GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 914

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, 9th FEBRUARY, 2023

REMOTE VOTING PLAN

914. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy:

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

- (a) the details of the remote voting plan propounded by the Election Commission of India (ECI);
- (b) whether it is a fact that the ECI had called all political parties for a meeting on the remote voting plan in January, 2023;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there is no definition of 'domestic migrant'; and
- (d) if so, Government's justification to proposal for the introduction of a Remote Voting Machine?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (d): A Concept Note on improving voter participation of domestic migrants using remote voting dated 28/12/2022 was circulated by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to all National/State political parties inter alia including matters like defining a 'Migrant voter', addressing the territorial concept, the method of remote voting and counting of votes, enforcement of Model Code of Conduct, setting up of controlled environment to ensure free and fair voting and so on. Subsequently, a discussion with the political parties was conducted on 16/01/2023. The ECI has solicited written views/comments of the Political Parties by 28/02/2023 on various legal, administrative and technological issues as contained in the Concept Note and beyond.
