

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1995
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2011
JASWANT SINGH COMMISSION
Ramshankar Dr.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Jaswant Singh Commission was constituted for setting up a Bench of High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Commission has submitted its report;
- (d) if so, the salient features of the report; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government for setting up the Bench of High Court in the Western Uttar Pradesh?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (e); In 1981, the Government of India appointed a three-member commission headed by Justice Jaswant Singh, a retired Judge of Supreme Court, to consider all aspects arising out of the demand for the constitution of a bench of the Allahabad High Court for the western districts of Uttar Pradesh. The terms of reference of the Commission were enlarged by the Government in 1983, requiring it inter-alia to examine and report, on all aspects of the general question of establishing benches of High Courts and on the broad principles and criteria to be followed in this regard.

The Commission presented its report to the Government on April 30, 1985, wherein it recommended establishment of a permanent Bench of the Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh at Agra and two circuit Benches thereof at Nainital and Dehradun. The report was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 20.04.1987 and LoK Sabha on 21.04.1987.

The recommendations of the Commission were referred to the Government of Uttar Pradesh in 1986 for their views and comments, in consultation with the Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court. No specific and complete proposal has been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, in consultation with the Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court for setting up a bench of the Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh.

The then Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court in 2001 conveyed that with the bifurcation of Uttar Pradesh into two States of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal, several districts of Western U.P. have gone under the territorial jurisdiction of Uttaranchal High Court and therefore, he found no justification for creation of any Bench of the Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh.