home Affairs has conveyed in-principle approval for constitution of another 200 FTs to the Government of Assam.**

- (b) A total number of 1,40,050 cases were pending before such tribunals till the month of December, 2020.
- (c) Presently, there are 8 (eight) retired Judicial Officers working as Members of FTs in Assam. The qualifications required for a retired Judicial Officer to be appointed as a Member of Foreigners Tribunal are:-
- (i) An officer will have to be a retired Judicial Officer from the Assam Judicial Service.
- (ii) Maximum age upto which the officer will be allowed to work as Member is 67 years.
- (d) The reappointment of the Members of the FTs on expiry of their contract is based upon the performance assessment of the Members by Hon'ble Gauhati High Court.
- (e) The pay and allowance of the Members are regulated on the basis of last pay drawn or minimum pay in the revised scale corresponding to the post held at the time of superannuation, which ever is higher, minus pension plus Dearness Allowance at the rate admissible to the State Government employees. In addition, special pay @ 15% of his pay subject to a maximum Rs. 2000/- plus a special allowance @ 12.5% of the basic pay is also admissible.

(f) & (g) There is provision of legal aid to needy people. Legal aid to the poor is provided through Assam State Legal Services Authority under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. District Legal Services Authorities have also been constituted.

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