

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1014**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28th JULY, 2021/ 06 SRAVANA, 1943 (SAKA)
STATEHOOD FOR LAKSHADWEEP**

1014. SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has considered full Statehood for the Union Territory of Lakshadweep;**
- (b) if so, what will be the model of Government, whether it will be a mini assembly, autonomous council or full fledged legislative assembly;**
- (c) if not, the reasons for the same;**
- (d) what is Government's stand on the issue of implementing democratic governance to the less populated Union Territories of the country; and**
- (e) what steps Government is taking to increase the participation of the people of Lakshadweep in the democratic process?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) to (c): No such proposal for full Statehood for the Union Territory of Lakshadweep is under consideration.

(d) & (e): In less populated Union Territories such as Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, adequate institutional arrangements exist for the expression of the democratic aspirations of the people. People residing in the UTs elect their Members of Parliament to the Lok Sabha.

Further, the UTs of Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu also have a robust two tier Panchayati Raj system with Village and District Panchayat bodies, through which people's participation in the democratic process is ensured.

In the Union Territory of Lakshadweep, extensive delegation of powers/functions has been made to the local bodies.

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