

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4851
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001
SEPARATE BENCHES OF GUJARAT HIGH COURT
MANSUKHBHAID. VASAVA

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up the benches of Gujarat High Court in Surat and Rajkot;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which these benches are likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a), (b) & (c): No proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court for the establishment of Benches of Gujarat High Court inter-alia at Surat and Rajkot. Necessary action in the matter can be taken by the Central Government only on receipt of such a proposal.

It may also be clarified that the Supreme Court in its Judgement dated 24th July, 2000 on a writ petition filed by the Federation of Bar Associations in Karnataka stated that 'the High Court is the best suited machinery to decide whether it is necessary and feasible to have a bench outside the principal seat of that High Court. If the High Court does not favour such establishment it is pernicious to dissect a High Court into different regions on the ground of political or other considerations. So it is out of question to decide for establishment of a bench outside the principal seat of a High Court contrary to the opinion of the Chief Justice of that High Court which has been formed after considering the views of the colleague Judges.'