GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LAW AND JUSTICE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2833 ANSWERED ON:17.12.2004 SUBORDINATE COURTS FUNCTIONING IN RENTAL PREMISES Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many courts in the country including subordinate courts are functioning from rental premises;
- (b) if so, whether any proposal is there to extend financial assistance for construction of buildings to house the courts;
- (c) whether any request received from Tamil Nadu Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY)

(a) to (e): Establishments of various courts in the states, including the subordinate courts and their administrative expenses, are controlled by the concerned State Governments.

A centrally sponsored scheme relating to development of judicial infrastructure including construction of buildings for the judiciary, is being implemented by the Department of Justice to augment the resources of State Governments. The expenditure in respect of High Courts and Subordinate Courts (including the provision of infrastructural facilities) is primarily met by the concerned State Government. The Planning Commission, however, allocates a plan fund to the Department of Justice for development of judicial infrastructure in states. The allocation is distributed amongst various States/UTs on the basis of the criterion laid down by the Planning Commission. One of the main conditionalities is that the State Government must provide a matching share to avail the central grant. However, the State Governments are free to utilize additional funds from their own resources to meet the needs of judicial infrastructure. Since 1993-94, an amount of Rs.41.40 crore has been released to the state of Tamil Nadu. With their matching share, Government of Tamil Nadu has utilized Rs. 97.43 crore for construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for the judges under this scheme.