

Sl. No.	High Court	Sanctioned strength	Principal seats	Jurisdiction	Benches.
3.	Bombay	60	Bombay	Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nagpur, Aurangabad and Panaji
4.	Calcutta	48	Calcutta	West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—
5.	Delhi	31	New Delhi	Delhi	—
6.	Gauhati	18	Gauhati	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura	Imphal, Shillong, Aizawi, Kohima & Agartala
7.	Gujarat	34	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	8	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir	—
10.	Karnataka	39	Bangalore	Karnataka	—
11.	Kerala	28	Ernakulam	Kerala & Lakshdweep	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	34	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	Indore & Gwalior
13.	Madras	40	Chennai	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry	—
14.	Orissa	15	Cuttack	Orissa	—
15.	Patna	37	Patna	Bihar	Ranchi
16.	Punjab & Haryana	37	Chandigarh	Punjab, Haryana & Chandigarh	—
17.	Rajasthan	32	Jodhpur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
18.	Sikkim	3	Gangtok	Sikkim	—

#### Proposal to ban Opinion Polls/Surveys

1486. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the criticism by various sections of the society with regard to the opinion polls/surveys etc. carried out before the polls;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to put a ban on such opinion polls/surveys; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (c) The Election Commission of India had received representations from various political parties and other concerned that Opinion Polls and Exit Polls

and publication of their results, when the election process is on, should be stopped, so that no political party or candidate suffers adversely or gains an undue advantage.

The Commission, after carefully examining the matter, issued orders whereby restrictions were laid in respect of publication and dissemination of results of opinion polls/exit polls. The Commission however, did not put a ban on conduct of such polls/surveys, etc. The Commission's order was however, challenged in the courts and is presently subjudice.

#### Vacancies of SCs/STs in Supreme Court and Various High Courts

1487. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SCs/STs appointed

2823/RS/F7B