

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2564.
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 16TH DECEMBER, 2025.**

PENDENCY IN PATENT OFFICES

2564. MS. MAHUA MOITRA:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) the details of the number of patent applications pending for approval, including the average time of pendency and stage-wise processing;
- (b) the details of the average time taken to grant patent applications, sector-wise ;
- (c) the number of sanctioned posts, filled in posts and vacancies of patent examiners and controllers; and
- (d) whether any employees have been recruited on a contractual basis, if so, the details thereof the year and post-wise since 2014?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)**

- (a):** The number of patent applications being filed annually have nearly doubled over the last 5 years on account of several initiatives by the Government to strengthen the patent ecosystem in the country such as reduction of fee for startups, small entities, and educational institutions, providing expedited Examination of Patent applications, pro bono facilitation to Indian startups for the filing and processing of patent, trademark, and design applications under Start-Ups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP) scheme. The number of pending applications at different stages of processing as of November 2025 is:

Sl. No.	Action	Stage	Point of Pending Action	No. of Applications
(a)	Application Pending for Examination	Applications awaiting filing of Request for Examination to enable further processing	Applicant	2,50,384
		Applications with request for examination filed but awaiting statutory publication	Statutory requirements including 18 months publication	17,946
		Applications awaiting issuance of the First Examination Report (FER) by the Office	Patent Office	1,58,618
		Subtotal		4,26,948

(b)	Applications Pending for reexamination and/or Disposal	Applications for which applicant's reply to the first examination report (FER) is pending	Applicant	19,147
		Applications pending for re-examination and/or disposal by the Office	Patent Office	29,719
		Subtotal		48,866
(c)	TOTAL (a) +(b)			4,75,814

(ii) Table showing average time taken from the filing of request for examination (pendency time) at different stages of processing in 2025 (till November 2025):

Sl. No.	Stage	Examination Request Type	Average time taken (in months)
1.	First Examination Report	Expedited Examination	5.7
		Normal Examination	24.7
2.	Final Decision	Expedited Examination	14.7
		Normal Examination	38.9

(b): The following table lists the average time taken for the grant of patent applications (from the filing of request for examination), field-wise, for the year 2025 (up to November):

S. No.	Technical Field*	Average time taken (in months)	
		Expedited Examination	Normal Examination
1	BIOCHEMISTRY	13.0	57.3
2	BIOMEDICAL	18.7	38.9
3	BIOTECHNOLOGY	17.2	70.6
4	CHEMISTRY	11.1	33.2
5	CIVIL	32.3	55.5
6	COMMUNICATION	12.3	36.6
7	COMPUTER	16.0	47.7
8	ELECTRICAL	13.8	36.8
9	ELECTRONICS	13.3	41.2
10	FOOD	17.2	75.3
11	MECHANICAL	18.7	46.0
12	METALLURGY	10.1	39.6
13	PHYSICS	14.9	46.0
14	POLYMER	11.0	33.7
15	TEXTILE	20.9	45.7

*The Office does not maintain sector-wise data on patent applications. However, patent applications are classified into 15 technical fields for the purpose of examination. As a significant portion of applications may span multiple technical fields due to their multidisciplinary nature, each application is assigned to only one technical field of examination.

(c): The following Table enlists the details of posts (sanctioned, working and vacant) in Patent Office as of November 2025:

Sl. No	Name of the post	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacant posts
1.	Senior Joint Controller of Patents and Designs	3	2	1
2.	Joint Controller of Patents and Designs	47	40	7
3.	Deputy Controller of Patents and Designs	112	72	40
4.	Assistant Controller of Patents and Designs	498	492	06
5.	Examiner of Patents and Designs	773	677	96
TOTAL		1433	1283	150

(d): No Patent Examiners and Controllers have not been recruited on a contractual basis since 2014.
