

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2789

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010

VOTING RIGHTS TO OVERSEAS INDIANS

Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa;Antony Shri Anto;Deora Shri Milind Murli;Patel Shri Bal Kumar;Ray Shri Rudramadhab

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government plans to grant voting rights to NRI's as reported in the media;
- (b) if so, the broad guidelines prepared in this regard;
- (c) whether all persons of Indian Origin shall have the Voting Rights even if they have adopted citizenship or sought citizenship in any foreign country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The Salient features of the proposal are ;

A Citizen of India –

who has not acquired a citizenship of any other country; and

absenting from his place of ordinary residence owing to employment, education or otherwise outside India (whether temporarily or not), Shall be entitled to get enrolled in the electoral rolls and vote in the constituency of the place of residence which is mentioned in the passport.

(c) & (d): No, Sir. Only NRIs with Indian Citizenship are covered under this proposal.