

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:549

ANSWERED ON:11.11.2010

CONFERRING VOTING RIGHTS TO NRIS

Biju Shri P. K.;Dias Dr. Charles;Karunakaran Shri P.;Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision to allow voting rights to Non Resident Indians (NRIs);
- (b) if so, the time by which the legislation is proposed to be introduced in Parliament;
- (c) whether the names of NRIs are likely to be registered in the electoral rolls; and
- (d) if so, the details of the mechanism to be in place to check fake voting?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) to (d): Parliament enacted the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 2010 (36 of 2010) amending the Representation of the People Act, 1950 for conferring voting rights to the citizens of India who are absenting from the place of their ordinary residence in India owing to employment, education or otherwise outside India and have not acquired the citizenship of any other country. The names of eligible persons are to be included in the electoral rolls in the constituency in which their place of residence in India, as mentioned in their passport, are located. Relevant rules covering the various aspects for giving effect to the amendments will be made after consulting the Election Commission of India before the aforesaid amending Act is brought into force.