

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 293
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 07th AUGUST, 2026**

FUNCTIONING AND PERFORMANCES OF COMMERCIAL TRIBUNALS

***293. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:**

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the findings regarding the challenges in the functioning of India's commercial tribunals, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a significant number of cases remain pending before commercial tribunals, affecting economic activity and ease of doing business, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of vacancies, case pendency and disposal rates in major tribunals such as the National Company Law Tribunal, the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, the Debt Recovery Tribunal and the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government has identified issues such as chronic vacancies, procedural inconsistencies, lack of transparency and jurisdictional overlaps affecting tribunal efficiency, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to establish institutional mechanisms such as a National Tribunals Commission or adopt technology-driven reforms to improve efficiency and accountability; and
- (f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure timely disposal of commercial disputes and strengthen investor confidence in the country's dispute resolution framework?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW
AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (F) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 293 FOR ANSWER ON 07.08.2026, REGARDING
FUNCTIONING AND PERFORMANCES OF COMMERCIAL TRIBUNALS.**

(a): The Supreme Court in various judgments including the judgment dated 19.11.2025 in the matter of Madras Bar Association vs. UOI, W.P.(C) No.1018 of 2021 has given its findings regarding the working of the Tribunals under the Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021 and Rules framed thereon.

(b) to (d): The Government is making all efforts to fill the vacancies in the various Tribunals besides augmenting their infrastructural requirements and human resources. The details of vacancies in National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) and the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) during the last three years including the current year is given at **Annexure-I**. The details of case pendency and its disposal rates is given at **Annexure-II**.

(e) & (f): Various steps including legislative measures and framing of standard operating procedures have been and are undertaken for efficient functioning of the Tribunals and for timely disposal of cases. This includes strengthening digital infrastructure, adoption of e-Office, Court Room hearing by way of Video Conferencing, digitization of records, online case management systems, and continuous monitoring of administrative efficiency for early disposal of cases.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (B) TO (D) IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 293 FOR ANSWER ON 07.08.2026, REGARDING FUNCTIONING AND PERFORMANCES OF COMMERCIAL TRIBUNALS.

Name of the Tribunal	Name of Post(s)/staff	Sanctioned	Filled	Vacant
Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT)				
2024-25	Chairperson/Members	126	80	46
	Registry	987	578	409
2025-26	Chairperson/Members	126	110	16
	Registry	987	565	422
2026-27	Chairperson/Members	126	112	14
	Registry	969	687	282
National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)				
2023-24	Chairperson/Members	12	11	1
	Registry	51	10	41
2024-25	Chairperson/Members	12	10	2
	Registry	51	21	30
2025-26 (upto 30.06.2026)	Chairperson/Members	12	11	1
	Registry	111	26	85
National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)				
As on 03.08.2026	Chairperson/Members	63	51	12
	Registry	320	67	253

Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT)
Currently, Seven (7) Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) are vacant out of Thirty-Nine (39) DRTs. However, Presiding Officers of others DRTs have been assigned the additional charge for the above DRTs, in addition to their regular charge, for smooth functioning of these DRTs.

Annexure-II**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (B) TO (D) IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 293 FOR ANSWER ON 07.08.2026, REGARDING FUNCTIONING AND PERFORMANCES OF COMMERCIAL TRIBUNALS.**

Name of the Tribunal	Years	Pendency (Brought forward)	Cases Instituted	Disposal	Disposal Rates (Avg.) %	Pendency
Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT)	2024-25	38759	51164	46370	51.57	43553
	2025-26	43553	72249	55794	48.18	60008
	2026-27 (upto 30.06.2026)	60008	24664	16654	19.67	68018
National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)	2023-24	21664	7947	9818	33.16	19793
	2024-25	19946	9065	14150	48.61	14961
	2025-26	15045	8419	8651	36.87	14813
National Company Law Appellate Tribunal	2023-24	2192	2841	2319	46.07	2714
	2024-25	2714	3379	2575	42.26	3518
	2025-26	3518	3339	2779	40.52	4078

THE PENDENCY AND DISPOSAL RATES DETAILS IN DRTS

Debt Recovery Tribunal (Original Application (OA) & Securitisation Application (SA))			
Financial Year	Cases Disposed	Cases Pending	Average Disposal per year per DRT
2023-24	52541	218060	1347.21
2024-25	45378	233901	1163.54
2025-26	52902	252771	1356.46
2026-27 (Upto 30.06.2026)	12739	259814	--
