

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:924
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012
VOTER IDENTITY CARD
Patel Shri Devji

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

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any time-limit to submit applications to get Voter Identity Card issued; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) and (b): The electoral roll of an Assembly constituency is the basis for issue of Electors Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) to the registered electors. The electoral rolls are normally revised every year with 1st January of the year as the qualifying date. Every Indian citizen who attains 18 years or above as on that date is eligible for inclusion in the electoral roll and can apply for the same. Once he is registered in the roll, he would be eligible for getting an EPIC. The scheme of issuing the EPICs is, therefore, a continuous and ongoing process for the completion of which no time limit can be fixed as the registration of electors is a continuous and ongoing process (excepting for a brief period between the last date for filing nomination and completion of election process) on account of more number of persons becoming eligible for the right of franchise on attaining the age of 18 years, current programme will always constitute a residual part of the programme. The Election Commission's continuous effort is to provide the EPIC to the electors who have been left out in the previous campaigns as well as the new electors. The Election Commission, which is in overall charge of implementation of the scheme of issuance of photo identity cards to electors has been monitoring its progress on regular basis.