

Bill No. XXI of 2020

THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT
BENCH IN WESTERN ODISHA) BILL, 2020

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BILL

*to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court
of Orissa in Western Odisha.*

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the High Court of Orissa (establishment of a Permanent Bench in Western Odisha) Act, 2020.

Short title.

5 (2) There shall be established a permanent Bench of the High Court of Orissa in Western Odisha at a suitable place, to be decided by the Union Government in consultation with the Orissa High Court and other appropriate authorities as may required and; such Judges of the Orissa High Court, being not less than five in number, as the Chief Justice of that High Court may from time to time nominate, shall sit at such place where the permanent
10 bench will be set up in order to exercise the jurisdiction and power for the time being vested in that High Court in respect of cases arising in the districts of Western part of the State of Odisha, including Bargarh, Bolangir, Jharsuguda, Nayagarh, Nuapada, Sambalpur, Subarnapur, Kalahandi, Baudh, Sonepur, Koraput, Kandhamal, Nabarangpur, Raygada and Sundargarh.

Establishing a bench of HC of Orissa in Western Odisha.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Constitution of India provides the right of access to justice to every citizen. Justice at the door step has been the motto of every Government, and yet the demand for establishment of a permanent bench of the Orissa High Court in Western Odisha has been pending for a long time. There have been unending agitations, protests and demonstrations by all sections of the people in support of the cause. Many parts of Western Odisha are tribal dominated and a larger part by the other backward communities. The High Court of Orissa situated at Cuttack is roughly at a distance of around three hundred kilometers from districts of Western Odisha. The people of that region are not in a position to bear the burden of expenditure on account of travelling and lodging to Cuttack frequently. The Orissa High Court, as such, is over-burdened with cases. In average, there is only one High Court Judge per forty lakh of the population of the State.

This Bill, therefore, seeks to establish a permanent Bench of the Orissa High Court at any suitable place in Western Odisha by the Union Government in consultation with the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa and other appropriate authorities.

Hence, this Bill.

PRASANNA ACHARYA

RAJYA SABHA

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to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court
of Orissa in Western Odisha.

(Shri Prasanna Acharya, M.P.)