

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2447
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2011
VOTING COMPULSORY
M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Verma Shri Sajjan Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make voting compulsory for all;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure transparency in elections; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b):The issue was considered by the Committee on Electoral Reforms, 1990 (Dinesh Goswami Committee) but the measure was, however, not favoured because of the practical difficulties involved in its implementation.

(c)and (d):With a view to carryirig out comprehensive electoral reforms, a Core Committee has been constituted on 1st October, 2010. The Committee would examine, inter alia, conduct and better management of elections. The Committee under the aegis of Legislative Department and in co-sponsorship of the Election Commission of India conducted six regional consultations at Bhopal, Kolkata, Mumbai, Lucknow, Chandigarh and Bengaluru, wherein the stakeholders have been consulted, who inter-alia included leaders and workers of the political parties, legislators, legal luminaries, representatives of NGOs, eminent persons, civil servants (serving and retired), students etc. and views have been gathered. A National Consultation is also scheduled to be held shortly at New Delhi. On the basis of the inputs received/as may be received in all these consultations, legislative process as may be considered necessary will be initiated by the Government in due course.