

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4141

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 20th DECEMBER, 2024

Freedom to propagate Religion

4141. DR. MANNA LAL RAWAT:

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

- (a) whether the freedom to propagate religion within the ambit of India is enshrined in Article 25 of the constitution;
- (b) if so, the details of guidelines issued in this regard;
- (c) if not, whether the Government proposes to issue guidelines in this regard;
- (d) whether foreigners misused this provision in the absence of such guidelines and carried out conversions in various parts of the country in the guise of propagating religion; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (e): Article 25 of the Constitution of India deals with freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion. 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The issue of religious conversion is linked to 'Public Order' and hence is primarily the concern of the State Governments and Union Territory (UT) Administrations. No data related to religious conversion is maintained centrally. Further, many State Governments have enacted special laws for prohibition of conversion from one religious faith to any other religious faith by the use of force or inducement or by fraudulent means.
