GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1614

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 2022

DEMAND FOR BAN ON OPINION AND EXIT POLLS

1614. Shri M. Badruddin Ajmal :

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

- (a) whether exit and opinion polls are becoming tools of propaganda and false claims;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government on the issue;
- (c) whether there have been loud demands for ban on opinion poll and exit poll from several groups and individuals including political parties and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to impose ban on opinion and exit polls after the announcement and implementation of model code of conduct and till the result is announced; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

- (a) to (d): In order to have free and fair elections in the country, there exists a restriction on conduct of any exit poll and publish or publicise by any means, the result of any exit poll during the period starting from the commencement of polls till half an hour after closing of the poll in all the States and Union territories. No such proposal as regards ban on opinion poll is under consideration.
- (e): Does not arise, in view of (a) to (d) above.
