

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 869

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, 21st JULY, 2016

VOTING METHODS IN ELECTIONS

869. SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO
DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has finalised proposals to introduce e-postal ballot system for Armed Forces Personnel and alternative options of voting by overseas electors;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any data regarding the number of Armed Forces Personnel who exercised their franchise in the General Election-2014 and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to spread awareness amongst Armed Forces Personnel regarding voting methods/options available for them during elections; and;
- (e) the criteria prescribed for overseas electors/Indian citizens living abroad to become eligible for voting in elections in India?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)**

- (a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN RESPECT OF PART (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK
SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 869 DATED 21.07.2016**

(a) and (b): A proposal is under consideration of the Government to introduce e-postal ballot system for Armed Forces Personnel and overseas electors which envisages transmission of blank postal ballot paper electronically and thereafter return of the same by the registered post. At present, a Committee of Ministers is examining this matter.

(c) and (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e): Section 20A of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 provides for the registration of the Indian citizens residing outside India, according to which any such citizen, whose name is not included in the electoral roll; who has not acquired the citizenship of any other country; and who is absenting from his place of ordinary residence in India owing to his employment, education or otherwise outside India shall be entitled to have his name registered in the electoral roll in the constituency in which his place of residence in India as mentioned in his passport is located.