

**Allowing proxy voting for NRIs**

1392. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to allow proxy voting for the NRIs but not for internal migrant voters, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) in what manner the Government plans to secure the secrecy of vote and ensure that there is no inducement of voters in case of proxy voting by NRIs;

(c) whether it is also a fact that, as per some media reports, a large number of overseas voters preferred for the secret postal ballot over proxy voting; and

(d) whether Government would consider seeking suggestions from overseas voters also before amending the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) A Bill has already been introduced in the Lok Sabha in the current Session of the Parliament to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951 enabling the overseas electors to cast their votes either in person or by proxy. However, there is no proposal to give proxy voting right to internal migrants. The issue relating to maintenance of secrecy and avoidance of inducement of voters in this regard will be finalized in consultation with the Election Commission after the Bill is passed by Parliament. No media report suggesting that a large number of overseas voters prefer secret postal ballot over proxy voting has been brought to the notice of the Government.

**Setting up Independent Emoluments Commission for salaries  
and allowances of MPs**

1393. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Independent Emoluments Commission was recommended in 2015 for recommending salaries of MPs;

(b) if so, whether it has been set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, the recommendations made by the commission in its latest report regarding the hike or revision in salaries of MPs along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (c) The 17th All India Whips' Conference