GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 223

ANSWERED on MONDAY, 01 December, 2025/AGRAHAYANA 10, 1947 (SAKA)

CCI GREEN CHANNEL FILINGS

223. Dr. Shashi Tharoor:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the percentage of green channel filings before the CCI reduced from 2021 to 2024 according to the annual report for financial Year 2023-24;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor, if assessed by the Government;
- (c) whether CCI has opted for a strict interpretation of green channel rules where they reject the applicability of the green channel route in non-problematic transactions where the parties had minimal or technical overlaps and whether this strict interpretation is the reason for a reduction in green channel filings;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the changes in green channel rules made in September 2024, which consider the Ultimate Controlling Persons (UCP) of the acquirer group for mapping overlaps with the target(s) to qualify for a green channel filing, would further reduce green channel filings; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to overcome this hurdle?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS.

(SHRI HARSH MALHOTRA)

(a) &(b): The number of Green Channel filings as a percentage of total combination notice filings from 2020-2021 and 2023-2024 are as under:

Financial Year	No of Green	% of Green
	Channel Filings	Channel filings
2020-21	17	19%
2021-22	24	27%
2022-23	25	25%
2023-24	25	22%

The number of Green Channel filings as a percentage of total combination notice filing during the Financial Years 2020-2021 and 2023 -2024 has increased from 19% to 22%.

(c) & (d) Green Channel is an automatic system of approval, which is available to only those mergers, amalgamations and acquisitions (combinations) where there are no business overlaps of any kind, be it horizontal, vertical or complementary in nature, between the parties to combination. The provisions for Green Channel are provided under Section 6(4) and 6(5) of the Competition Act, 2002 (Act) read with the Competition (Criteria of Combination) Rules, 2024 (Green Channel Rules). Accordingly, the Commission assesses the applicability of Green Channel Filings as per the extant provisions of the Act and rules / regulations thereunder.

(e)&(f): The Commission has been identifying/mapping overlaps in combination cases including the cases filed under Green Channel route considering Ultimate Controlling Person (UCP) on a case-to-case basis even prior to September 2024. The introduction of UCP in Green Channel Rules i.e. The Competition (Criteria of Combination) Rules, 2024 alongwith the related frequently asked questions(FAQs)published in the website of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) (https://www.cci.gov.in/images/publications_booklet/en/faqs-on-combinations-english1747725949.pdf),provides greater clarity and consistency, thereby facilitating stakeholders in assessing overlaps.
