

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2630

ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012

REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES

Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Jeyadural Shri S. R.;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether the registration of marriage is compulsory for all citizens across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the various minority groups have demanded changing the law on registration of marriages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the justification given by such groups for changing the existing law and the reaction of the Union Government in this regard;
- (f) whether a number of minority groups are issued marriage registration certificate under the Hindu Law; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a)to (b): The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its judgment dated 14.2.2006 in Seema Vs. Ashwani Kumar (AIR 2006 SC 1158) has inter alia directed the State Governments that marriages of all persons who are citizens of India belonging to various religious denominations should be made compulsorily registerable in their respective States where such marriages are solemnized. The States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and Tripura have already taken necessary legislative measures providing for compulsory registration of marriages. Other States are in the process of implementing the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(c) to (e): The information is being collected from the State Governments who may have received objections, demands etc. from the Minority groups and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

(f) to (g): Section 8 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 provides for registration of Hindu Marriages. By virtue of the provisions of section 2 thereof, the said section 8 is applicable to all persons who are Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs and also to those who are not Muslims, Christians, Parsis or Jews.