

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2306
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011
VOTING RIGHTS TO NRIS
Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision to allow voting rights and contest in the Lok Sabha and State Assembly Elections to Non- Resident Indians (NRIs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the procedure for their registration in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 2010 (36 of 2010) has been enacted and made effective w.e.f. 10th February, 2011. The said Act provides that every citizen of India:â€”

- (a) whose name is not included in the electoral roll;
- (b) who has not acquired the citizenship of any other country; and
- (c) who is absenting from his place of ordinary residence in India owing to his employment, education or otherwise outside India (whether temporarily or not),

shall be entitled to have his name registered in the electoral roll in the constituency in which his place of residence in India as mentioned in his passport is located.

(c): In pursuance of the provision of the said Act and rules made thereunder, Non-Resident Indians can register themselves in the electoral rolls of their constituency on the basis of self-attested copies of the Indian Passport and valid Visa submitted alongwith duly-filled FORM-6A prescribed for that purpose, subject to verification by the Electoral Registration Officer and production of original passport at the time of voting.