

**Bill No. 27 of 2024**

THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA (ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
PERMANENT BENCH AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM)  
BILL, 2024

By

DR. SHASHI THAROOR, M.P.

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BILL

*to provide for the establishment of a Permanent Bench of the High Court of Kerala at  
Thiruvananthapuram.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the High Court of Kerala (Establishment of a Permanent Bench at Thiruvananthapuram) Act, 2024.

Short title and commencement.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date, as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Establishment of a  
Permanent Bench  
of High Court of  
Kerala at  
Thiruvananthapuram.

2. There shall be established a permanent Bench of the High Court of Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram and such Judges of the High Court of Kerala, being not less than five in number, as the Chief Justice of that High Court may, from time to time nominate, shall sit at Thiruvananthapuram in order to exercise the jurisdiction and power for the time being vested in that High Court in respect of cases arising in the district of Thiruvananthapuram and such other territories within that State as the President may by notification specify.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The principal seat of the Kerala High Court is at Ernakulam, which is situated at a distance of 200 kilometers from the State Capital, Thiruvananthapuram. Ever since the formation of the State of Kerala in 1956, there has been a demand for the establishment of a permanent Bench at the State Capital.

It has been observed that the State is a principal litigant in a majority of cases pending in the High Court of Kerala. This leads to the State Government incurring considerable expenditure on account of travelling allowance and leave allowance given to the Government employees for travelling from Thiruvananthapuram, the state capital to Ernakulam for depositions.

Moreover, it has been the policy of the successive Governments that justice should be taken to the doors of the litigants and therefore the litigants should not be compelled to go long distance to the Court. In the interest of administration of justice, the court must be easily accessible to the litigants and witnesses.

It will be, therefore, appropriate if a Bench of High Court is established at Thiruvananthapuram.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;  
*June 18, 2024.*

SHASHI THAROOR

LOK SABHA

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at Thiruvananthapuram.

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*(Dr. Shashi Tharoor, M.P.)*