

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2069  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2014  
PROXY AND E-VOTING  
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Representation of the People Act, 1951, has provision for facilitating proxy and e-voting and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any proposal for extending these facilities to the Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) who are unable to exercise their franchise in India;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has recently sought the opinion of the Government on the aforesaid matter; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

- (a) Section 60 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 read with sub-section(8) of section 20 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 provides for the facility of proxy voting to the members of armed forces of the Union and members of a force to which the provisions of Army Act, 1950 have been made applicable. There is no provision of e-voting in the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- (b) and (c) The proposal extending the facility of proxy voting and e-Postal Ballot System to overseas electors (NRIs) is under consideration of the Government.
- (d) Yes, Madam.
- (e) The Committee set up by the Election Commission for exploring the options for providing other modes of voting to the overseas electors has, inter alia, recommended for the voting through e-postal ballot paper and proxy voting as the additional alternative options. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has asked the Government to submit its response to the said report. The matter is under consideration of the Government.