

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2773  
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2002  
ELECTORAL PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS IN KARNATAKA  
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

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

- (a) whether there are still 1.36 crore voters in the State of Karnataka yet to be provided with photo ID cards;
- (b) if so, whether the Election Commission has taken up the massive task of issuing Electors` Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) in Karnataka; and
- (c) if so, the time by which all the voters in the Karnataka are likely to be provided with photo identity cards?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI)

- (a) Yes, Sir. According to the Election Commission, after the revision of rolls with reference to 01.01.2002 as the qualifying date, there are approximately 1.36 crore residual electors in the State of Karnataka who are to be issued Electors` Photo Identity Cards.
- (b) The Election Commission has informed that it has been making efforts for providing Electors` Photo Identity Cards to all electors in the State of Karnataka. The Commission has asked for further Action Plan for preparation and issue of Electors` Photo Identity Cards from the Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka and to increase the coverage of such Cards to at least 85% to 90% by the end of the year 2002. The programme has already been resumed in Bangalore City and 19 districts of the State. The Chief Electoral Officer has adopted usual publicity measures and produced a short film on EPIC to be shown on television for increasing public awareness.
- (c) The Election Commission has further informed that with the current efforts, substantial progress could be achieved by the end of the year 2002.