

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2313
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 01st AUGUST, 2018**

INTRODUCTION OF E-POSTAL BALLOTS

2313. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to introduce e-postal ballots policy in the coming elections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether such new initiatives of e-postal ballots will be successful in our vast country as the voters are unable to exercise their franchise due to either the nature of their job or geographical location of their posting; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND
CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)**

(a): No proposal to introduce e-postal ballot policy is under consideration of the Government except for service voters, for whom the said facility has already been provided vide Notification dated 21st October, 2016.

(b) & (c): The Election Commission of India (ECI) has informed that the Commission had introduced for the first time Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBS) (e-postal ballots) on pilot basis in Bye-election of one of the Assembly Constituency (AC) in Puducherry during November 2016 for the service voters. The ETPBS was further implemented in select ACs in Assembly Elections of 2017 in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Manipur and in all ACs of Goa. During Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat Elections in 2017 and Karnataka General Assembly Election in 2018, all ACs were covered under ETPBS in a successful manner.
