

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6744  
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2005  
PRODUCT PATENTING  
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

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

- (a) whether a large number of applications are pending for the grant of patent on products in various sectors especially in Pharma Sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with reasons thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to accelerate the process of grant of patent on a product.

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S.ELANGO VAN)

(a) and (b): As per the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970, no application for a patent is required to be examined unless a request for the same is made. Presently, Patent Office has 4384 requests pending for disposal covering both product and process in all sectors of technologies. Out of these, 2280 are in the category of pharmaceuticals and are currently under process.

( c): In order to accelerate the process of grant of patent, the Government has taken up comprehensive modernisation of Patent Offices. Its major components include review of existing procedure and development of new user-friendly procedures, computerisation of the procedure for grant of patents, development of human resource capabilities by recruiting additional examiners and their training, networking of offices, strengthening novelty search facilities, awareness and outreach activities. These are in addition to legislative measures, such as, simplification of procedure and rationalization of time-lines for processing of patent applications.