

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2627

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003

VOTERS IDENTITY CARDS

CHANDRA NATH SINGH;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

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

- (a) the progress made in providing voters identified by the Election Commission so far;
- (b) the percentage of electorates provided with identity cards so far, State-wise and Territory-wise;
- (c) the criteria adopted for issuing new voters card in case of loss;
- (d) whether some foreign nationals like Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and Nepalis have been included in the voter lists of some States;
- (e) if so, the details of such voters, State-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to remove the names of these voters from the voter list?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS)

(a) and (b) The Election Commission of India has informed that Electors' Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) have been issued to 65.90% electors in the country so far. The State/Union Territory-wise status of issuance of EPICs is contained in the Statement - I laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Commission has informed that in case of loss of EPIC, the person concerned is required to lodge an FIR at the Police Station. Thereafter an application is to be made before the Electoral Registration Officer of the assembly constituency concerned for issue of duplicate EPIC. For this a standard application Form No. ECI-EPIC-002 has been prescribed by the Commission. The Commission has also prescribed a fee of Rs.25/- per card for issue of duplicate cards. The duplicate card will have the same EPIC number as the existing one. The word 'Duplicate' will be stamped on the front side of the card.

(d) The electoral rolls for the territorial constituencies are prepared under the superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission of India under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. As per these provisions, only Indian citizens are eligible for inclusion in the electoral roll. However, there are few instances of foreign nationals getting enrolled in the electoral rolls by furnishing false information. The Commission has informed that specific details of foreign nationals like Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and Nepalis included in the voters' lists are not available with it. However, as per the reports received from all the States and Union territories, there were a few cases of Bangladeshi nationals getting enrolled in the electoral rolls in the States of Assam, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and National Capital Territory of Delhi by furnishing false information.

(e) The Statement - II containing the details of cases of inclusion of Bangladeshi nationals in the electoral rolls is laid on the Table of the House.

(f) Whenever such cases of wrongful inclusion come to the notice of the registration authorities, immediate action is taken for removing their names from the electoral rolls.

STATEMENT - I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) and (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. DATED 8.8.2003.

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

STATUS REPORT ON PROGRESS OF ELECTORS PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS

SL.NO.	STATES/UTS	Total Electors	Electors issued with Defect-free Identity Cards	Percent (figures in 4 as % of 3)
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1.	Andhra Pradesh	54,936,102	32,549,914	59.25
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2.Arunachal Pradesh	663,066	288,040	43.44
3.Assam	14,426,221	67,479	0.47
4.Bihar	45,453,577	17,092,234	37.60
5.Chhatisgarh	13,333,596	9,620,499	72.15
6.Goa	936,085	559,634	59.78
7Gujarat	33,238,195	22,213,432	66.83
8.Haryana	12,247,273	10,713,212	87.47
9.Himachal Pradesh	4,069,878	2,731,903	67.12
10.Jammu & Kashmir	6,163,274	2,251,824	36.54
11.Jharkhand	16,233,841	7,385,389	45.49
12.Karnataka	37,231,412	33,388,007	89.68
13.Kerala	21,548,000	20,519,000	95.22
14.Madhya Pradesh	35,347,783	21,855,970	61.83
15.Maharashtra	61,468,890	44,455,999	72.32
16.Manipur	1,503,402	1,033,733	68.76
17.Meghalaya	1,280,766	1,033,575	80.70
18.Mizoram	505,587	378,768	74.92
19.Nagaland	1,012,541	697,609	68.90
20.Orissa	25,567,097	19,987,030	78.17
21.Punjab	16,394,079	8,366,305	51.03
22.Rajasthan	33,788,459	26,311,914	77.87
23.Sikkim	266,168	132,242	49.68
24.Tamil Nadu	49,327,491	31,662,414	64.19
25.Tripura	1,930,718	1,495,315	77.45
26.Uttaranchal	5,568,898	3,203,225	57.52
27.Uttar Pradesh	99,685,000	62,830,538	63.03
28.West Bengal	46,462,519	38,946,215	83.82
29.A & N Islands	230,555	126,216	54.74
30.Chandigarh	503,930	278,499	55.27
31.Dadra & Nagar Haveli	118,964	58,618	49.27
32.Daman & Diu	77,146	45,645	59.17
33.NCT of Delhi	8,256,176	5,699,482	69.03
34.Lakshadweep	37,888	23,588	62.26
35.Pondicherry	614,823	611,479	99.46
ALL INDIA TOTAL	650,429,400	428,614,946	65.90

STATEMENT - II REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (e) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2627 D 8.8.2003.

a) ASSAM

In 126 Assembly Constituencies of the State 2,00,930 cases of doubtful nationality were identified and referred to competent authority. Out of these, as of now in case of 2749 cases citizenship status have been confirmed and accepted by the Competent Authority, 502 cases have been declared as illegal migrants and 1,97,679 cases are pending with Competent Authority.

b) MAHARASHTRA

The C.I.D. Branch of Mumbai Police reported to the District Election Officer (DEO), Mumbai Suburban that six Bangladeshi national were included in the electoral rolls of 39-Amboli and 49-Kurla Assembly Constituency in Mumbai Suburban District (five and one respectively). The Electoral Registration Officers of above Constituencies have initiated action on the basis of police report under rule 21 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 to enquire the status of their citizenship. Their names will be deleted from the rolls if they are proved to be Bangladeshi nationals after inquiry.

The DEO, Raigad has reported that one elector named Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin has been included in the electoral rolls of 13-Shriwardhan Assembly Constituency since 1995. The police has filed case in the Court of JMFC, Shriwardhan against 9 Bangladeshi nationals in June 2001 for unauthorised stay in India. Out of these, the name of only one Bangladeshi national viz. the aforementioned Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin has been found to be enrolled in the roll of 13-Shriwardhan Assembly

Constituency. The Hon`ble Court has ordered to handover eight Bangladeshis excluding Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin to BSF, Calcutta. Accordingly, the police handed over the eight Bangladeshis on 17th December 2001 to them. The Hon`ble Court has released Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin on bail and the matter is pending trial.

c) ORISSA

After inquiry, 370 names of Bangladeshis were found in the Electoral Roll of 2002 and the same have been deleted. Similarly, names of 197 Bangladeshis were found in Electoral Rolls of 2003 for which action is being taken to delete their names. Besides, names of 2 Bangladeshis have been identified in the Electoral Rolls of 2003 of 135-Sundargarh Assembly Constituency which have not been deleted as the matter is subjudice in the Hon`ble court of Orissa.

d) UTTAR PRADESH

District Election Officers, Faizabad, Raibareli and Jhansi have reported that 14, 3 and 1 Bangladeshi nationals respectively were enrolled in the electoral rolls of 2002. These names have been deleted from the rolls of 2002.

e) NCT OF DELHI

A few names of Bangladeshis have been found to exist in the Electoral Rolls. Election Department of Government of NCT of Delhi has received lists of Bangladeshi migrants from its Home Department for taking necessary action for the deletion of their names (if existing) from the Electoral Rolls of the concerned Assembly Constituencies in the NCT of Delhi. The list of Bangladeshi migrants were sent to concerned Electoral Registration Officers for taking further necessary action to delete their names from the Electoral Rolls. As per the information received from the concerned Electoral Registration Officers, they have so far deleted 75 such names appearing in the rolls. This has now become a routine process i.e. the receipt of the lists of Bangladeshi migrants and inquiry/deletion.