

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:132
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010
BENCHES OF HIGH COURTS
Ramshankar Dr.

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

- (a) the salient recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission on having benches of the High Courts at places away from their principal seats;
- (b) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Commission; and
- (c) if so, the status of implementation of these recommendations?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (Dr. M. VEERAPPA MOILV)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred in reply to parts (a), (b) & (c) of the Starred Question No.132 for answer in Lok Sabha on 18.11.2010.

The Jaswant Singh Commission recommended establishment of Benches of Allahabad, Madhya Pradesh and Madras High Courts giving broad principles and criteria for setting up and selecting venue for the Benches of High Courts.

The recommendations relating to setting up of Benches were forwarded to the concerned State Governments with a request to consider Commission's recommendations and send their views /comments in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Courts.

The Chief Justice, Allahabad High Court informed as under:

`..... The matter relating to creation of Bench in the Western Uttar Pradesh came up for consideration before my predecessors and the consistent views had been against the creation of any such Bench. I also endorse their views. In the meantime bifurcation of Uttar Pradesh in two States viz. Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal took place and several district of the Western side have gone under the territorial jurisdiction of Uttaranchal High Court. Under such circumstances, at this stage there is no justification for creation of any bench of Allahabad High Court in Western U.P.`

The Government of Madhya Pradesh intimated that the issues involved in establishing new High Court Benches have several ramifications and the matter needed to be viewed in all its aspects. No further communication has been received from the State Government in this regard.

A permanent Bench of the Madras High Court has since been established at Madurai in 2004.