

Bill No. XXXIII of 2015

**THE SUPREME COURT (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT
BENCH AT VISAKHAPATNAM) BILL, 2015**

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BILL

*to provide for the establishment of a permanent bench of the
Supreme Court at Visakhapatnam.*

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Supreme Court (Establishment of a Permanent Bench at Visakhapatnam) Act, 2015.

Short title and
commencement.

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

2. There shall be established a permanent bench of the Supreme Court at Visakhapatnam with such number of Judges as the Chief Justice of India, may with the approval of the President decide, to exercise, jurisdiction in respect of cases arising in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and
10 Maharashtra and such other territory as may be notified by the Central Government with the approval of the Chief Justice:

Establishment
of a
permanent
bench of
Supreme
Court at
Visakhapatnam.

Provided that the number of judges at the bench at Visakhapatnam shall not be less than seven.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The pursuit of justice before law is a costly endeavour which has been made more expensive by inordinate delays. The logistical problems also aggravate litigation costs and further delays.

The rate of pending court cases in the country has crossed many millions and there is a severe backlog of court cases in the beleaguered legal system.

Article 130 of the Constitution of India provides that the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may with the approval of the President appoint.

Hence, the Bill seeks to establish a permanent Bench of the Supreme Court at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. There is already infrastructure and other facilities available at Visakhapatnam. This will provide an effective mechanism to make the judicial procedure for justice people-friendly and efficient.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 2 of the Bill provides that there shall be a permanent bench of the Supreme Court at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. The Bill, if enacted, will involve recurring expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India to the tune of rupees ten crore per annum.

However, a non-recurring expenditure to the tune of rupees one hundred crore is likely to be involved.

RAJYA SABHA

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(Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, M.P.)