

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:57
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011
REPORT OF LAW COMMISSION
Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) whether the Law Commission has submitted its report to the Union Government regarding conversion/reconversion to another religion;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the report has been made public;
- (d) if so the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken on the recommendations contained therein?

Answer

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

- (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.57 for 24.02.2011

(a) and (b): Yes, Madam. The Chairman, Law Commission of India vide his letter dated the 27th December, 2010 submitted the Commission's 235th Report on "Conversion/ re-conversion to another religion - mode of proof". In the said Report, the Commission inter-alia, made the following recommendations:-

1. Within a month after the date of conversion, the converted person, if she/he chooses, can send a declaration to the officer in charge of registration of marriages in the concerned area;
2. The registering official shall exhibit a copy of the declaration on the Notice Board of the office till the date of confirmation;
3. The said declaration shall contain the requisite details viz., the particulars of the convert, such as date of birth, permanent address, and the present place of residence, father's/husband's name, the religion to which the convert originally belonged and the religion to which he or she converted, the date and place of conversion and nature of the process gone through for conversion;
4. Within 21 days from the date of sending/filing the declaration, the converted individual can appear before the registering officer, establish her/his identity and confirm the contents of the declaration;
5. The Registering officer shall record the factum of declaration and confirmation in a register maintained for this purpose. If any objections are notified, he may simply record them, i.e. the name and particulars of objector and the nature of objection; and
6. Certified copies of declaration, confirmation and the extracts from the register shall be furnished to the party who gave the declaration or the authorised legal representative, on request.

- (c) and (d) The 235th Report of the Law Commission of India is available on its website: www.lawcommissionofindia.nic.in.

(e) Registration of marriages is done by the State Government authorities under various laws. Hence, the recommendations of the Law Commission of India are to be carefully studied by the State Governments before any action in the matter could be taken by them. The Central Government is taking steps to forward the aforesaid Report to the various State Governments and Union territory Administrations for appropriate action at their end.