

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1537

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 27.12.2017

Regional Benches of Supreme Court

1537. SHRI. JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government proposes to establish regional benches of the Supreme Court to reduce the cost of litigation;
- b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- c) the steps proposed by the Government to modify the present system to reduce financial burden on litigants; and
- d) the details of regulation, if any, imposed by the Government on fees charged by the lawyers in the Supreme Court?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) : According to Article 130 of the Constitution, 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, from time to time, appoint.

Representations have been received at various times from various quarters for establishment of Benches of Supreme Court in various parts of the country. The Law Commission, in its 229th Report had also suggested that a Constitutional Bench be set up at Delhi and four Cassation Benches be set up in the Northern region at Delhi, the Southern region at Chennai/ Hyderabad, the Eastern region at Kolkata and the Western region at Mumbai.

However, the idea of a separate Bench of Supreme Court outside Delhi has not found favour with the Supreme Court of India.

The Supreme Court of India has implemented the Integrated Case Management Information System which provides facilities like online availability of information, digital filing of cases, file tracking, online court fee payment gateway, delivery of services to advocates and litigants etc which will go a long way in mitigating the burden of the litigants.

(d): The Government has not imposed any regulation on fees charged by the lawyers in the Supreme Court.
