102	Written Answers	RAJYA SAE	BHA]	to Unstarred Questions
1		2	3	4
Chennai	Zone			
Tamil	Nadu	Chennai	03	2010
Kerala		Thiruvananthapuram	01	2011
3		Total	54	
	Stateme	ent showing where the ac are yet to Start Fu		ecial Courts

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Location of Courts	No. of Courts yet to start functioning
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	03
		Visakhapatnam	02
2.	Delhi	Delhi	03 (out of 15)
3.	West Bengal	Kolkata	01 (out of 06)
4.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar	04
5.	Assam	Guwahati	02
6.	Goa	Goa (Panji)	01

Concurrence of the State Government not received for Remaining 01 Additional Special Court

16

1.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	01*
72		Total	01

Cases Pending before CIC

1763. SHRIM.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

TOTAL

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that thousands of cases are pending before the Central Information Commission (CIC);
 - (b) if so, the number of cases pending since when; and
- (c) the reasons for delay in the disposal of the cases and remedial measures proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The Central Information Commission has reported that 26,574 appeals/complaints are pending with them as on 1st February, 2012. The Central Information Commission does not maintain age-wise pendency of appeals/complaints.
- (c) The increase in pendency is due to manifold increase in number of RTI applications made to Central Public Authorities from 2006-07 to 2009-10 and consequent increase in number of appeals/complaints filed with the Commission. The Central Government has taken several steps like issue of guidelines for the Central Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authorities enabling them to supply information/dispose of first appeal effectively resulting into less number of appeals to the Commission, sanction of additional posts for the Commission etc. The Commission on its part launched special drive to clear the pendency of appeals/complaints. Further, three more Information Commissioners have been appointed with effect from 1st March, 2012. It has also been decided in consultation with Chief Information Commissioner that Central Information Commission should be granted autonomy in recruitment of staff.

Complaint/Appeals Pending in CIC

1764. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of appeals and complaints, pending in Central Information Commission (CIC) as on 28 February, 2012 and the number out of them that have been filed by the senior citizens, Memberwise;
- (b) the measures taken to fill up the vacant seats of Information Commissioner in CIC to clear the backlog of appeals and complaints;
- (c) whether Government has initiated any disciplinary proceedings against CPIOs for refusing furnishing information under RTI and against Appellate Authorities for not deciding appeal in time and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is mandatory for first appellate authority to grant hearing in each case to an appellant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Central Information Commission 26574 appeals/complaints pending with them as on 1st February, 2012. The Commission does not maintain data on the basis of age of the applicants.

(b) Three new Information Commissioners have been appointed in the Central Information Commission on 1st March, 2012.