GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1394 TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 28TH JULY, 2023

CONSTITUTION OF SPECIALISED BENCHES

1394. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE: SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to Constitute specialized benches to deal with cases related to direct & indirect Taxation, land acquisitions, compensation including motor vehicle cases involving death or injury, arbitration, IBC & Corporate Law for their early disposal as they were dealt with during special multiple vacation benches constituted during summer vacation in view of spurting of such cases in the SC; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (b): As per Article 145(1)(b) of the Constitution read with clause (2) thereof, the Supreme Court is empowered to make rules to regulate its own procedure for hearing appeals and other matters pertaining to appeals and may fix the minimum number of judges who are to sit for such purposes. The Supreme Court in the past and as per its decisions, has constituted specialised benches to deal with cases engaging different subject matters. As the issue primarily falls within the purview of the court, the Government has no role in constituting specialized benches in the said court.

As per information provided by Supreme Court regarding the constitution of Special Benches by it, since November 2022, six Special Benches have been constituted by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India; the sitting of such Special Benches is on every Wednesday and Thursday which are designated as "Regular Hearing Days" and these Benches deal with:

- (i) Death Reference Cases & Criminal Matters;
- (ii) Land Acquisition and Requisition Matters;
- (iii) Compensation Matters and Matters relating to Consumer Protection
- (iv) Indirect Tax matters and Arbitration matters
- (v) Service Matters and
- (vi) Direct Tax Matters.
