

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 615
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2023)

APPEALS PENDING UNDER RTI ACT

615 SHRI A. D. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 3 lakh appeals are pending with the Information Commissions in the country under RTI Act, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the number of appeals pending with the Central Information Commission;
- (c) the main reasons for pendency in the Central Information Commission and Information Commissions in the States; and
- (d) the remedial actions being taken to reduce the pendency and for disposing of the appeals?

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): The data in respect of pending appeals with the State Information Commissions is maintained by the respective State Information Commissions. However, as far as Central Information Commission is concerned, pendency has drastically reduced after the disposal rate has increased manifold in the last 9 years.

(c) & (d): For speedy disposal of pending appeals, the Government has taken a series of steps which include capacity building of Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authorities, so as to enable them to supply information/dispose off first appeal effectively, resulting in lesser number of appeals to the Central Information Commission. The Government, from time to time has reiterated its instructions impressing upon the Public authorities to maximise proactive public disclosure so as to obviate filing of RTI applications by the citizens.

Further, the Central Information Commission has taken several initiatives to reduce the pendency viz., use of technological tools which includes e-filing, citizen centric services through the portal and hearing in hybrid mode for efficient hearing of cases. The Commission has also completed digitization of its records besides electronic receipts of cases and registration and one click information window for the benefit of the RTI applicants.
