

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:284

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011

VOTING RIGHTS TO NRIs

Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Pakkirappa Shri S.;Rajesh Shri M. B.;Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) the total number of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) residing in various countries;
- (b) the progress made in the matter regarding grant of voting rights to NRIs;
- (c) whether the Government is considering single window mechanism for registration of voters; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that all the eligible NRI voters are included in the list of voters?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

- (a) The estimated number of Non Resident Indians residing in various countries as per information compiled from Indian Missions is at Annexure-A.
- (b) A Gazette Notification has been issued by Government of India on 3rd February 2011 giving voting rights to Non Resident Indians.
- (c) & (d) Citizens of India, living abroad, who have not acquired the citizenship of any other country can make an application in Form 6A directly to Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) of the constituency within which the place of residence of the applicant as given in the valid passport falls. Every eligible Non Resident Indian may send the application along with necessary documents either directly or by post to the ERO.