

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *188**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 01st AUGUST, 2025

Change in name of Madras High Court

***188. DR. GANAPATHY RAJKUMAR P:**

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes/has any proposal to change the name of Madras High Court to Chennai High Court;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(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. *188 FOR ANSWER ON 01.08.2025 REGARDING “CHANGE IN NAME OF MADRAS HIGH COURT”.

(a) to (c): The name of the city of Madras was changed to Chennai, following the enactment of the City of Madras (Alteration of Name) Act, 1996. Subsequently in 1997, a proposal was received from the Government of Tamil Nadu for changing the name of the Madras High Court to Chennai High Court. The Government of Tamil Nadu also conveyed that the Madras High Court has no objection to the proposal.

The High Court (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 19.07.2016 inter-alia, to change the name of High Court of Judicature of Madras to Chennai High Court.

Immediately, after the introduction of the Bill in Lok Sabha, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu informed that Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a Resolution to rename the High Court of Madras as High Court of Tamil Nadu. However, when this was placed before the full Court meeting of the Madras High Court on 07.12.2019, the Court resolved that it would not be appropriate to alter the name of the High Court.

Meanwhile, the High Courts (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016 lapsed due to dissolution of the 16th Lok Sabha.

In view of difference of opinion between the State Government of Tamil Nadu and Madras High Court on the matter, as on date there is no complete proposal to change the name of the Madras High Court.
