

डा. ताजीन फातमा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।
ڈاکٹر تزین فاطمہ (اتر پردیش): مہودے، میں اس وشے کے ساتھ خود کو سمبڈ کرتی ہوں۔

श्रीगुलाम रसूल बलियावी (बिहार): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करना हूँ।
شہی گولام رسول بالیاءوی (بہار): مہودے، میں اس وشے کے ساتھ خود کو سمبڈ کرتی ہوں۔

Delay in justice due to lack of forensic infrastructure

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, recently, the country observed three years of Nirbhaya rape case, but we are sorry to say that lack of forensic infrastructure is causing inordinate delay in getting justice to all the women who have been raped or physically abused. ...*(Interruptions)*... The newspaper reports suggest that it is so glaring that the Government is not even able to come up with proofs in the fast track courts. ...*(Interruptions)*... To give an illustration, in the National Capital itself, amongst eleven police districts in the city of Delhi, there are only two forensic laboratories, out of which even one is not functioning properly. ...*(Interruptions)*... Even the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs has expressed extreme displeasure over the sorry state of affairs. ...*(Interruptions)*... The need of the hour is to ensure time-bound submission of forensic reports on various cases as well as to strengthen the existing capacity of forensic infrastructure in the country. ...*(Interruptions)*... The matter needs urgent attention of the Government because it involves the lives of so many victims and also women suffering from domestic violence are also associated with the same. ...*(Interruptions)*... Government needs to show the seriousness in its intent to bring to book all the wrongdoers and hence take necessary action in this direction at the earliest. ...*(Interruptions)*... I thank you, Sir.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned up to 12.00 hours.

The House then adjourned at forty-three minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Vacant posts in consumer fora

*211.DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many posts are lying vacant in the consumer fora/ courts leading to piling up of cases, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

† Transliteration in Urdu Script.

(b) if so, whether Government will undertake measures to fill up all vacant posts in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

About 10% of sanctioned posts of President and Member are vacant at the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (National Commission) and State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (State Commissions). In the District Consumer Redressal Fora (District Fora), about 17% of posts are vacant as on date. The State-wise, vacancy position of Presidents and Members in the State Commissions and the District Fora is given in Statement - I (see below). So far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, 44.4 % of posts of President and Member are vacant. The particulars of vacancies are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

On an all India basis the number of cases filed, disposed and pending is given below:

Name of agency	Number of cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of total Disposal
National Commission	98496	88505	9991	89.86%
State Commission	695646	599599	96047	86.19%
District Fora	3654248	3368764	285484	92.19%
TOTAL	4448390	4056868	391522	91.20%

As on 30.11.2015, out of 35,083 cases filed in Andhra Pradesh State Commission since inception, 34,446 cases have been disposed. Only 637 cases are pending, which constitutes 1.81 % of the cases filed. Similarly, out of 1,15,356 cases filed in the District Fora in Andhra Pradesh since inception, 1,13,073 cases have been disposed as on 30.11.2015. The number of cases pending is 2283, which constitutes less than 2%.

(1) As per the provisions of Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and Consumer Protection Rules, 1987 the Central Government is responsible for filling up vacant posts in National Commission. The responsibility for filling up of posts of State Commissions and District Fora lies with State Governments.

(2) The Central Government has been taking timely action to fill up vacant posts in the National Commission. As present, there is only one vacant post of Member in the National Commission, the process of filling of which is at an advanced stage.

(3) As regards the vacancies in the Consumer Fora in Andhra Pradesh, the State Government has informed that measures will be taken to fill up the vacant posts in a time bound manner. The delay has been because of Writ Petition No. 14559/2015 pending before the Hon'ble High Court for the State of Telengana and for the State of Andhra Pradesh at Hyderabad and constitution of a new State Commission for the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(4) The State Governments have been requested from time to time to take action well in advance for filling of vacancies of Presidents and Members and maintain a panel of candidates for filling of future vacancies also to avoid delay in appointments.

(5) The Central Government and the National Commission have held a number of national and regional meetings with the State Governments to impress upon the need to take timely action for filling the vacancies of State Commissions and District Fora.

Statement-I

(A) Details of State-wise vacancy position in State Commissions

Sl. No.	State	Sanctioned Strength		Vacancy Status	
		President	Member	President	Member
1	2	3	4	5	6
	National Commission	1	11	0	1
1.	Assam	1	2	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1	2	0	2
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	2	0	0
4.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1	2	0	1
5.	Bihar	1	2	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	1	3	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	1	3	0	0
8.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	2	0	0
10.	Delhi	1	4	0	0
11.	Goa	1	2	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Gujarat	1	8	0	3
13.	Haryana	1	4	0	0
14.	Himanchal Pradesh	1	2	0	0
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	2	0	0
16.	Jharkhand	1	2	0	0
17.	Karnataka	1	2	0	1
18.	Kerala	1	4	0	0
19.	Lakshadweep	1	2	0	2
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1	3	0	0
21.	Maharashtra	1	12	0	0
22.	Manipur	1	2	0	0
23.	Meghalaya	1	2	0	0
24.	Mizoram	1	2	0	0
25.	Nagaland	1	2	0	0
26.	Odisha	1	2	0	0
27.	Puducherry	1	2	0	0
28.	Punjab	1	5	0	0
29.	Rajasthan	1	8	0	3
30.	Sikkim	1	2	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	1	4	1	0
32.	Telangana	1	2	0	2
33.	Tripura	1	2	0	0
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1	10	0	0
35.	Uttarakhand	1	2	0	0
36.	West Bengal	1	2	0	0
TOTAL		35	114	1	14

(B) Details of vacancy position in District Fora

Sl. No.	State	District Fora			
		Sanctioned strength		Vacancy Status	
		President	Member	President	Member
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assam	8	46	3	7
2.	Andhra Pradesh	17	34	7	22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	32	0	14
4.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1	2	0	0
5.	Bihar	38	76	5	10
6.	Chandigarh	2	4	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	12	54	1	23
8.	Daman and Diu	2	4	0	2
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
10.	Delhi	10	20	2	4
11.	Goa	2	4	0	0
12.	Gujarat	26	52	9	11
13.	Haryana	21	42	5	3
14.	Himanchal Pradesh	4	24	0	6
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	4	0	0
16.	Jharkhand	22	44	1	8
17.	Karnataka	31	62	3	5
18.	Kerala	14	28	1	1
19.	Lakshadweep	1	2	0	2
20.	Madhya Pradesh	27	108	1	23
21.	Maharashtra	40	80	8	8
22.	Manipur	3	6	0	0
23.	Meghalaya	7	14	1	4
24.	Mizoram	8	16	1	0
25.	Nagaland	11	22	0	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	Odisha	31	62	4	9
27.	Puducherry	1	2	0	0
28.	Punjab	20	40	1	4
29.	Rajasthan	37	74	12	16
30.	Sikkim	4	8	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	25	60	10	7
32.	Telangana	12	24	8	17
33.	Tripura	4	8	0	0
34.	Uttar Pradesh	79	158	11	15
35.	Uttarakhand	13	26	0	3
36.	West Bengal	21	42	0	3
TOTAL		572	1284	94	231

Statement-II

Details of vacancies in Andhra Pradesh

(A) Vacant posts of members in Andhra Pradesh State Commission

Sl. No.	State Commission	Male Member	Lady Member
1	Members	1	1

(B) Vacant posts of Presidents in District Fora

Sl. No.	Dist. Forum	President
1.	Vijayawada	1
2.	Eluru	1
3.	Ongole	1
4.	Kurnool	1
5.	Guntur	1
6.	Rajahmundry	1
7.	Kakinada	1
TOTAL		7

(C) Vacant posts of Members in District Fora

Sl. No.	Dist. Forum	Male Member	Lady Member
1.	Ananthapur	1	0
2.	East Godavari at Kakinada	1	1
3.	Guntur	1	1
4.	Krishna at Machilipatnam	1	1
5.	Krishna at Vijayawada	0	1
6.	Kurnool	1	0
7.	Nellore	1	1
8.	Ongole	1	1
9.	Visakhapatnam-II	1	1
10.	Vizianagaram	0	1
11.	West Godavari at Eluru	0	1
12.	Kadapa	0	1
13.	Tirupathi	0	1
14.	Visakhapatnam-I	0	1
15.	Chittoor	0	1
16.	Vizianagaram	1	0
TOTAL		9	13

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 211. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, in protest against the undemocratic and unconstitutional stand taken by the Constitutional Authority in Arunachal Pradesh, we are staging a walk-out.

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q.No.211. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the question be answered. ...*(Interruptions)*... is Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao asking his supplementary? ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, hon. Members, I think, this matter was discussed in the first hour. Let us get on with the Question Hour now. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the time for it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Maybe, it is a serious issue. But this is not the time for it. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Chair has already informed you about this thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Sir, we walkout in protest against the activities of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the question been answered? ...*(Interruptions)*... Any supplementaries? ...*(Interruptions)*... I believe, there are no supplementaries. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Letters received by Minister from Members of Parliament

*212.SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALLYAWI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters received from Members of Parliament by him since August, 2014, till date;

(b) the number of letters on which interim and final replies have been sent to the Members of Parliament;

(c) the number of letters on which action has been taken and those on which action is still pending;

(d) the number of letters on which neither any reply has been sent to the Members nor any action has been taken, along with the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken to prevent the situation in part (d) above?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) 3081 letters from Members of Parliament have been received since August, 2014 till date. Interim/Final replies have been sent in 2383 letters. Action has been initiated in 686 letters. Action is pending in respect of 12 letters. Instructions for prompt disposal of such letters are issued from time to time and periodical reviews are undertaken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Q.No. 212. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Balyawi. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please refrain from shouting slogans. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't do that. This is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Q.No. 212. Is he there? ...*(Interruptions)*... Any supplementary? ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Shri Dilipbhai Pandya. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: The Minister, in his reply, has given the details with respect to his Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)*... With regard to complaints received, I want to know whether the replies are given within a week's time. ...*(Interruptions)*... I would also like to know whether the complainant is heard or not. ...*(Interruptions)*... If not,