

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1859  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2000  
VOTERS IN KARNATAKA  
R.L. JALAPPA

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

- (a) the number of voters in Karnataka;
- (b) the number of voters who have been issued Photo Identity Cards in Karnataka;
- (c) whether the Union Government have released 50% of the total cost to Karnataka for the purpose; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to provide Photo Identity Cards to all the voters in Karnataka?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHR JAITLEY)  
MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHR JAITLEY)

- (a) The total number of voters in the State of Karnataka is 3,49,03,320.
- (b) The total number of voters who have been issued with defect-free photo identity cards is 2,44,07,863.
- (c) Against a total amount of Rs. 44,19,05,000/- estimated by the State Government to be spent on the scheme, a total sum of Rs.22,09,53,000/- (being 50% thereof) as the Government of India's share was released to the State Government during the financial years 1994-95 and 1995-96.
- (d) The Election Commission of India has already issued detailed guidelines to the Chief Electoral Officer of the State to launch the programme for covering the residual voters at the earliest. It is expected that at least 85% or more of the voters will be covered under the scheme in the first phase of the campaign. It may, however, be stated that the process of registration of voters and preparation of Photo Identity Cards of voters are continuous and ongoing processes. It is not, therefore, possible to cover all the voters under the scheme of issue of Photo Identity Cards at any given point of time.