

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

**Rajya Sabha
Unstarred Question No. 1877
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 22.12.2022**

Delay in cases due to non-filing of affidavits

1877. Dr. Ashok Bajpai

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that delays in disposal of matters by the Supreme Court and High Courts are often caused on account of non-filing of affidavits/responses on behalf of Government and its corporations;
- (b) whether any time line has been fixed by Government for filing responses from the date of receiving the notices/show cause for filings its response and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the monitoring system, if any, to ensure that responses/affidavits are timely filed on behalf of Government?

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

(a) to (c) : Yes sir. Information has been compiled and is as per **Annexure-A**

Annexure-A

S.No.	Name of Ministry/Department	(a)whether Government is aware that delays in disposal of matters by the Supreme Court and High Courts are often caused on account of non-filing of affidavits/responses on behalf of Government and its corporations	(b) whether any time line has been fixed by Government for filing responses from the date of receiving the notices/show cause for filings its response and, if so, the details thereof; and	(c) the details of the monitoring system, if any, to ensure that responses/affidavits are timely filed on behalf of Government?
1.	Ministry of External Affairs	Nil	Nil	It is submitted that Ministry of External Affairs is linked with the Legal Information Management & Briefing System (LIMBS) administrated by the Ministry of Law & Justice and has 3 Nodal Officers and 22 users registered under the Limbs portal. The users registered with the LIMBS portal undertake the work of entering/updating the cases involving the Ministry which are pending before various courts in India.
2.	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	Nil	Nil	The monitoring of the Court cases is primarily being done through the Legal Information Management & Briefing System (LIMBS) portal of Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice.
3.	Ministry of Corporate Affairs	No such instances have come to the notice of the Ministry from any subordinate office under its Jurisdiction.	Nil	Legal Information and Monitoring (LIMBS) is the monitoring system to ensure that responses/affidavits are timely filed on behalf of Government.

4.	Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Official Language	NIL	NIL	NIL
5.	Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Enterprises	Department of Public Enterprises follows extant instruction of Government in this regards.	Department of Public Enterprises follows extant instruction of Government in this regards.	Department of Public Enterprises follows extant instruction of Government in this regards.
6.	Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation	Nil.	Nil	Nil
7.	Ministry of Skill Development and Enterprises	Nil	Nil	The monitoring of the Court Cases is primarily being done through the Legal Information Management & Briefing System (LIMBS).
8.	Ministry of Defence, Department of Ex Servicemen Welfare	Nil	Nil	Nil
9.	Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services	Nil	Nil	The Department of Financial Services has set up Legal Monitoring Cell to Monitor Cell to monitor to the Court Cases received in the Department in these court cases is reviewed by Senior Officers at regular interval.
10.	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Department of Health Research	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	National Commission for Scheduled Castes	Nil	Nil	Nil

12.	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change	No	It is submitted that as and when an advance copy of Petition is received in the matter in the Ministry the same is immediately processed on file along with the draft affidavit without any delay. Further, if the Notice in the matter is issued by the Hon'ble Court, the Affidavit in the matter is filed keeping in mind the time limit given by the Hon'ble Court.	The Legal Information Management & Briefing System (LIMBS) Portal designed and developed by the Ministry of Law and Justice (MoL&J) is used for monitoring of court cases. In addition to this, cases wherein affidavits are not filed within 2 weeks are monitored at the level of the Joint secretary.
13.	Central Electricity Authority	In court cases pertaining to CEA, there has been no delay or pendency in filing of the affidavits in the Supreme Court and/or High Courts and all the affidavits have been filed within the stipulated time limit. For the regular monitoring of the court cases, CEA uses Legal Information Management & Briefing System (LIMBS) portal, website of Supreme Court, High Courts, e-Courts etc.		
14.	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Director General of Health Services	Nil		Status of Court Case is displayed on Limbs Portal and Status is updated whenever next date of hearing is notified by Court.
15.	Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry.	Affidavit/responses of court cases of Hon'ble Supreme Court/High Court related to this Ministry are filed on behalf of Government within stipulated timeline. These cases are updated and monitored periodically on Legal Information Management & Briefing System (LIMBS) portal/internal system.		
16.	Ministry of Civil Aviation	Nil	Nil	There is Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS) developed by MoLJ wherein MoCA, its subordinate organizations and autonomous bodies constantly upload/update data pertaining to court cases.