

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3026  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011  
COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES  
Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar; Tirkey Shri Manohar

**Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the National Commission for Women has recommended for compulsory registration of all marriages in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) & (b): The National Commission for Women (NCW) had suggested a draft Bill, 'Compulsory Registration of Marriages' in 2005 to provide for compulsory registration of all marriages solemnized, contracted or entered into, wherein both or one of the parties is a citizen of India. The draft Bill provided for appointment of Registrar General "Marriages and other functionaries to facilitate registration of marriages.

Separately, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment dated 14th February, 2006 in the case of Seema Vs. Ashwani Kumar, directed that registration of marriages of all persons who are citizens of India belonging to various religions should be made compulsory in their respective States, where the marriage is solemnized.

In pursuance of the directions of the Supreme Court, State Governments/UT Administrations are taking steps to make registration of marriages compulsory in their respective States/UTs. As a result, there is no proposal to have a separate central legislation.