

Shri N.R. Elango. Demand to create Regional Benches for Appellate Tribunals for Prevention of Money Laundering Act and other Acts.

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SHRI N.R. ELANGO (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I thank you for the opportunity to raise an important issue. As of today, there is one Tribunal which is handling appeals under five key enactments, namely SAFEMA, NDPS Act, PMLA, Prohibition of Benami Transaction and FEMA. The cause of concern is that all these Tribunals' functions are now entrusted to one Tribunal which is taking care of all the appeals from the whole of the country. This unification of several tribunals into one and locating it in Delhi is causing inconvenience to the litigant public, the accused persons, the professionals such as advocates, chartered accountants, company secretaries, etc. From all over the country, they are made to come to Delhi and most of the time have to return with a case being adjourned due to paucity of time.

I request the Union Government to address this issue and to create, at least, four Regional Benches, including the one at Chennai. Already there is a strong, long-pending and genuine demand to create Regional Benches of the Supreme Court. ...(*Time-bell rings.*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is over. Nothing is going on record.

12.00 Noon

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Question Hour.

(सभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए।)

Upgradation of towers

#*346. MS. INDU BALA GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.