

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1514
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006
ELECTORAL REFORMS
Fanthome Shri Francis

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

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to introduce Electoral Reforms as per the recommendation of the Third National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether the Government is aware that a sizable section of the population is unable to participate in the electoral process due to various constraints; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Election Commission to include the eligible voter in electoral list?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICEc(SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1514 for reply on 4th August, 2006.

(a) and (b): The Government has not received any recommendation of the Third National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms. However, the Election Commission has intimated that a copy of the Resolution, adopted in the conference on Electoral and Political Reforms conducted by the Association for Democratic Reforms at Patna in February, 2006, was received in the Commission. The Election Commission had examined the proposals contained in the resolution. The proposals are covered in the set of proposals on electoral reforms already sent by the Commission to the Government in July, 2004 and in October, 2005. While these proposals were under examination of the Government, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, has referred the subject of Electoral Reforms to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination and report. The recommendations of the Committee are awaited before the Government could take any action.

(c) and (d): The issue raised is not specific. However, the Election Commission has intimated that the Commission has been taking all possible measures to enable all eligible persons to get their names enrolled in the electoral rolls for the smooth conduct of polls.