

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : May I just request you that the House may be informed by the Government of the latest information that is at their disposal—what is the position, what is the situation and what we intend to do in this very serious matter.....
(*Interruption*).

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : The House should express in unequivocal terms its total condemnation of the American aggression.

MR. SPEAKER : I have heard all hon. Members and I share their grave concern. Naturally, the whole world has been craving for peace, especially the NAM and our Six-Nations. We have been just in Mexico for Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference, trying to devise ways and means to further the cause of peace. But in spite of that, something catastrophic has happened. I do share the feelings expressed by the hon. Members, but first I will like the Foreign Minister to make a statement at 12 O'clock sharp and then we shall see what information he can give and then the whole House will we decide the course of action.....
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : And will condemn the aggression.....

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I hope you will permit a discussion because the House is unanimous, I think, on this question. We have to speak up against what is happening.

MR. SPEAKER : I am in the hands of the House. I am at your disposal. Whatever way you like to decide, I will go along that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We thought that you will come back with Peace, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I thought so. Whatever I said there, I think, I projected what I thought, about those people who are trying to do this job.

Shri A. Charles.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Q. No. 679.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Sir, Q. No. 686 is also identical to this Question. That may also be answered along with this.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Law Minister, are you ready with that ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A.K. SEN) : Yes, Sir. We are ready.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. We will take both the Questions together.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

State Capitals without High Court or Bench

*679. **SHRI A. CHARLES :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States which have neither a High Court nor a Bench of the High Court in their Capitals;

(b) whether a proposal for establishing new Benches of High Courts is pending before Union Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A.K. SEN) : (a) The States of Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa have neither the principal seat of the High Court nor a Bench of the High Court located in their State capitals. The States of Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura have Circuit Benches of Gauhati High Court in their respective capitals.

(b) and (c). The following proposals were received from the concerned State Governments for establishment of Benches of the respective High Courts :—

Sl. No.	High Court	Places where Benches proposed
1.	Allahabad	Location of Bench for Western districts of Uttar Pradesh left to the Central Government.
2.	Gauhati	Imphal, Agartala, Kohima and Shillong.
3.	Karnataka	Hubli-Dharwar
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Raipur and Bhopal
5.	Madras	Madurai

Setting up a Bench of Orissa High Court at Berhampur

*686. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the constant demand from the people of South Orissa for establishment of a Bench of the Orissa High Court at Berhampur, District Ganjam;

(b) whether the establishment of a Bench of Orissa High Court at Berhampur will benefit Ganjam, Phulbani together with Kalahandi and Bolangir districts being contiguous and undeveloped districts of South Orissa and mostly inhabited by backward Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) whether Government propose to establish at Berhampur a Circuit Bench of Orissa High Court in case it was not possible to establish a permanent Bench there ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A.K. SEN) : (a) to (c). The Government of Orissa have intimated that they are aware of the demand from the people of South Orissa to establish a Bench of the Orissa High Court at Berhampur and establishment of such a Court will help the people of Ganjam, Phulbani, Kalahandi and Bolangir districts. The State Government have stated that establishment of a permanent Bench at this juncture is not possible because of absence of necessary infrastructure and other facilities and that establishment of Circuit Court at Berhampur also depends on availability of Court office and other facilities.

Action in the matter of establishment of Benches of High Courts is taken by the Government of India only on receipt of proposals from the State Governments. No Proposal in this regard has been received from the Government of Orissa.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, from the answer of the Minister to part (a) of the question, it is seen that Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa have neither the principal seat of the High Court nor a Bench of the High Court located in their State capitals. In Kerala, lot of difficulties have been experienced by the Government since there is not even a Bench of the High Court in the State Capital. The information required by the High Court on various cases cannot be given at proper time because of the distance. There is lot of administrative inconvenience and all that. May I know from the Minister whether as a matter of policy Government will consider favourably the question of establishing a Bench of the High Court in the State Capitals where there are no Benches, provided the Government concerned assures the necessary facilities for starting the Bench ?

SHRI A.K. SEN : If the proposal comes from the Government of Kerala, the matter will certainly be considered.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, my second supplementary is this : I am afraid that the answer given to my question (b) and (c) is not factually correct. I specifically know that some years back, the Government of Kerala has requested the Centre for providing a Bench of the High Court at Trivandrum. In 1957 in the wake of the great agitation that rocked the State capital, Sri Eswara Iyer was elected to this