

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1154
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2015
Amendment in FCRA
Venugopal Dr. Ponnusamy

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to step up the scrutiny of Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the country and has formulated a draft amendment to the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act/Rules;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received more than 125 representations from various organisations and many of them are objecting to amendment in the said Act/Rules that was put out in public domain; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) & (b) The acceptance and utilization of foreign contribution is regulated under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 (FCRA) and Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 2011 (FCRR) framed thereunder. They provide for procedure to grant registration and prior permission for receipt of foreign contribution and its utilization, maintenance of accounts, inspection of accounts of the associations, etc. They also prescribe various offences and penalties that may be imposed, including suspension and cancellation of registration in case of violation of the provisions of FCRA and FCRR. The Government intends to amend certain provision of FCRR to simplify the procedure for application and grant of registration and prior permission, making the process online and user-friendly, enhancing transparency and accountability. The changes are

-2-

L.S.US.Q.NO.1154 FOR 28.07.2015

also expected to help in effective monitoring and expeditious reporting by banks of receipt of foreign contribution by persons/associations not registered under the FCRA.

(c): Yes, Madam.

(d): The comments/suggestions have been received from various stakeholders on the proposed amendments in FCRR. The objections mainly pertain to periodicity of reporting of receipt and utilization of foreign contribution in public domain and removal of personal details of the functionaries of the associations and of donors like facebook page, twitter handle, mobile number, etc. After examining the suggestions/comments received, the draft amendments have been appropriately revised.
