

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*291**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 17.12.2021**

**Regional Benches of Supreme Court**

**\*291. SHRI ANNASAHEB SHANKAR JOLLE:  
SHRI L.S. TEJASVI SURYA:**

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up Benches of Supreme Court in various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the progress made so far in this regard; and
- (c) whether Bengaluru is considered as a suitable option to set up a Bench of Supreme Court in South India and if so, the progress made in regard thereto?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE**

**(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 291 due for answer on 17.12.2021 regarding “Regional Benches of Supreme Court”**

(a) to (c) : 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, from time to time, appoint.

The Eleventh Law Commission in its 125<sup>th</sup> Report titled “The Supreme Court – A Fresh Look”, submitted in 1988, reiterated the recommendations made by Tenth Law Commission in its 95<sup>th</sup> Report for splitting the Supreme Court into two namely (i) Constitutional Court at Delhi and (ii) Court of appeal or Federal Court sitting in North, South, East, West and Central India. The Eighteenth Law Commission in its 229<sup>th</sup> 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, Southern region at Chennai/Hyderabad, Eastern region at Kolkata and Western region at Mumbai.

The matter was referred to the Chief Justice of India, who has informed that after consideration of the matter, the Full Court in its meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2010, found no justification for setting up of benches of the Supreme Court outside Delhi.

In Writ Petition WP(C) No. 36/2016 on establishment of National Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court vide its judgment dated 13.07.2016 deemed it proper to refer the aforementioned issue to Constitutional Bench for authoritative pronouncement. The matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court.

\*\*\*\*\*