

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3081
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014
MANDATORY VOTING IN LOCAL BODIES
Jayadevan Shri C. N.;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware of a legislation recently assented to by the Governor of Gujarat for making voting mandatory in elections to the local bodies in the State;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any suggestions or opinion from any quarter in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon; and
- (e) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): As per article 243K, read in conjunction with article 243C, 243 R and 243ZA of the Constitution of India, 'the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for. and the conduct of, all elections to the Panchayats/local bodies shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor.'
- (c) to (e): At present, no proposal for making voting mandatory in the Parliamentary/Assembly elections is under consideration of the Government.