

Bill No. 63 of 2023

THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA (ESTABLISHMENT OF
A PERMANENT BENCH AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
BILL, 2023

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-fourth 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, 2023.

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. 5

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 in the State of Kerala.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
February 17, 2023.

SHASHI THAROOR

LOK SABHA

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

(Dr. Shashi Tharoor, M.P.)