

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2484

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2005

CITIZENSHIP ORDINANCE

Chaure Shri Babu Hari;Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Kalmadi Shri Suresh

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any ordinance with regard to citizenship has been promulgated by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there was any urgency to promulgate Citizenship Ordinance;
- (d) if so, whether there was any request/demand from any quarter for the promulgation of this ordinance;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the likely benefit of this Ordinance;
- (f) whether Citizenship Act, 1955 is proposed to be amended with regard to Citizenship Ordinance; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The Citizenship (Amendment) Ordinance, 2005 was promulgated on 28.06.2005.

(c) to (g): Anxiety was being expressed by the Indian diaspora due to delay in implementing the PM's statement in Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas, 2005 for extending Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) to Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) who have sought nationality of countries other than the sixteen countries mentioned in the Fourth Schedule of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

As the Parliament was not in session, the Citizenship (Amendment) Ordinance, 2005 was promulgated on 28.06.2005. This Ordinance amended the Citizenship Act, 1955 to extend the facility of OCI to PIOs of all countries except Pakistan and Bangladesh as long as their countries of nationality allow dual citizenship under their local laws in some form or the other.