

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3240  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2012  
REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES  
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) the number of political parties registered with the Election Commission of India at present;
- (b) the names of these political parties along with the dates of their registration and the details in this regard;
- (c) the number of those political parties along with their names out of them which have not contested even a single election in the last five years;
- (d) whether the Government has taken/ proposed to be taken any steps to cancel the registration of such political parties;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether such political parties have given the information of their source of income and submitted their income-tax returns; and
- (g) if so, the details for the last five years?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) and (b): The Election Commission of India has informed that as on 29 November, 2012, 1426 political parties are registered with the Commission under section 29 A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. Out of these 1426 political parties, 53 political parties are recognized (6 National and 47 State) political parties and the remaining are un-recognized registered political parties. The latest list of political parties is available on the website of the Election Commission of India i.e. <http://eci.nic.in>. The Election Commission has further informed that the dates of registration of all these political parties is not available in compiled form in the Commission.

(c): The Election Commission has also informed that in the last general election to the House of the People held in 2009 (15th Lok Sabha), 363 political parties set up candidates. There would be some political parties which contest elections to the Legislative Assemblies and local-bodies elections. The information about the parties contesting in local bodies elections is not available in the Election Commission,

(d) and (e): There is no provision in the Representation of the People Act, 1951 for de-registration of political parties. There is a proposal for making necessary provision empowering the Election Commission to de-register the political parties. However, no final decision has been taken on this proposal.

(f) and (g): The Election Commission has informed that such information is not available in the Commission. However, the Central Board of Direct Taxes has informed that the political parties are required to file their Income Tax Returns, with the respective jurisdictional Assessing Officers spread all over the country. As such the information sought is not centrally maintained in the Central Board of Direct Taxes.