



CAT Jammu Bench's Disposal of Service Cases Among the Highest in the Country: Dr. Jitendra Singh

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurates new Office-cum-Court Complex of Central Administrative Tribunal, Jammu Bench

CAT Jammu and Srinagar Benches dispose of 18392 out of 20984 cases transferred from J&K High Court, 13952 out of 20405 cases directly received; total of 41389 cases handled with pendency of only 9452 cases

Only 8% of CAT Jammu Bench cases went in appeal to J&K High Court, reflecting strong adherence to the Tribunal's objective of speedy justice: Dr. Jitendra Singh

New Jammu facility to strengthen speedy and accessible redressal of service grievances of UT employees: Dr. Jitendra Singh

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The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) Jammu Bench's disposal of service cases has gone beyond expectations and is among the highest in the country, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, and MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh said today.

The Minister was speaking after inaugurating the new Office-cum-Court Complex of the Central Administrative Tribunal, Jammu Bench, at Bahu Plaza, Jammu. He said the high disposal of cases by the CAT Benches in Jammu and Srinagar demonstrates the capacity built by the Tribunal to provide speedy and accessible justice in service matters.

Dr. Jitendra Singh recalled that the Central Administrative Tribunal was established in 1985 under the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, with the broad objective of providing speedy and affordable justice in service matters concerning government employees, while also reducing the burden on constitutional courts.

He said the Tribunal's purpose could broadly be understood in three dimensions, speedy justice in service matters, affordable justice for government employees, and reduction of the burden on constitutional courts. CAT provides for a nominal fee of ₹50 for filing an Original Application, while no fee is charged for Miscellaneous Applications, Review Applications and Contempt Petitions, among others.

Referring to the Tribunal's overall performance, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that since its inception and up to June 30, 2026, a total of 10,01,177 cases had been filed before CAT across the country, of which 9,32,723 had been disposed of, resulting in an overall disposal rate of approximately 93.16 per cent.

The Minister said the experience of the Jammu and Srinagar Benches was particularly significant in view of the substantial workload transferred from the erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir High Court as well as the fresh cases instituted before the Tribunal. Up to June 30, 2026, 20,984 cases had been received on transfer from the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir, while 20,405 fresh cases had been instituted before the Benches. Accordingly, 18,392 and 13,952 cases were disposed of from the above two categories respectively. The overall total number of cases received was 41,389 with minimal pendency.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said the figures demonstrate that the Jammu and Srinagar Benches have not only taken forward the cases transferred from the High Court but have also dealt with a substantial volume of fresh service matters.

The Minister said the Jammu Bench, which initially functioned with one Division Bench, was subsequently strengthened with another Division Bench in view of the growing workload and the need for speedy redressal of employees' grievances. The Bench presently has two Judicial Members and two Administrative Members.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also highlighted the significance of the low rate of appeals from the CAT Jammu Bench to the High Court. He said only around 8 per cent of the cases from the CAT Jammu Bench have gone in appeal to the Jammu & Kashmir High Court.

He said the low proportion of appeals was significant in the context of the very purpose for which CAT was established to provide speedy justice in service matters. Referring to the statutory provision for challenging CAT judgments before the High Court, the Minister said that while the appellate mechanism has its place, repeated or unnecessary recourse to further litigation can add another layer to the process and potentially delay the objective of speedy justice.

"The ideal situation would be when no room is left to go for an appeal, no tendency is left, no tension is left, no expectation is left, no requirement is left," the Minister said, while leaving the issue to the wisdom of the legal fraternity and inviting their suggestions.

Dr. Jitendra Singh acknowledged the cooperation extended by the legal fraternity of Jammu in strengthening the functioning of CAT and appreciated their continued guidance and inputs. He also acknowledged the support extended by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir in facilitating the establishment of the new facility.

The Minister said the new Office-cum-Court Complex at Bahu Plaza would provide the Jammu Bench with expanded space and requisite infrastructure to function at its full capacity and further strengthen speedy and accessible redressal of service-related grievances.

Referring to the wider expansion of CAT infrastructure, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that over the past several years, new and independent infrastructure has been created at various Tribunal locations. He referred to the establishment of the Jabalpur Bench in 2021, the shifting of the Mumbai Bench from rented accommodation to a government building, and the setting up of new facilities at Lucknow and Guwahati.

The Minister also highlighted the growing use of technology to improve access to justice and the convenience of litigants and the legal fraternity. He said CAT has progressively introduced digital facilities including the Advance Case Information System (ACIS), e-filing, video conferencing, online display boards, SMS and email alerts, online payment of court fees, mobile-based access to case information, online certified copies, advanced search facilities, e-mentioning and e-listing.

He said video conferencing had proved particularly useful during the COVID-19 period, enabling the Jammu Bench to remain functional despite the extraordinary circumstances. The Tribunal has also undertaken digitisation of judicial records and introduced e-Court and paperless court facilities.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said CAT was also following the broader national pattern of capacity building through technology and training. Officers posted in CAT, including those coming from different departments and State Governments, are being provided opportunities for online training through the Mission Karmayogi platform so that they can equip themselves with the knowledge and skills required for their assignments.

The Minister said the Government was making sustained efforts to strengthen the institutional capacity of CAT and ensure that the facilities and technological tools available to constitutional courts are increasingly adopted within the Tribunal system as well.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said the Jammu and Srinagar experience demonstrates that institutional capacity, technology, infrastructure and cooperation among all stakeholders can significantly strengthen the delivery of administrative justice.

He said the new Jammu complex marks another step in the continuing effort to provide government employees with speedy, affordable and accessible redressal of service grievances, while also strengthening the Tribunal's role as a specialised forum for service matters.





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