

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

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**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.120  
ANSWERED ON 02/02/2023**

**VACANCIES OF PRESIDING OFFICERS/CHAIRMEN IN VARIOUS  
TRIBUNALS**

**120 SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:**

**Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the Tribunals that have been set up by Government as on date;
- (b) the details of the sanctioned strength including the Presiding Officer/Chairman and current staff position of the Tribunals that have been set up by Government;
- (c) reasons for non-filling up of the Presiding Officer/Chairman and other staff in the Tribunals; and
- (d) steps taken by Ministry to fill the sanctioned posts including the Presiding Officers/Chairmen of various Tribunals that have been established?

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI  
KIREN RIJU)**

(a) : The Tribunals set up by the Government are as under :-

- i. Central Government Industrial Tribunal;
- ii. Income Tax Appellate Tribunal;
- iii. Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal;
- iv. Appellate Tribunal under the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976;
- v. Central Administrative Tribunal;
- vi. Railway Claims Tribunal;
- vii. Securities Appellate Tribunal;

- viii. Debts Recovery Tribunal;
- ix. Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunal;
- x. Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal;
- xi. National Company Law Tribunal;
- xii. National Company Law Appellate Tribunal;
- xiii. National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission;
- xiv. Appellate Tribunal for Electricity;
- xv. Armed Forces Tribunal; and
- xvi. National Green Tribunal.

(b) : The sanctioned strength and vacancies for the posts of Chairman/President and other adjudicating Members of the Tribunals are at **Annexure**.

(c) : Filling up of vacancies of Chairman/Presiding Officer/Members/Other Secretarial staff is a continuous process and are filled from time to time as per respective statutory provisions. The vacancies at all level of posts in the Tribunal occur on account of retirement, resignation, promotion and voluntary retirement etc. The non-filling of posts of Chairman/ Presiding Officer/Members in Tribunals is also due to some administrative reasons and pending litigation/court cases in different judicial fora with regard to the rules governing the conditions of service of Chairman/Members of Tribunal.

(d) Consequent to the enactment of the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021 and notification of Tribunal (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2021 and also decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Madras Bar Association vs. Union of India*, the selection process of the Chairman and Members of various tribunals have been initiated with the constitution of Search-cum-Selection Committee (SCSC) headed by a sitting judge of the Supreme Court. The selection process for these posts in all tribunals has been initiated and in some cases it has already been finalized by the SCSC and the recommendations have been submitted for approval of the Competent Authority.

**ANNEXURE**

**Annexure as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 120 for  
2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2023**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Tribunal</b>	<b>Posts</b>	<b>Sanctioned Strength</b>	<b>Current Positions of Vacancies</b>
1	Central Government Industrial Tribunal	Presiding Officer	20	9
2	Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT)	Judicial Member	63	18
		Accountant Member	63	25
3	Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT)	President	1	0
		Member (Judicial)	16	7
		Member (Technical)	16	12
4	Appellate Tribunal under the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976 (SAFEMA)	Chairman	1	0
		Member	4	0
5	Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT)	Chairman	1	0
		Judicial Members	34	9
		Administrative Members	35	12

6	Railway Claims Tribunal (RCT)	Chairman	1	0
		Vice-Chairman (Judicial)	2	2
		Vice-Chairman (Technical)	2	2
		Judicial Member	20	16
		Technical Member	21	8
7	Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)	Presiding Officer	1	0
		Judicial Member	1	0
		Technical Member	2	1
8	Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT)	Presiding Officer	39	4
9	Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunal (DRAT)	Chairperson	5	0
10	Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal	Chairman	1	0
		Member	2	0
11	National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)	President	1	0
		Judicial Member	31	12
		Technical Member	31	11
12	National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)	Chairperson	1	0
		Judicial Member	5	1
		Technical Member	6	1
13	National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission	President	1	0
		Member	11	1
14	Appellate Tribunal For Electricity	Chairperson	1	1
		Judicial Member	1	1
		Technical Member	3	1
15	Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT)	Judicial Members (including one post of Chairperson)	17	7
		Administrative Members	17	3

16	National Green Tribunal	Chairperson	1	0
		Judicial Member	10	4
		Expert Member	10	5

