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Title: Agitation by advocates demanding setting up of a Bench of High Court of Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram

SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Sir, the demand for setting up of a Bench of Kerala High Court with filing authority at Trivandrum, the Capital city of Kerala, is half-a-century old one. You may be aware that the Kerala State Assembly had unanimously passed resolutions two times on this demand. The matter has been raised many times in Parliament through questions and other forms of interventions.

The advocates and court staff in the Capital have been on continuous agitation for the last 250 days. It has been supported by all the political parties in the State and the common people. The Kerala Chief Minister along with the State Law Minister and the Members of Parliament from the State have met the hon. Minister as well as the Prime Minister many times in this regard. If a Bench of Kerala High Court is set up in the Capital, the State Government can save more than Rs.200 crore in a year. But the Chief Justice of Kerala High Court is not in favour of setting up of a Bench in the State capital. Now it is the Union Government which has to take a decision on this unanimous demand of the State Legislative Assembly of Kerala. So, I would request the Government of India to take necessary steps to establish a Bench of Kerala High Court in Trivandrum, the capital city of the State without further delay.