

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2222

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, 29TH JULY, 2022

Single Voter List

2222. SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether the Law Commission of India has suggested to prepare single voter list for all level of elections in its 255th report and if so, the progress made in this regard so far;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to prepare the single voter list in the country by making constitutional amendments under Article 243A and 243Z(a) and if so, the time by which it is likely to be done;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take concrete action by instructing the constitutional institutions, Election Commission and State Election Commission for conducting elections by single voter list and if so, the time by which it is likely to be done and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to address problem of bogus and duplicate voters by linking Voter Identity Card with Aadhaar Card and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) and (c): Yes sir, the Law Commission of India in its 255th report has endorsed/recommended inclusion of common electoral rolls at elections conducted by the Election Commission of India (ECI) and the State Election Commissions (SECs). As per section 13D of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, the electoral roll for every parliamentary constituency shall consist of electoral rolls for all the assembly constituencies comprised within that parliamentary constituency and it shall be necessary to prepare or revise

separately the electoral roll for both Lok Sabha and the State Assembly Legislative Elections as of now.

Electoral rolls for conduct of elections to the urban local bodies and panchayat raj institutions are prepared by the respective SECs. As informed by the ECI, 26 States and 08 Union territories are presently using the electoral roll data prepared by the ECI for preparing the electoral roll for local bodies/panchayat elections. The said proposal is under examination with the concerned stakeholders.

As per article 324 of the Constitution, the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to Parliament and to the Legislature of all the States and election to the offices of the President and Vice-President vests in the ECI. Further, as per article 243K and 243ZA of the Constitution, the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Panchayats and Municipalities vests in the respective SECs.

(b): No such proposal to amend the Constitution is under consideration.

(d): In order to curb the menace of duplicate entry in electoral roll, the Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021 (49 of 2021) has been enacted by Parliament by amending section 23 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, which provides for linking of Aadhaar with Voter ID. It is a matter of fact that citizens moves from one location to another for various purposes and ECI facilitates entry in the electoral roll in all cases without much difficulty. In cases, already registered electors do not disclose their previous entries which lead to multiple entries, which is against the law. Aadhaar is available with most of the electors or eligible citizens, hence, it will be used to facilitate the electors in having single entry in the electoral roll.
