

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1233

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2011

SUPREME COURT AND HIGH COURT BENCHES

Karunakaran Shri P.;Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai;Rama Devi Smt. ;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu;Siricilla Shri Rajaiah;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments and others for setting up of regional benches of the Supreme Court and High Courts in their respective States/UTs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) No proposal has been received from any State Government for establishment of regional Benches of the Supreme Court.

The Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal for making two Circuit Benches of the Karnataka High Court at Dharwad and Gulbarga as Permanent Benches, which is under consideration of the Government.

The Government of West Bengal had sent a proposal for establishment of a Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri. The Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court had inspected the infrastructural facilities provided by the State Government at Jalpaiguri for establishment of the temporary Circuit Bench till the permanent building of the Circuit Bench is ready. However, in his opinion, the infrastructural facilities provided for establishment of the temporary Circuit Bench in the Jalpaiguri Zilla Parishad Dak Bungalow are neither satisfactory nor the premises suitable, even for temporary period. The space and accommodation provided is also insufficient.

The Chief Minister of Kerala had sent a request in the year 2005 for setting up a bench of Kerala High Court at Thiruvananthapuram. He was advised to seek consent of the Chief Justice of the High Court as envisaged in Supreme Court Judgment in case of Federation of Bar Association in Karnataka Vs. Union of India [AIR 2000 SC 2544]. No reply has been received from the Government of Kerala.