

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2008**

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 07.03.2018

Special Benches of High Courts

2008. SHRI. PRASUN BANERJEE:

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

- a) the total number of Special Benches of High Courts proposed to be set up in each State during the next three years.
- b) the criteria fixed for setting up of Special Benches of High Courts in the states;
- c) the total number of Special Benches proposed to be set up in West Bengal along with the places where they are likely to be set up;
- d) the total amount earmarked for the scheme; and
- e) the time by which these Special Benches will be set up in West Bengal?

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

(a) to (e): The setting up or constitution of Special Benches for hearing of specific cases in the High Court lies within the administrative jurisdiction of the High Court. As such, no information is being maintained in the Department of Justice in this regard.

However, establishment of a High Court Bench at a location outside the principal seat is considered by the Union Government in accordance with the recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission and the judgment pronounced by the Apex Court in W.P.(C) No.379 of 2000, on receipt of complete proposal from the State Government in concurrence with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. At present, no proposal complete in all aspects, is pending for consideration by the Central Government including that from the High Court of Calcutta.
