

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2640
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2010
EXIT POLLS
Basavaraj Shri Gangasandra Siddappa

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

- (a) whether the Government has amended the Representation of People's Act to prohibit of conduct of exist polls till the last phase of polling is over;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this amendment does not include opinion polls; and
- (d) if so, whether the Election Commission has asked the Government to consider enactment of a supplementary amendment to ban conduct of opinion polls on the line of existing ban on exit polls?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): The provision of sections 126A and 126B, as inserted in the Representation of the People Act, 1951, vide the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 2009 41 of 2009) which was brought into force w.e.f. 01.02.2010 prohibits the conduct of exit polls during elections.
- (c): Yes, Madam. Above amendment does not include `opinion polls`.
- (d): The Government has not taken any considered view on the present proposal of the Election Commission to put a ban on conduct of opinion polls.