

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3051
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2006
DUAL CITIZENSHIP TO NRIs
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Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indians granted dual citizenship by the Union Government till date alongwith the facilities provided to them so far;
- (b) the names of countries where such Indians are residing presently;
- (c) the number of NRIs who would be awarded dual citizenship in the coming year; and
- (d) the time by which dual citizenship is likely to be granted to all the NRIs?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) As on 4th December, 2006, 79890 Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) have been granted Overseas Citizenship of India. Registered OCIs are entitled for the following benefits:

- (i) Multiple entry, multi purpose, life-long visa to visit India;
- (ii) Exemption from reporting to Police authorities for any length of stay in India;
- (iii) Parity with Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in financial, economic and educational fields except in the acquisition of agricultural or plantation properties; and
- (iv) Eligibility to apply for grant of Indian citizenship under section 5(1)(g) of the citizenship Act, 1955 if he/she is registered as OCI for five years and has been residing in India for one year out of the five years before making the application.

(b) List placed at Annexure -I.

(c)and(d) All eligible PIOs can apply for Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) and will be granted OCI as and when they apply.