GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:425 ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000 REPORT OF JASWANT SINGH COMMISSION CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH;RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

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

(a) whether the Jaswant Singh Commission had submitted its report to the Government on the setting up of benches of High Courts in different States;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Commission; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement all the recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE (MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a)to (c) in its report dated 30th April, 1985, the Jaswant Singh Commission recommended establishment of a permanent Bench of the Allahabad High Court at Agra and two circuit Benches thereof at Nainital and Dehradun by Parliamentary legislation. The Commission inter alia recommended establishment of circuit Benches of the Madhya Pradesh and Madras High Courts at Raipur and Madurai respectively by issue of notifications by the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts under section 51 (3) of the States Reorganisation act, 1956 and consideration of their conversion into permanent Benches by Presidential notification under section 51(2) of the said Act after five years. The Commission also suggested broad principles and criteria to be followed in assessing the expediency and desirability of setting up a Bench of the high Court away from the principal seat and the factors to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the said Bench.

The Chief Justice of the Madras High Court and the Government of Tamil Nadu have since agreed that a permanent Bench of the Madras High Court may be established at Madurai after infrastructural facilities, like court buildings, accommodation for judges, etc. are provided by the State Government.

No specific, complete proposals have been received in this regard from the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the concerned High Courts. However, provisions have been made in the Madhya pradesh Reorganisation Bill, 2000 and the Uttar Pradesh Reorganisation Bill, 2000, passed by Parliament for creation of separate High Courts for the new States of Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal.