

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:208

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2007

VOTING RIGHT TO BANGLADESHIS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Bangladeshi nationals residing in the country and have right to vote as on date, State-wise, UT wise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to strike out the name of Bangladeshis from the voter lists in the country; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d): As per the information received from the Election Commission of India, no foreign national, including Bangladeshis, are eligible to be registered as voter in India. The electoral rolls for the territorial Assembly Constituencies are prepared under the superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission of the India under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. As per these provisions only Indian citizens are eligible for inclusion in the electoral roll. However, sometimes during intensive revision, summary revision or continuous revision, names of some ineligible persons who do not fulfill the qualification of Indian citizenship find their way into the electoral roll due to false information provided by the individuals. Whenever such cases of wrongful inclusion come to the notice of the Electoral Registration authorities, immediate action is taken to remove such names from the electoral rolls.