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Quasi-Judicial Authority

Introduction

Under their authority, government agencies are divided into groups that are both constitutional and non-constitutional. While non-constitutional entities obtain their authority from presidential orders or legislation, constitutional bodies are established by use of the Constitution's provisions. Statutory and non-statutory bodies are two more categories for non-constitutional entities. Statutory entities fall into two categories: quasi-judicial and regulatory. Examples of these are the National Human Rights Commission and the National Investigation Agency.

Judicial Bodies

In India, courts are judicial entities. Their main goal is to uphold the law to deliver justice. View the articles that are linked below to learn more about the Supreme Court and High Court:

- India's Supreme Court
- India's High Court

Quasi-judicial Bodies

A quasi-judicial body is a person or organization that has some authority similar to that of a court and is authorized to make decisions on punishments for those found guilty. They may be established by a judge's order, on ongoing legal issues, or as tribunals for certain areas. Financial markets, land use, public standards, employment legislation, and agency rules are the only areas in which they have jurisdiction.

Some of the quasi-judicial bodies are as follows-:

1. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was established on October 12, 1993, as a legislative entity. In New Delhi, the main office is located. This body's agenda includes investigating accusations of carelessness or abuses of human rights.
2. The National Green Tribunal Act of 2010 created the National Green Tribunal (NGT). It is a special tribunal tasked with investigating problems about the environment and forests and expediting decision-making. The third nation with such a body is India.
3. Established by statute, the Central Information Commission (CIC) was created following the 2005 Right to Information Act. It is designed to respond to grievances over inaccurate or deceptive information provided, failure to provide a response, etc. It has the same investigative authority as a civil court.
4. Founded on June 1st, 2016, the National Company Law Tribunal is a quasi-judicial organization. Corporate disputes under the Companies Act with Indian corporations primarily got resolved as problems.
5. Role in Governance: Cost concerns with the traditional legal system sometimes deter people from seeking justice. On the other hand, quasi-judicial entities provide inexpensive fees, straightforward processes, and effective resolution of particular cases. They are fast, approachable, and devoid of formalities; they also share the Judiciary's workload.
6. Challenges: Cost concerns with the traditional legal system sometimes deter people from seeking justice. On the other hand, quasi-judicial entities provide inexpensive fees, straightforward processes, and effective resolution of particular cases. They are fast, approachable, and devoid of formalities; they also share the Judiciary's workload.

Difference between Judicial and Quasi-judicial Bodies

- Quasi-judicial rulings are typically not bound by common law precedent, whereas judicial decisions are.
- Semi-judicial rulings are predicated on pre-existing laws, but judicial rulings have the potential to create new ones.
- Strict judicial norms (of evidence and process) are not necessary for quasi-judicial proceedings.

- Formal hearings are only permitted by quasi-judicial organizations when required by their controlling legislation.

Measures can be taken to Improve Quasi-Judicial Courts

- The government ought to express its stance on the matter unequivocally and prioritize the effective operation of these bodies.
- At least once a year, comprehensive data on how these agencies are operating must be gathered and made public.
- These ought to be presented to the relevant legislators.
- All ancillary tasks associated with the administration of justice, including the filing of complaints, the issuance of summonses, the transfer of case records between courts, the issuance of copies of judgments, and so on, should be handled by an electronic platform.
- It may create a solid foundation for examining how these organizations operate and make statistics easier to release.
- Mandatory yearly examinations of the lower courts have to be implemented.
- This needs to be a crucial metric for the higher authority to evaluate. The inspections may serve as the foundation for presiding officers' specialized training.
- It is important to support interdisciplinary study on how these courts operate.
- This would point out the areas that needed improvement, such as the issuance of clear rules or legislative revisions.
- Periodically, the adjudicating authority should participate in regular training and orientation.
- A state index of these quasi-judicial courts' performance is created and disseminated.
- It would assist the states in discovering areas of weakness and bring attention to how they were performing about others.
- Key judgments, policies, and directives could be assembled and posted on the website of the highest adjudicating body, such as the Board of Revenue.
- These might be beneficial to agencies at lower levels.
- It would be beneficial if officials conducting judicial duties had more thorough induction training.

- The value of judicial work should be ingrained in trainees, and their competence and self-assurance in managing them should grow.
- These adjudicating authorities ought to embrace procedural changes such as reducing the number of adjournments, requiring the filing of written arguments, and other similar improvements suggested for reformation of the Civil Procedure Code like the Law Commission by the organizations.

Conclusion

India's government agencies are divided into constitutional and non-constitutional groups. Non-constitutional entities like the National Human Rights Commission and National Investigation Agency are established by presidential orders or legislation. Courts are judicial entities, while quasi-judicial bodies like the National Human Rights Commission, National Green Tribunal, Central Information Commission, and National Company Law Tribunal offer fast, straightforward, and inexpensive case resolution. To improve quasi-judicial courts, the government should gather annual data, establish an electronic platform, require annual inspections, promote multidisciplinary research, and provide regular training for adjudicating authority.