



13 May 2022

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Sonam via FYI

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dia.govt.nz

Dear Sonam

OIA request 21/22 0704 Request for Statistics on Citizenship Applications

Thank you for your Official Information Act (Act) request received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 12 December 2022.

You requested –

1. *Total number for applications submitted to minister for his approval in last 3 years?*
2. *Applications approved by minister in last 3 years?*
3. *Applications rejected by minister in last 3 years?*
4. *Applications approved by minister on character ground on section 8, 9 of citizenship act in last 3 years?*
5. *Applications rejected by minister on character ground in last 3 years?*
6. *Timeframe of making decision?*

In response to your request I can provide you with the following information.

You have asked for statistics on the total number of applications submitted to the Minister for her approval. We have interpreted this as meaning applications that the Minister considers personally.

I must inform you that the statistics on this information will be published on the Department's website <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Citizenship-Grants> in the coming weeks.

Therefore, I must refuse this request under section 18(d) of the Act; that the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Department has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on the DIA website. All requestor data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available here: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Official-Information-Act-Requests-2>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'T' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Julia Taylor
Manager Operational Policy and Official Correspondence
Service Delivery and Operations